



The New Zealand Deerstalkers Assoc. Inc.

November Issue 2010:

*Next Social: Swap meet and Hunts Course
prizegiving*



“The Tines”
Rotorua Branch Newsletter November 2010



Rotorua N.Z.D.A. Branch Calendar

Ring coordinators for more information.
Phone numbers listed on inner back page.

Calendar of the Club's regular monthly events:

Committee Meeting	Last Monday of each month
Range Shoots*	3rd Sunday of each month
Socials	4th Wednesday of each month
Party Hunts**	4th Weekend of each month

** Regular Club Hunting & Trophy Shoots. For extra range shoots and 300 metre shoots please refer to Yearly Range Calendar.*

***Some Party Hunts may be on different dates, see programme.*

Our programme for this month:

Party Hunts	Party hunt – Boating/fishing social. Still to be confirmed. If interested, please contact a committee member.
Socials	Swap meet and Hunts Course prizegiving. November 24th, 7:30pm Neil Hunt Park Clubrooms, Tarawera Road, Rotorua.
Range Shoot	Range itinerary for 2010 in this issue: Contact Malcolm Perry.

Cover Photo: NZDA Volunteers getting helicoptered out of the Whirinaki after clearing out gates and fencing from old deer traps.

If you have a photograph that would be suitable for the cover please contact the Newsletter editor, Elvis Bowring on 350 3230 or ebowring@gmail.com.

Thanks to: Konica Minolta (1190 Pukaki Street, Rotorua) for printing our newsletter. The best address for quality and affordable copying and document solutions!

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Full page \$150 (for 11 issues)

Half page \$75 (for 11 issues)

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DISCLAIMER: As the contents of this magazine come from various sources, the opinions or ideas expressed are not necessarily endorsed by this committee or by National Executive, nor may they conform to branch or national policy. The official publication of the NZDA is the 'NZ Hunting and Wildlife'

Presidents Report

Recently in the news and on all hunters' minds is the stupid senseless shooting of Rosemary Ives near Turangi on a DoC camping ground over labor weekend. Our thoughts and condolences go out to her family for this seemingly unbelievable act of stupidity. I know more detail will come out about how this happened but it's a reminder to all firearms users to "identify your target", you cannot do this at night nor do you know what is behind your target.

Spring is finally here with a vengeance, we've gone from the wettest September to the driest October, and anyway the grass is growing well out in the bush that's all that counts. This means that deer are on the move looking for nice spring growth to put some condition back on after this harsh winter. I have not been out hunting this spring yet but I plan to chase some Sika around this weekend, hinds will be heavily pregnant or have little ones and the stags will have little bubbles of growing velvet. I'm not going to shoot either of the fore mentioned but I hope to secure a yearling for the Xmas BBQ, just a personal choice of mine.

I see that Kaiangaroa access has become an issue with Timberlands closing off the forest to the public, there is a public meeting at the Energy events centre on the 22nd of November at 7.30pm. I believe Peter Dunne will be there and I will attend and update our Branch of the issues.

On the Club front Octobers social was an entertaining evening with Red Logan (AKA Colin McKenzie) giving an entertaining talk and promoting a special knife, if you want more info on this let me know. The social for November will be on the 24th at 7.30pm, this will consist of the Hunts course graduates prize giving combined with a swap meet, so bring along anything you wish to sell or trade.

The Xmas prize shoot and end of year BBQ will be held at the Range Sunday December 12th from noon, we have a nice seasoned roll of pork that we will BBQ and all are welcome.

If I do not see you at the next social or at the Xmas BBQ have a great summer break and whatever you do, hunt safe, fish safe, drive safe and I will see you in the New Year with whatever challenges it may bring.

Happy and safe hunting

Darryn

NZDA SOCIAL

Swap meet and Hunts Course Graduation

***At Rotorua Deerstalkers Club Rooms
Neil Hunt Park, 24th November, 7.30pm***

All welcome. Come and get rid of or find some new treasures.

Wanted

Good stories for newsletter.

Any interesting articles.

Any good photo's of your hunting trips.

Send to editor – nzdarotorua@gmail.com

Or phone 021 066 7868

If you currently receive a postal copy of this newsletter and would like to receive an electronic (pdf) version instead, please drop me a line with your email address.

Electronic copies are delivered faster, are cheaper to produce and are better for the environment.

NZDA ROTORUA WEBSITE IS ONLINE:

CHECK OUT WWW.NZDAROTORUA.ORG.NZ

Rotorua Range Report for October 2010

Sunday 3rd should have been 300M club shoot, not sure if it happened as I was pounding the pavement in Hamilton.

Saturday 16th & Sunday 17th Central Regional Championship. Unfortunately this was not well attended, but some very good scores were posted in spite of the lack of competition. Our Brenda broke another record, not sure when she is going to stop doing that. A full report is in N/L.

COMING EVENTS:

Wednesday 3rd Nov. Tauranga A.O.S. have the range booked

November 7th 300M club shoot.

Saturday 13th & Sunday 14th, The Service Rifle Assn will be using the range for setting up and a dress rehearsal of their competition the following weekend.

NOTE THERE WILL BE NO D.A. CLUB SHOOT THIS MONTH REASON AS FOLLOWS

Friday 19th—Sunday 21st Service Rifle PACIFIC REGIONAL SHOOTING CHAMPIONSHIPS competition.

SUNDAY DECEMBER 12TH CLUB CHRISTMAS SHOOT, .22 rifles Mum, Dad and the kids all welcome, followed by B.B.Q. as last year.

January 2011. As it is not usually well attended there will not be an organized shoot in January, first shoot for new year will be;

February:

Sunday 6th (Waitangi day) 300M shoot???

Sunday 20th Deer silhouette shoot .

Time to reload, Malcolm.

ROTORUA DEER STALKERS 2010 RANGE CALENDAR

Date		Day	Shoot
Nov	7 th	Sunday	300M club shoot.
	21 st	Sunday	C/F deer silhouette shoot.
Dec	5 th	Sunday	300M club shoot.
	12 th	Sunday	Christmas shoot.

N.Z.D.A. and all range matters contact: malcolmperry@clear.net.nz (348 4473)

Smallbore shoots, contact: Jon Abbott on 345 7112

300m shoots, contact: Patricia Law/Don Robertson 362 7725

This program is only provisional as some dates may be altered/revised.

Central Regional Championships

Hosted on Rotorua Branch Range on 16th & 17th October 2010.

Saturday was fine for the Rimfire event, but the turnout was disappointing with only seven competitors.

The reason for some shooters absence was known, but those that did attend put up some credible performances. The wind though light, but shifty also kept the shooters on their toes.

The days program was 3P @ 50 & 100M.

Top three scores Prone: Grant Botting (TPO) 97; Mark Poots (TPO) 96; Mike Bailey (TPO)94.

Top three Standing: Grant Botting & Brenda Perry (ROT) 89; Mike Bailey 88; Mark Poots 83;

Top Three kneeling: Grant Botting 95; Brenda Perry 91; Ian Williamson (SWAI) 90

Short range Agg. top three: Grant Botting 281; Mike Bailey 269; Brenda Perry & Mark Poots 268.

After lunch and target change to all be done again at 100M.

Top three Prone: Grant & Mark 97.04; Brenda 96.02; Mike 95.04.

Top three Standing: Ian Williamson 87; Grant 85.01; Brenda 84.

Top three Kneeling: Brenda 98.03(new record by 2 points); John Stick (NTH AUCK)91.01; Mark 90.

Long range Agg. Top three Brenda 278.05; Ian 270.02; Grant 267.06.

Rimfire Grand Agg. Grant Botting Gold 548.06; Brenda Perry Silver 546.05; Ian Williamson Bronze 535.02.

Sunday was Centrefire day, the weather was threatening for rain but we managed to get to the last match before any significant rain fell. Brenda stayed home today so with her away and Colin Curreen working, both days it was going to be interesting.

100M Prone top three: Grant 99.09; Rod Hill (ROT) 99.05; Ian 98.05.

Standing top three: Ian 81.01; Mike 81; Grant 80. Now that's pretty close.

Kneeling top three: Grant 97.03; Ian 95.03; Mark 94.01.

Short range Agg. Top three: Grant 276.12; Ian 274.09; Rod Hill 267.09.

Some lunch and shift targets to 200M and do it all again.

Prone top three: Grant 100.08; Ian 99.06; Mike 99.05; two of the other 3 scores were 99's also

Standing top three: Rod & Grant 83; Mike 77; Ian 72.

Kneeling top three: Grant 98.02; Rod 94.02; Ian 94.01.

Long range Agg. Top three: Grant 281.10; Rod 274.06; Ian 265.07.

Centrefire Grand Agg. Top three: Grant Botting Gold, 548.22; Rod Hill Silver, 541.15; Ian Williamson Bronze, 539.16.

A very special thanks to Sandi Curreen, who because Colin was not competing made a special trip over to mark targets for us. I would also thank those who did turn up for their co-operative spirit to help make things run smoothly. I carried out R/O duties for the W/E.

Malcolm Perry.

Volunteers/NZDA Rotorua Projects Updates

Whirinaki Deer pen removal

First three pens have been done. Need volunteers for the second flyin. If you can help, please call Murray on 345 5160. Next proposed fly in will be soon. There will be short notice as dates are determined by the pilot, weather and helicopter availability.

If you want any further information, or are able to help, please contact Darryn or another committee member.

Whirinaki Hut restoration

If you would like to be involved in the Whirinaki Hut restoration, please contact Darryn or any other committee member. We will be doing one or two huts every year. Although we are working, there is ample time to get in some hunting as well.

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Media RELEASE

3 November 2010

DEERSTALKERS ASSOCIATION WANTS MANSLAUGHTER FOR MEARS

The New Zealand Deerstalkers' Association wants to see charges laid against Rosemary Ives' killer, Andrew Mears, upgraded to manslaughter.

Mr Mears appeared in the Taupo District Court this morning to face what NZDA regards as a very minor charge of careless discharge of a firearm causing death.

National president Alec McIver believes the summary of facts read in court today speaks volumes about the quite unaccidental and even deliberate intention on Mr Mears' part, to breach conditions of the DOC permit he had been issued, to hunt in the Kaimanawa Forest Park.

The summary of facts records that:

Mr Mears set up his camp before deciding to go out to find deer close to the roadside, whose presence was related to him by other would-be hunters he'd met before he got to camp;

Mr Mears was in possession of a DOC permit, special condition 3 of which strictly prohibits shooting during the hours of darkness;

Mr Mears believed the LED torch which Rosemary Ives was wearing looked at first sight like the eye of a deer, despite his being close enough to her, (between 15 and 26 metres), to be able to determine otherwise, if he had looked harder.

NZDA observes that quite apart from breaching his permit, Andrew Mears also failed to observe three basic firearms safety rules. He failed to point his firearm safely, to identify his target before he so fired, and to check his firing zone;

NZDA is appalled that Ms Ives died at the hands of a wreckless killer, using a 243 Remington Centrefire rifle, against which she wouldn't have stood a chance of survival at such close range.

NZDA acknowledges Mr Mears has made an apology to Ms Ives' family, which was read outside the Taupo District Court by his lawyer this morning. However heartfelt this is, the apology is no mitigating factor in the association's view. It should not be regarded as a last minute show of remorse, after an event which need not have happened.

NZDA wishes to see Mears' charges elevated to manslaughter, believing the current charge to be too light for a crime as patently preventable as this.

The Association encourages the Police and Crown solicitor, to consider whether his accomplices, (who drove the vehicle from which Ms Ives was shot), should also face serious charges.

NZDA wants to see an example made of this horrific killing, and expects no less than a custodial sentence for Mr Mears.

Please direct all further enquiries to:

Alec McIver, National President, Ph: 07 349 4250 (work), 07 347 4380 (home) or:

Matthew Lark, Advisor, to the National Executive, Ph: 07 377 1302.

THE NATIONAL OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED FROM MONDAY 15 NOVEMBER UNTIL FRIDAY 19 NOVEMBER while I attend the Pacific Regional Shooting Championships in Tokoroa.

For urgent queries please contact Trevor Dyke 0274 476 858

Enclosed in the pack to branches and available electronically on request from the national office

1. NZDA NEWSLETTER

November/December 2010 *NZ Guns & Hunting* magazine 'MP's hunt – Ngamatea Station, October 2010' written by Alec McIver.

2. NZDA 2011 CALENDAR

Please find enclosed a complimentary copy of the calendar plus an order form.

'the way it used to be... contains historical photographs from the glory days of hunting; featuring old huts, dated camp scenes, bringing home the trophies by horse pack, big Red stags, Wapiti bulls and memories of the 1975 'save our tahr campaign.' It also features NZDA, sporting clay and NZ Service Rifle championship shooting dates, militaria auctions, pig hunts, A&P shows, hunting ballot dates, national competition close off dates, and WORLD RUGBY CUP MATCH SCHEDULES. \$15 each

3. TRAGIC SHOOTING LABOUR WEEKEND

- (i) Press release ' **NZDA deplores Kaimanawa road killing**', 26 October 2010
- (ii) Press release Hon Kate Wilkinson, minister of conservation, '**Hunters must put an end to spotlighting**;' 27 October 2010
- (iii) Press release, MSC '**follow the seven basic rules of firearms safety at all times when handling firearms**' 24 October 2010

4. PACIFIC REGIONAL SHOOTING CHAMPIONSHIPS – to be hosted by NZDA at Tokoroa and Rotorua Sunday Monday 15 November to Sunday 21st November 2010. There will be close to 100 competitors from New Zealand, Australia, New Caledonia and Samoa.

5. NZDA INSURANCE – certificate of insurance dated October 15th 2010.

This is to confirm that the insurance cover for members of the NZDA is:

General liability sum insured	\$10 million
Forest and rural fires act limit	\$1 million
Excesses	\$2,000

As per the note in the latest Bugle please note that **THERE WILL BE NO PUBLIC COVER PROVIDED WHILE HUNTERS ARE ENGAGED IN PROFESSIONAL GUIDED HUNTING ACTIVITIES.**

6. DOC SOUTHLAND HUNTING – a brochure for Southland / West Otago (excluding Stewart Island and Rakiura)

7. POISON OPERATIONS

- (i) **Wakapohai (15,400 hectares) Moeraki (5,100 hectares) and Makatekate (7,700 hectares) areas, South Westland, aerial 1080 will begin in the first period of favourable weather after 15 November 2010 until December 2010.** For further information contact South Westland DOC phone 03 751 0807 email gscott@doc.govt.nz
- (ii) **Wilberforce and Mathias Valleys (5,000 hectares of public conservation land in the upper tributaries of the Rakaia catchment) aerial 1080, preferred timing 15 May to 30 June 2011 - 2 days.** This operation is at the proposal stages only at this stage. As this area has a special value of the feral deer herd in the Rakaia and its ability to produce trophy animals NZDA has asked if it can be involved in putting together the AEE. Further consultation will be made with branches in the area and at the appropriate time, a request for submissions and the national office submission will be forwarded via the normal channels.

- (iii) **Project Kaka – Tararua Forest Park, 30,000 hectares from Otaki Forks through to the Holdsworth road end and along the eastern foothills of the Tararua Ranges, weather dependant, aerial 1080.**

8. PERCEPTIONS OF THE EFFECTIVENESS OF RELATIONS BETWEEN NZDA MEMBERS AND DOC STAFF summary report October 5th 2010, which includes:

- perceptions of the relationship
- state of the relationship
- key features of the relationship
- staff perceptions
- ease of information from staff
- consultation and liaison
- collaboration of hotspots
- wider collaboration
- encouraging and enhancing hunting
- barriers to effective relationship
- desirable relationship outcome indicators
- desirable outcomes from an effective relationship between DOC and the hunting communication including trust, respect, commitment and support

Thanks to those NZDA members who gave their time to answer questions in relation to this survey.

9. \$4 MILLION INVESTED IN SELF RESETTING TRAP PILOT PROJECT, press release, DOC October 19th 2010. the new funding will allow DOC to purchase roughly 10,000 of the innovative Wellington designed and made traps and put them through a rigorous three-year testing programme. The pilot is the result of cooperation between THE Green Party and the government.

9. OTHER DOC UPDATES – check out their website for further information

- (i) **DOC ANNUAL REPORT** to 30 June 2010. – Available on www.doc.govt.nz/annual-report-2010 or by contacting Tim Lind-Jackson publishing@doc.govt.nz or phone 04 471 0726

- (ii) **DRAFT WEST COAST CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT STRATEGY (CMS)**
Check out www.doc.govt.nz/getting-involved/consultations/closed/draft-west-coast-te-tai-o-poutini-conservation-management-strategy

The reviewed West Coast CMS was published in June 2010 and sets out DOC's proposed intentions for the integrated management of natural and physical resources over the next ten years.

- (iii) **DRAFT TONGARIRO NATIONAL PARK MANAGEMENT PLAN PARTIAL REVIEW - CONSOLIDATION CLOSES 4PM Friday 10 December 2010.**

Check out <http://www.doc.govt.nz/getting-involved/consultations/current/draft-tongariro-national-park-management-plan-partial-review/>

Regards

Dianne Brown

CEO

In the news

HUNTER ADMITS MANSLAUGHTER OF ROSEMARY IVES – BY MIKE WATSON – THE DOMINION POST (18 NOVEMBER 2010)

A hunter who pleaded guilty to manslaughter this morning over the shooting death of Lower Hutt teacher Rosemary Ives is a decent man who is facing the terrible consequences of his mistake, his lawyer says.

Hamilton man Andrew Neville David Mears, 25, appeared in Taupo District Court this morning. He was remanded on bail to appear on February 2 at Rotorua High Court.

Ives, 25, was brushing her teeth when she was shot through the head by Mears, who was illegally spotlighting with friends from a utility vehicle, on Labour Weekend this year.

Police estimated the shot was fired less than 26 metres from where Ms Ives was standing.

Mears told police he mistook Ms Ives' headlamp for the eye of a deer.

A fortnight ago, Mears admitted a lesser charge of careless use of a firearm in relation to Ms Ives' death at a Conservation Department campground south of Turangi on October 22.

'HE KNEW THE CONSEQUENCES'

The manslaughter charge carried a maximum penalty of life in prison.

Mears' lawyer Roger Laybourn said outside court that Mears knew the consequences of pleading guilty to manslaughter but did not have anything to hide.

"He has made it very clear he wanted to plead guilty this morning."

"Bad things do happen to good people.

"He's a decent young man who has made a terrible mistake with terrible consequences and he has to live with that."

Mr Laybourn said Mears was "terrified" of the possibility of going to jail but accepted the consequences.

He understood the risk of pleading guilty but had hoped he wouldn't have to.

Home detention was a possibility as was jail, said Mr Laybourn.

"He definitely wanted to plead guilty."

"He very much wants his and those other tragic situations to be a lesson to everybody."

The victims family had not been in contact with Mears.

"He is such a decent young man and he will be haunted for the rest of his life."

Mears, dressed in a black shirt and trousers, was led from the court by his wife, and family members.

He would not comment on why he gave the guilty plea.

Mr Laybourn said Mears was definitely being made an example of.

"We have tried to be open about everything."

Mears made a "snap decision" to go hunting because he was told deer were in the area.

The incident had left Mears distraught, unable to eat and riven with remorse, his lawyer Roger Laybourn said after his last appearance. He had vowed never to hunt again.

REVIEW LED TO MORE SERIOUS CHARGE

Detective Sergeant Todd Pearce said the file was referred to the Crown Solicitor at Rotorua to review the circumstances of Ives' death.

The main purpose of the review was to establish whether a more serious charge of manslaughter should be laid, he said.

At Mears' first court appearance on November 3, police sought a remand without plea on the original charge pending the review.

"Legal opinion has now been provided and a new charge of manslaughter will be laid," Pearce said on Wednesday.

It was appropriate that police sought further advice about the level of charge given the wider circumstances of the incident, Pearce said.

"The circumstances of Ives' death were different from what police normally deal with in most hunting related incidents and deaths.

"It was important that additional advice and review was sought."

CONCERN OVER FOREST RIVER ACCESS – BY KRISTY MARTIN – THE DAILY POST (2 NOVEMBER 2010)

More than 100 local fisherman have raised concerns over the newly restricted fishing access in the Kaingaroa Forest.

Rotorua MP Todd McClay said he would meet forestry company Timberlands to address the widespread concern.

The MP said he'd had many meetings and discussions over many months with concerned fishermen.

"It is clear that anglers who have traditionally enjoyed fishing in the Kaingaroa Forest over summer months will be extremely disappointed that vehicle access to the Rangitaiki River has been restricted," he said.

Mr McClay recently attended a public meeting in Murupara with United Future MP Peter Dunn where more than 100 recreational users raised concerns about restrictions on fishing access.

Since that meeting, Mr McClay said, he'd been working closely with Fish and Game, local fishing clubs and Timberlands to establish a dialogue on the access changes.

He said he'd invited a number of representatives from Bay of Plenty fishing clubs to join him with Fish and Game in meeting Timberlands where they would seek to clarify some of the safety issues and other concerns that had been raised.

"The reality is that we have always had summer access to this river and a lot of fisherman are asking why this has now changed," he said.

While the Kaingaroa Forest was privately owned, the Rangitaiki River was on public land.

Mr McClay said he hoped they could have "a constructive dialogue with land owners and Timberlands".

CATS LOSE LEGS IN ILLEGAL GIN-TRAPS – THE NZ HERALD (18 NOVEMBER 2010)

Tauranga SPCA has condemned the use of gin-traps after two cats were maimed in the illegal contraptions.

Gordon the cat lost his front right leg after stepping in a trap in Papamoa last week.

The young tabby was found beneath a car with the trap still locked around his leg on Saturday afternoon, less than a month after ginger cat Sebastian was discovered in a similar state in suburban Greerton, the Bay of Plenty Times reported.

It was several days before the cats were found, leaving veterinarians with no option but to amputate.

Tauranga SPCA education officer Nicolle Smith said the use of gin-traps was inhumane.

"It's against the law, and not only is it cruel to cats and dogs, it's a massive drain on our finances," she said.

In both cases, the vet bill was about \$1000.

Ms Smith said Gordon was believed to be a stray, but was considered a "communal" pet around the neighbourhood.

SPCA animal welfare inspector Jason Blair said the trapper, if found, could be prosecuted under the Animal Welfare Act.

Laying one of the banned traps carried penalties of up to three years' imprisonment, or a fine of up to \$75,000, he said.

"We're appealing to the public for any information they have relating to this case, or even if they know about someone who is using these traps."

- NZPA

MANY LAKES IN POOR STATE OF HEALTH BY TRACY WATKINS - THE DOMINION POST (11 NOVEMBER 2010)

Some of the country's filthiest lakes have been revealed – with a report suggesting that as many as a third may be unhealthy.

Environment Minister Nick Smith has used the report to sound a warning that New Zealand's clean, green brand is at risk and says it is unacceptable that more lakes are deteriorating in water quality than are improving.

The Niwa report provides only a snapshot of the country's waterways as it surveys just 112 of New Zealand's 4000 lakes, with only 68 reliably monitored since 2005.

But the authors believe the sample is enough to suggest things are getting worse in many lakes.

Their report shows that 19 lakes deteriorated over the survey period while eight showed improvement.

The problem was worst in Canterbury, where many of the 19 lakes that were deteriorating were found. But water quality was worst in low and intensively farmed areas such as Waikato and Manawatu.

Forest & Bird advocacy manager Kevin Hackwell said he agreed with Dr Smith about the damage to New Zealand's clean and green brand. He rated the worst lakes, such as Canterbury's Lake Ellesmere, as unswimmable.

"I wouldn't swim in Lake Ellesmere, definitely not. I've walked around it, driven past it, smelt it ... that's a real loss to the people of Canterbury and the iwi."

Dr Smith said the report found that New Zealand lake water quality compared favourably with Europe and North America, but there were signs of real concern.

"It is unacceptable that 32 per cent of our monitored lakes have poor water quality and that more lakes are deteriorating in water quality than are improving."

He said the Government had increased spending on freshwater clean-up initiatives from \$17 million to \$94m.

That appeared to be having an effect, with Lake Rotoiti in the Bay of Plenty showing the greatest improvement in water quality.

Mr Hackwell said that, while it was a concern that several lakes showing a significant deterioration in quality were in the high country, there was at least improvement in other areas.

Lake Rotoiti and Lake Taupo had greatly improved after "tens of millions of dollars" had been spent on clean-up efforts.

"And that's the big signal here. Farming, whether it be dairying or intensive farming, is getting this massive subsidy from the environment and taxpayers, we are picking up the bill for their environmental mismanagement."

The cost was not just financial but in the loss of amenities.

But Federated Farmers said the number of lakes showing an improvement was a result of a massive investment by farmers in effluent management systems and other on-farm improvements.

DOC starts "triple hit" 1080 Drop in Forest by Kay Blundell – The Dominion Post (09 November 2010)

A "triple hit" 1080 drop has been started in the Tararua Range as the Conservation Department continues to search for a stoat spotted on nearby nature reserve Kapiti Island.

The department and the Animal Health Board have joined forces for the 1080 aerial programme aimed at stoats, rats and possums in a 30,000-hectare area on both sides of the range.

The pests are the three main predators threatening native birds such as kaka, kereru, tui, bellbirds, fantails and riflemen.

DoC Wairarapa area manager Chris Lester said pre-drop monitoring showed high rat and possum numbers in the park and urgent action was needed to protect vulnerable nesting birds and their chicks.

The drop was also aimed at preventing the spread of bovine tuberculosis in Wairarapa.

Helicopters are dropping 57 tonnes of cereal baits laced with 1080 across a corridor of native forest stretching between Otaki Forks and Mt Holdsworth this week.

People with dogs are being advised to avoid the region in the next few months and visitors are advised to steer well clear of any green poison baits they may encounter.

The drop is tagged "triple-hit" because the baits have been produced to appeal not only to possums, but also rats, whose carcasses would be eaten by stoats, which would succumb to secondary poisoning.

Meanwhile, the department has set traps and tracking tunnels on Kapiti Island after a stoat was spotted at Rangatira in the centre of the island on Thursday. The island nature reserve protects some of the world's rarest fauna and is one of New Zealand's most important centres for native bird recovery programmes.

Its predator-free status has been threatened by the stoat, which department staff believe may have swum there, although the five-kilometre swim from the mainland is further than the 3.5km range the good swimmers have been known to achieve.

The department's Wellington-Kapiti area manager, Rob Stone, is discounting the possibility of eco-terrorists placing the stoat on the island as such actions were normally made public for some sort of payback, he said.

TRAMPER RESCUED IN NELSON – NZPA (07 NOVEMBER 2010)

A lone French woman tramper was rescued from steep alpine terrain in Nelson's Kahurangi National Park today after she activated an emergency beacon.

Summit rescue helicopter spokesman Jarrod Colbourne said the Rescue Co-ordination Centre (RCC) alerted the crew to respond to a beacon activation near Anatoki Peak in the park.

The helicopter, carrying a St John advanced paramedic and a Nelson police search and rescue officer as winchman, was flown to the GPS position provided provided by RCC.

"After searching the alpine area for approximately 10 minutes a lone trumper was spotted," Mr Colbourne said.

"The trumper had climbed up onto a rock face and signalled to us using a emergency blanket."

The 22-year-old French tourist had suffered a knee injury during a descent off the main ride, and was flown to Nelson hospital.

"She was on a solo trip and was well equipped," Mr Colbourne said.

"She had lost the track and was making her way down a ridge to pick up a river which she had intended to follow out."

SOMETHING WHIFFY ABOUT ENTRY IN CONTEST, SAYS GOAT OWNER BY LANE NICHOLS – THE DOMINION POST (05 NOVEMBER 2010)

An animal sanctuary owner claims her pet goat Colonel Stinky was shot dead by neighbours then entered into a hunting competition, where the prize specimen won \$100.

The neighbours deny killing the animal but say their teenage grandson might have claimed the untagged beast as "fair game" on a shooting expedition in nearby bush.

Police are now investigating the animal's mysterious disappearance and say "it looks like there are criminal offences", but are yet to lay charges.

Carolyn Press-McKenzie became suspicious when the usually placid Colonel went "Awol" from Kaitoke's Huha Animal Sanctuary during Labour Weekend, when the annual Rimutaka Sports Bar pig-hunting competition is held.

Colonel Stinky's predecessor – a goat called Borris – had also disappeared the previous Labour Weekend, coinciding with the hunt.

She tracked down the hunt organisers this week and asked: "'Did you see any big goats with long white horns?' and they said they had."

Her worst fears were confirmed when competition photos of what she believed was Colonel Stinky's bloodied carcass were emailed on Wednesday night.

"We were inconsolable. There's no way to describe seeing your pet hanging up and gutted.

"In the pit of our stomach we kind of had a feeling it was going to be him. We had wanted him to be bouncing off happily in some bush."

Mrs Press-McKenzie's husband, Jim, said identical chinks in the horns and a nose freckle meant he was adamant the photo was that of his docile pet.

"That there is a dead giveaway – it's the same goat."

His wife said there had been bad blood with the neighbours for several years. Colonel Stinky was a "very reliable homebody who just plops around the paddock – it's not like him to wander off".

The animal had been rescued from a farm about six months ago with the help of local teenagers, who would be devastated by his sudden departure.

It was too much of a coincidence that both goats had disappeared at the same time as the local pig-hunting competition, Mrs Press-McKenzie said.

"It's wrong on so many levels."

The sanctuary neighbour said the slain beast had taken out a prize in the junior under-16 competition – earning her grandson, 15, \$100 in prizemoney. However, she denied knowing anything about the Colonel's disappearance.

The sanctuary animals often roamed unattended and her grandson sometimes hunted in the surrounding bush with friends, occasionally shooting wandering geese and chickens.

"If they've got roaming animals they can't keep on their turf, that's their problem," she said.

"I feel really bad because I like animals but those kids drive me mad."

Asked if the dead goat was the Colonel, she said: "It's hard to tell, they all look the same to me.

"It's wild, it's not tagged, it's in the bush, and the police will tell you even if it was in my pinetrees, it's fair game. They're a pest."

She planned to raise the matter with her grandson.

Meanwhile, pig-hunt organiser Gerry Veneberg said the controversy was the first of its kind in the competition's 22-year history.

Ad Feedback "It's quite a hard one because as much as it probably is [Mrs Press-McKenzie's] goat, she can't really prove it."

Top Ten Reasons Why Men Prefer Guns Over Women

10 - You can trade an old 44 for a new 22.

9 - You can keep one gun at home and have another for when you're on the road.

8 - If you admire a friend's gun and tell him so, he will probably let you try it out a few times.

7 - Your primary gun doesn't mind if you keep another gun for a backup.

6 - Your gun will stay with you even if you run out of ammo.

5 - A gun doesn't take up a lot of closet space.

4 - Guns function normally every day of the month.

3 - A gun doesn't ask , "Do these new grips make me look fat?"

2 - A gun doesn't mind if you go to sleep after you use it.

And the Number One reason
Why Men Prefer Guns over women.....

1 - You can buy a silencer for a gun

**Application for Membership of the Rotorua Branch of the
New Zealand Deerstalkers Association Inc 2010/2011**

To:
NZDA
PO Box 6514
Wellington

Dear Membership Secretary,

I wish to apply for membership of the Rotorua Branch of the New Zealand Deerstalkers' Association for the 2010/11 year (March 1st 2010 – February 28th 2011).

My details are as follows:

Surname		
Given Name/s		
Preferred mailing address		
Suburb		
City/Town		
New Post Code		
Telephone		
Cell phone		
Facsimile		
Email		
	Do you wish to receive the NZDA Monthly newsletter electronically? Yes / No	
	Are you able to assist with Search and Rescue? Yes / No	
Date of Birth if Junior or Superannuant	___ / ___ / _____	Junior less than 18 as at 1 March 2010. Superannuant over 65 as at 1 March 2010.

Membership entitles you to:

- ✔ Any discounts such as purchases in certain sport and gun shop and discounted heli fly in trips as available at times.
- ✔ \$10 Million dollar personal public liability insurance for hunting and shooting mishaps (such as accidental cause of fires and similar ie \$1 million cover for Rural Fires Act, exemplary and punitive damage.)
- ✔ Affiliation with COLFO, Coalition of Licensed Firearm Owners – the firearm fund for firearm rights.
- ✔ Access to monthly socials or meetings; the clubrooms; range competitions or individual shooting; competitions and trophies; organized hunts
- ✔ Involvement in conservation and animal management *ownership, shooting sport, hunting and habitats.*
- ✔ *Support for the branch as well as the national NZDA association to represent hunters' interests regarding firearms*

REMEMBER YOU MUST BE FINANCIAL AT THE TIME YOU SHOOT THAT TROPHY TO ENTER COMPETITIONS AND FINANCIAL TO MAKE ANY CLAIMS AGAINST THE \$5 MILLION INSURANCE COVER.

Range Keys	Any person who wishes to have a range gate key for the private use of our range must be a current financial member of the branch and must obtain a key from Hamills, Outdoorsman HQ or Serious Shooters, Amohia Street, at a cost of \$20 per year. Your membership card must be produced at the time of key purchase. Keys may not be lent or passed on to other persons, whether they are members or not. Non-members can only enter the range if accompanied by a current financial member. Any use of the range by non-members requires prior approval of the committee executive.
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Club Contacts

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Email: nzdarotorua@gmail.com web: www.nzdarotorua.org.nz

Patron Des Jenkins
Honorary Solicitor Barry Rodgers
Life Members Des Jenkins
Rod Houghton Ph 348 4057
Owen Rumble
Gary Winslade
Honorary Member Ross Burton
Investment Trustees Keith Billington
Rod Houghton
Des Jenkins

Branch Executive

President Darryn Cosgrave Ph 348 4496
Vice President and
Hunts Convenor Murray Robson Ph 345 5160
Treasurer Rod Houghton Ph 348 4057
Secretary Elvis Bowring Ph 350 3230

Committee Members and officers

Range Malcolm Perry Ph 348 4473
Ron Marsden Ph 362 8542
Socials Scott Russell Ph 343 9383
Search and Rescue Cliff Graham Ph 362 8883
Colin Petersen Ph 343 9481
Webmaster Ralph Price Ph 357 2786
Library Peter Graham Ph 333 1838
Dennis Price
Tines Editor Elvis/Scott Ph 350 3230/343 9383

Range Keys

Any person who wishes to have a range gate key for the private use of our range must be a CURRENT FINANCIAL MEMBER of the Branch and must obtain a key from Hamills, Outdoorsman HQ or Serious Shooters at a cost of \$20.00 per year. Your membership card must be produced at the time of key purchase. Keys may not be lent or passed on to other persons, whether they are members or not. Non-Members can only enter the Range if accompanied by a current Financial Member. Any use of the range by non-members requires prior approval of the committee.

Membership Costs

Senior = \$90 (full benefits at local and national branch level)

Associate = \$60 (Unable to vote or enter national competitions. Does not receive H&W)

Junior = \$25 (Must be less than 18 years of age as at March 1st 2010. Full benefits apart from voting rights.)

Student = \$40 (Must be attending a tertiary institute or undergoing an apprenticeship. Proof must be provided.)

Superannuant = \$50 (Over 65 as at March 1st 2010. Full benefits)

Family = \$5 (Children or grandchildren)

Sender: Rotorua Branch NZDA
PO Box 857
ROTORUA

