



# The New Zealand Deerstalkers Assoc. Inc.

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## August Issue 2010:

*Next Social: Get together of deer pen removal volunteers. Non volunteers welcome too!*



“The Tines”  
Rotorua Branch Newsletter August 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	Deer pen volunteers social. Chance to talk about the adventures experienced during the upcoming deer pen removal project. August 25 <sup>th</sup> , 7:30pm Neil Hunt Park Clubrooms, Tarawera Road, Rotorua.
Range Shoot	Range itinerary for 2010 in this issue: Contact Malcolm Perry.

**Cover Photo:** Darryn & nephew Sika Roar "10".

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](mailto: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!

**Advertising prices:** If you would like to advertise in this publication, costs are as follows:

Full page \$150 (for 11 issues)

Half page \$75 (for 11 issues)

Single issue adverts can be arranged if required.

**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

Hello,

I was suffering a bad case of cabin fever a couple of weeks ago and I took the dog out for a walk in the Whirinaki, the day dawned chilly but turned out to be a cracker. I was early and walking up the track aided by torch light; as the sun rose in the crisp clear morning I stopped occasionally to take in the breath taking views over valleys and ridges far away. About an hour into the walk I startled a dozy hind not 30 meters away, I had a good view of her head neck and chest as she thumped, and crashed away from me. I had no bullet in my breach and could only watch as the bush swallowed her up. 5 hours later I emerged from the bush tired but content that whatever madness is going on in suburbia nature carries on and I can visit it anytime.

There was a great turn out at the last social where Graeme Sperry from NZWBM spoke; I was really impressed with his knowledge and dedication in his field of work. He captivated the audience for a good hour and half and we all came away learning more about what affects our chosen sport of hunting and what we need to do about it.

The deer trap removal dates are set for August 21st – 22nd; we NEED more people to help out call Darryn @ 3484496 to register you. You will need to be moderately fit and have some tools like a slasher, spade, fence puller etc. We will meet Wednesday 18th at Neil Hunt Park clubrooms @ 7pm to assess the weather for the weekend and go through the detail of the fly in.

The Branch's annual prize giving will be on Saturday September 11th from 7pm, it will be a pot luck dinner and the club will provide a large roast for the occasion. We are holding it on a Saturday night this year to encourage more families to attend, so if you have been thinking of going to meet other people in the club this is the night. I must mention the Rotorua Branch's web page is looking fantastic, if you are surfing the web one evening and have not seen our website take a detour, here is a link to get to it: <http://www.nzdarotorua.org.nz/cms/> the website is keeping us up with technology and provides a great communication tool for our Branch. All newsletters and club activities are documented on the site, Range calendars social events etc. thanks Ralph!

Malcolm Gillice proposed a range shoot to simulate hunting; numbers are limited to 20 people, dates and detail/contacts will be in this newsletter.

Happy & Safe Hunting

Darryn

## **NZDA SOCIAL**

*Get together of volunteers for the deer pen trip*

**At Rotorua Deerstalkers Club Rooms  
Neil Hunt Park, 25<sup>th</sup> August, 7.30pm**

***All welcome. Come and hear some of the stories about the weekend.***

***Wanted  
Good stories for newsletter.  
Any interesting articles.  
Any good photo's of your hunting trips.  
Send to editor – [nzdarotorua@gmail.com](mailto: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.

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**NZDA ROTORUA WEBSITE IS ONLINE:**

**CHECK OUT [WWW.NZDAROTORUA.ORG.NZ](http://WWW.NZDAROTORUA.ORG.NZ)**

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## Rotorua Range Report for June 2010

Due to a computer malfunction, there is no range report for this month. For updates or information on the NZDA Rotorua Range, please phone Malcolm Perry on 348 4473.

### ROTORUA DEER STALKERS 2010 RANGE CALENDAR

Date		Day	Shoot
August	1 <sup>st</sup>	Sunday	300M club shoot.
	15 <sup>th</sup>	Sunday	Morning C/F silhouette shoot PM. Junior .22 SWAZI SHOOT.
Sept	5 <sup>th</sup>	Sunday	300M club shoot.
	19 <sup>th</sup>	Sunday	R/F silhouette shoot.
Oct	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Sunday	300M club shoot.
	16 <sup>th</sup> & 17 <sup>th</sup>	Sat and Sun	Central Regional Championships.
Nov	7 <sup>th</sup>	Sunday	300M club shoot.
	21 <sup>st</sup>	Sunday	C/F deer silhouette shoot.
Dec	5 <sup>th</sup>	Sunday	300M club shoot.
	12 <sup>th</sup>	Sunday	Christmas shoot.

N.Z.D.A. and all range matters contact: [malcolmperry@clear.net.nz](mailto: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.

### Advert

Darryn has some surplus 30-06 ammo available:

1 packet of Norma 30-06

1 packet of Winchester 30-06

2 packets of solid 30-06

Phone Darryn for more info



## NEWSLETTER TO BRANCHES AND MEMBERS,

July 18th 2010

**FOR BRANCH TREASURERS** - Enclosed in the mail is an invoice for H&W 168 based on the actual number of magazines posted to branch members. It would be appreciated if this could be settled promptly as the national association has already had to pay for this service.

**HUNTING & WILDLIFE** – new email address [huntingandwildlife@paradise.net.nz](mailto:huntingandwildlife@paradise.net.nz)

### MORE NATIONAL CONFERENCE UPDATES

The following are all enclosed in the mail to branches and available electronically on request:

#### 1. NZDA NATIONAL POLICY AND ASSOCIATION RULES – updated 11 July 2010 to include:

- The inclusion of high visibility clothing in the Field Guidelines

#### 2. NZDA NATIONAL COMPETITION RULES – updated 11 July 2010 to include:

- The inclusion of the rules for the AHT Waikato Branch Trophy for members over 65 years
- The inclusion of the Withey system as a guidelines for national AHT judges in determining whether Sika entered into the competitions qualify as being Sika and not Sika/Red

#### 3. NZDA HERITAGE TRUST

- Chair's report to conference 2010
- Statement of performance for the year ended 28 February 2010
- Statement of financial position for the year ended 28 February 2010.

#### 4a. NATIONAL EXECUTIVE CONTACT LIST

National President	Alec McIver	07 347 4380	027 282 0770	<a href="mailto:mciverengineering@vodafone.co.nz">mciverengineering@vodafone.co.nz</a>
Vice President	Tim McCarthy	03 684 4507	027 292 1168	<a href="mailto:temccarthy@xtra.co.nz">temccarthy@xtra.co.nz</a>
National Treasurer	John Crone	04 562 8104	0212 732 735	<a href="mailto:john@npt.co.nz">john@npt.co.nz</a>
CEO	Dianne Brown	04 801 7367		<a href="mailto:deerstalkers@paradise.net.nz">deerstalkers@paradise.net.nz</a>

#### North Island Members of the Executive

Steve Corlett 06 753 9889 027 1291 397 [stumpyandgill@hotmail.com](mailto:stumpyandgill@hotmail.com)

Sandi Curren 07 886 4090 027 441 0856 [sandijo@clear.net.nz](mailto:sandijo@clear.net.nz)

#### South Island Members of the Executive

Chaz Forsyth 03 473 8317 027 473 8318 [forsyths@clear.net.nz](mailto:forsyths@clear.net.nz)

Snow Hewetson 03 572 2772 0274 122 772 [hewetson.family@xtra.co.nz](mailto:hewetson.family@xtra.co.nz)

Portfolios and first point of contacts for the branches will be available after the first national executive meeting in September.

The following is available electronically or in hard copy on request from the national office (168 pages)

#### 4b. NZDA NATIONAL SHOOTING RULES AND INSTRUCTION MANUAL - updated July 2010 to include changes to :

- levies
- national centrefire grand aggregate
- North Island grand aggregate and centrefire championships (Section 2) match 3
- Pacific Regional Shooting Championships, both rimfire and centrefire
- National Short F Competitions - ties and unbreakable ties

5. **CERTIFICATES** have been raised and are on their way to the national president for countersigning before going to the branches for presentation

6. **AHT MEDALS** have been ordered and we await for them to be made before forwarding to the branches for presentation

## RECENT ADVOCACY

The following are included in the mail to the branches and also available electronically on request from the national office

1. **NZ GAME ANIMAL MANAGEMENT**
  - Press release 23 June 2010
  - A full copy of the report will be in the next posting from the national office.
2. **TONGARIRO NATIONAL PARK MANAGEMENT PLAN Submission**
3. **DRAFT MT ASPIRING PLAN**

DOC received a total of 436 submissions from the above plan, a large number of which were detailed and informative. Of the submissions made by NZDA, 13 were responded to as follows:

Accepted	4
Partially accepted	8
No comment	1

The amended plan will now be considered by the NZ Conservation Authority, which in accordance with Section 47 of the National Parks Act approves the plan, having regard to the views of the minister of conservation.

## FIREARMS ISSUES

Included in the mail to the branches and available electronically on request

1. **COLFO'S ATTENDANCE AT THE FOURTH BIENNIAL MEETING OF STATES (BMS4) TO CONSIDER THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAMME OF ACTION (POA) TO PREVENT, COMBAT AND ERADICATE THE ILLICIT TRADE IN SMALL ARMS AND LIGHT WEAPONS IN ALL ITS ASPECTS – NEW YORK, 14 – 18th June 2010, Report which includes:**

- Adoption of international tracing instrument (ITI)
- Future meetings
- Arms Trade Treaty talks
- COLFO attendance at further UN meetings
- Conclusions
- Recommendations
- Tracing
- Cross border movement of small arms and light weapons (SALW)

2. **POLICE CANNOT QUANTIFY ILLEGAL FIREARMS By GILES BROWN - The Press**

Police do not know how many illegal firearms are circulating in New Zealand.

The issue of gun control has been raised after the shooting of two officers and a police dog in Christchurch last week. In the past month, firearms have been used in a number of raids on Canterbury pubs, a PostShop and dairies.

In Canterbury, there are 31,760 firearm licence-holders, with about 225,000 nationally. It is believed there are about 1.2 million firearms in New Zealand. However, Canterbury district firearms officer Jason Bruce said it was impossible to judge the total figure.

"Firearms will always be stolen," he said. "No-one really knows the exact number of firearms out there. "The firearms that are being used are being stolen, and predominantly that may be from licensed holders or properties which are being specifically targeted."

There were 871 firearm offences in New Zealand in 2008-09, up from 695 in the previous period. Inspector Joe Green, manager of the licensing and vetting service centre at police national headquarters, said that meant only 1.4 per cent of violent offences involved a firearm.

"There is no firm statistic that enables me to conclude whether or not the number of firearms in criminal hands is increasing or not," he said.

Last year, 806 firearms were recovered in police searches, compared with 561 in 2008.

However, seizures dropped in the previous three years.

Any firearms offences were "tragic", but could be reduced by legitimate owners making sure weapons were stored securely, Green said.

"The other thing that people can do is be vigilant for the high-risk user," he said. "This is a person who has been fit and proper and is no longer. "They may be known to family, friends and possibly authorities."

Bruce said for the past nine months Canterbury police had been carrying out random checks on rural firearm licence-holders.

Gun-control advocate Philip Alpers estimated only 6 per cent of firearms needed to be registered with police in New Zealand. Alpers, an adjunct associate professor at Sydney University, said these included handguns and military-style or semi-automatic weapons. "[The police] have no way of even counting the legitimate guns," he said. "They don't have a clue. "By definition, we can't accurately estimate the number of illegal firearms out there. It's like estimating the number of ounces of P on the market."

## **HELI-HUNTING**

Enclosed in the mail to the branches and available electronically on request:

- This is for a request of funds by the Heli-hunt Action Group to set up a fund for lawyers and accountants
- Please note that NZDA is not involved with this group and will not be making any donations to it.

Regards

Dianne Brown, CEO

NEWSLETTER TO BRANCHES AND MEMBERS,

July 31st 2010

## **MORE CONFERENCE ROUNDUPS**

The following two items are in hard copy to the branches and can be requested electronically on request from the national office:

**1. TROPHY BOOK CERTIFICATIONS 2010** These certificates have been raised, and forwarded to the national president for signed. They should be with branch secretaries in the near future.

**2. BRANCH NEWSLETTER COMPETITION** The month chosen was October 2009. As per the rules, the winning entry for the 2010 competitions is included, so that other branches can see an example of what you are up against, and a way to improve your own newsletters. Well done North Canterbury.

**3. MEDALS-** (where applicable (are included in this mailing.

## **HUNTS**

The following are in hard copy to the branches and can be requested electronically on request from the national office:

### **JULY NEWSLETTER WHICH INCLUDES:**

- Stoney Creek sponsorship details
- Special pack offers to HUNTS course graduates from Stoney Creek
- HUNTS form for requesting the Stoney Creek sponsorship packages
- What else is going on?
- Congratulations to the HUNTS diploma graduates

## **NATIONAL EXECUTIVE UPDATES**

The following are in hard copy to the branches and can be requested electronically on request from the national office:

**1. MINUTES NATIONAL EXECUTIVE MEETING 8/9 July 2010**

**2. MINUTES NATIONAL EXECUTIVE MEETING 11 July 2010.** This is a great way to keep up with what the national executive members are doing for you and your association.

## **NEW ZEALAND BIG GAME ANIMAL COUNCIL**

The following are in hard copy to the branches and can be requested electronically on request from the national office:

- PROCESS FOR SETTING UP THE NZ GAME ANIMAL COUNCIL:** Recommendations to the minister of conservation, June 2010.
- REQUEST TO GET IN BEHIND THE NZ GAME ANIMAL COUNCIL. (NZGAC)**



The response from the minister in respect to the recommendations for the process for setting up the NZGAC is expected late August or early September.

Some organisations have stated their opposition to all or part of the report's recommendations.

It is vital for the minister, the government and members of parliament in general are made aware of the hunters' committed support from the proposed council.

The national executive urges branch committees to gather the support of all branch members, to deliver a forceful message to all electorates and the list MPs.

Included in this request is:

- What we want you to do
- How to do it
- Where to send it

## **HELI-HUNTING UPDATES**

The following are in hard copy to the branches and can be requested electronically on request from the national office:

### **1. NZDA HELI-HUNTING SUBCOMMITTEE**

Report to the meeting held Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> July that includes:

- Introduction
- NZDA's policy on heli-hunting
- Summary
- Action points

### **2. NEW ZEALAND PROFESSIONAL HUNTING GUIDES' ASSOCIATION (NZPHGA) – includes:**

- Code of best practice for helicopter assisted hunting
- Media release – Hunting Guides new Code of Practice seeks to resolve heli hunting dispute

### **3. SAFARI CLUB (SCI) – USE OF AIRCRAFT POLICY, which includes:**

- SCI's aerial policy
- A statement to be signed by each SCI hunter in relation to entering animals for SCI awards or into the SCI record book

## **DISCOUNTS FOR MEMBERS**

The following InterIsland information is in hard copy to the branches and can be requested electronically on request from the national office:

### **1. INTERISLANDER**

Please use the group booking reference FA7454

The conditions for group bookings and instructions for members are included in the group rate sheet.

### **2. BLUEBRIDGE FERRY**

Bluebridge have advised that they no longer offer discounts, but instead have introduced a whole range of discount fares, which turn out to be cheaper than what their original fares with discounts amounted to.

### **2. TOP 10 HOLIDAY PARKS**

Application has been made, and information with the references etc should be available shortly.

### **3. YHA HOSTELS**

YHA is interested in offering a discount to NZDA members – we just have to satisfy their concerns on storage or firearms and storage of meat.

## **POISONING OPERATIONS**

1. **RUAHINE CORNER AREA** - DOC's aerial 1080 operation, 3,430 ha in the Ruahine Forest Park during winter 2010. A buffer zone of 50 m, where no baits will be laid, has been placed around the Ruahine Corner Hut, Colenso Hut and the Waiokotore Bivvy. There is also a 20 m buffer from Lake Colenso and both the Magatera and Whakaurekou Rivers.

2. **WAITUTU FOREST, FIORDLAND NATIONAL PARK** - DOC aerial 1080, the application is weather dependent and the earliest possible start date for the operation is August 2<sup>nd</sup> 2010. The latest date of application is November 30<sup>th</sup> 2010. The caution period will be a minimum of four months from the last day of application. Public access to the Thicket Burn Picnic area will be also be closed during this time. For further information contact Jessyca Bernard, phone 03 211 2400

#### **MORE BITS AND PIECES OF INTEREST**

1. **UNSUSTAINABLE HARVEST THREATENS RECREATIONAL HUNTING** – media release Peter Dunne, UnitedFuture. Silver Fern Farms is to harvest 1,000 chamois from the South Island high country. NZDA will be doing a press release and this will be available in the next mailing.

Regards

Dianne Brown

CEO

## **Volunteers/NZDA Rotorua Projects Updates**

### **Whirinaki Deer pen removal**

Need volunteers now. If you can help, please call Darryn. Proposed fly in date is August 21<sup>st</sup>

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.

## Steiner Safari Pro Binoc's

**Were \$579-00**  
**Now \$350-00**



**WHILE STOCKS LAST**

Rotorua Hunting and Fishing, Cnr Lake Road & Fairy Springs Road, ROTORUA,  
Ph 07 349 6303.



**ROTORUA – TAURANGA – HASTINGS**

[www.hamillsnz.co.nz](http://www.hamillsnz.co.nz)

HUGE GUN CLEARANCE	
 <b>Benelli</b> <b>Cordoba 12g, 28", 3" max4 camo</b> was \$4,699.00 <b>NOW \$3,350.00</b>	 <b>Browning A-Bolt Stainless, Syn c/w Rings 270, 7mm-08.</b> was \$2,199 <b>NOW \$1,999.00</b>
<b>M<sup>2</sup> Magnum 12g, 28", 3" max4 camo</b> was \$3,299.00 <b>NOW \$2,700.00</b>	<b>Sako Stainless, syn</b> was \$3,399.00 <b>NOW \$2,640.00</b>
<b>Vinci 12g, 28", 3" max4 camo</b> was \$3,350.00 <b>NOW \$2,550.00</b>	<b>Remington 770 7mm-08, 308 Black/syn</b> was \$999.00 <b>NOW \$799.00</b>
<b>Super Nova 12g, 28", 3 1/2" max4 camo</b> was \$1,699.00 <b>NOW \$1,350.00</b>	<b>Norinco 3w15 .22 Bolt action wood/blued, scoped, threaded, moderator.</b> was \$299.00 <b>NOW \$279.99</b>
1271 Fenton St, Rotorua • Ph (07) 348 3147	

**10% discount to all NZDA members – bring your membership card** (discount excludes electronics, ammunition, firearms or already discounted items)

# Outdoorsman Headquarters

## NEW ZEALAND'S GREATEST OUTDOOR OUTFITTERS


6 Tarawera Road, Rotorua  
07 345 9333

# Annual SALE!!!!

August 21<sup>st</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup>

**SHOP HOURS**  
10am to 6pm  
Monday - Friday  
Saturday 10am-1pm

MAIL/EMAIL/PHONE  
ENQUIRIES WELCOME  
top\_gun@clear.net.nz

**SERIOUS SHOOTERS ROTORUA**  
  
**The Bay of Plenty's  
Only Real Gun Shop**

**DAVE MINGINS**  
Owner

**PHONE/FAX**  
**(07) 349 2506**

**36A Amohia Street, Rotorua (Around from K.F.C.)**

We offer a 5% discount to NZDA Members.  
All products excluding Specials & New Firearms.  
(Please present your current membership card)

**Buy Online**

**[www.seriousshooters-rotorua.co.nz](http://www.seriousshooters-rotorua.co.nz)**



## **In the news**

### POLICE CANNOT QUANTIFY ILLEGAL FIREARMS BY GILES BROWN - THE PRESS (20 JULY 2010)

Police do not know how many illegal firearms are circulating in New Zealand.

The issue of gun control has been raised after the shooting of two officers and a police dog in Christchurch last week.

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However, Canterbury district firearms officer Jason Bruce said it was impossible to judge the total figure.

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"No-one really knows the exact number of firearms out there.

"The firearms that are being used are being stolen, and predominantly that may be from licensed holders or properties which are being specifically targeted."

There were 871 firearm offences in New Zealand in 2008-09, up from 695 in the previous period. Inspector Joe Green, manager of the licensing and vetting service centre at police national headquarters, said that meant only 1.4 per cent of violent offences involved a firearm.

"There is no firm statistic that enables me to conclude whether or not the number of firearms in criminal hands is increasing or not," he said.

Last year, 806 firearms were recovered in police searches, compared with 561 in 2008.

However, seizures dropped in the previous three years.

Any firearms offences were "tragic", but could be reduced by legitimate owners making sure weapons were stored securely, Green said.

"The other thing that people can do is be vigilant for the high-risk user," he said.

"This is a person who has been fit and proper and is no longer.

"They may be known to family, friends and possibly authorities."

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Gun-control advocate Philip Alpers estimated only 6 per cent of firearms needed to be registered with police in New Zealand.

Alpers, an adjunct associate professor at Sydney University, said these included handguns and military-style or semi-automatic weapons.

"[The police] have no way of even counting the legitimate guns," he said.

"They don't have a clue.

"By definition, we can't accurately estimate the number of illegal firearms out there. It's like estimating the number of ounces of P on the market."

#### NZ's Firearm Homicide Rate Drops by Michael Dickison – NZ Herald (24 July 2010)

Gun killings in New Zealand have declined the most in an international comparison - even though this country has less strict licensing laws than Canada and Australia.

A forthcoming article in the peer-reviewed Journal of Interpersonal Violence, published by United States-based Sage Publications, found New Zealand had "the most pronounced decline in firearm homicide over the past two decades".

The study suggests unemployment rates and the availability of heroin are more significant factors in firearm homicides than gun control.

In recent weeks, New Zealand has heard calls to make changes around gun laws after two police officers and their dog were shot in Christchurch and a Feilding farmer was murdered in his driveway with a shotgun.

Last year, Jan Molenaar killed a police officer in Napier with his arsenal of unregistered firearms, prompting many to question whether police should keep closer tabs on guns.

Police Association president Greg O'Connor, who advocates arming police officers, said the decline in firearm homicides showed New Zealand had well-balanced gun licensing.

"Particularly in New Zealand, you can go hunting and do your bit for ecology, because you're mostly hunting pests anyway," Mr O'Connor said.

"I would be very disappointed if as a result of the actions of criminals in New Zealand, there was an encroachment against lawful gun-owning people."

But even as general firearm homicides declined, more police were getting shot and officers needed protection. Organised crime and P were likely to be driving up attacks against police, Mr O'Connor said.

The study's lead author, Samara McPhedran, said from an international point of view, New Zealand's gun laws "have been just about right".

A former director of the United Nations Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific, Tsutomu Ishiguri, has voiced similar sentiments, describing New Zealand gun control as "world class".

A toughening of Australian gun laws in 1996 had no effect on the downward trajectory of gun homicides, Dr McPhedran said.

The study observed trends for the three countries between 1986 and 2007.



A statistical comparison between the countries found per capita rates in Canada and Australia had tracked similar lines.

But New Zealand's rate had fallen further every year, on average, than either country. This was despite New Zealand being the only country that did not require registration of all firearms.

The study also found that typically between 80 and 90 per cent of homicides were committed using illicitly owned firearms - although it was extremely rare for a stolen firearm to be used.

The findings "indicate dissociation between firearm violence and legislative approaches to firearms ownership", the study says.

"Legislative reform does not influence the population of individuals who commit firearm violence."

#### GUN LAWS

##### Licence required

\* NZ: Yes

\* Canada: Yes

\* Australia: Yes

##### Pump-action shotguns banned?

\* NZ: No

\* Canada: No

\* Australia: Yes

##### Registration required for all firearms?

\* NZ: No

\* Canada: Yes

\* Australia: Yes

##### Longarm licence length (years)

\* NZ: 10

\* Canada: 5

\* Australia: 5

##### Change in gun homicide rate (average per year)

\* NZ: -7.7%

\* Canada: -1.7%

\* Australia: -6.6%

#### 1080 PUTTING FARMERS LIVELIHOOD AT RISK BY JULIET SPEEDY – 3 NEWS (14 JULY 2010)

A West Coast farmer says his livelihood is at risk after 1080 poison was dropped in a creek on his property.

The farmer says he had an assurance that helicopters doing the drop would stay 500 metres away from his farm.

Jim Ferguson is worried about his reputation as a beef producer. He says if foreign buyers find out that poison's been dropped in his waterways, they might refuse his product.

Mr Ferguson says he was assured by the animal health board they'd not drop 1080 within 500 metres of his property and creek.. But the poisonous pellets helping eradicate TB have appeared right where his family and stock get their water

"Not only does it supply our water and stock water, it also supplies two neighbours," says Mr Ferguson.

Some neighbours have been helping him clean up the pellets.

"If we get traces of this in the meat or the milk, there's our markets gone and i'm sure this will happen, with the amount of poison that's been dropped," says dairy farmer Stu Davidson.

The animal health board says it's nearly impossible they dropped the bait because the entire creek is in its exclusion zone and their flight paths prove this. It also says anti 1080 protestors have been deliberately moving signs from around the area - a dangerous criminal act rather than peaceful protest.

#### POISONS TO REPLACE 1080 SIX YEARS AWAY - SCIENTISTS BY AMY GLASS – THE PRESS (21 JULY 2010)

New pest poisons could replace 1080 in New Zealand within six years, scientists say.

The research director for pest-control company Connovation, Charles Eason, said yesterday that the past year was a record for new pest-control product registration.

Research into other poisons followed a call by the Environmental Risk Management Authority (Erma) in 2007 for substitutes for 1080.

Eason said many people wanted poisons that were more humane and did not involve non-target deaths. "There is no magic-bullet replacement for 1080, but we do have new toxins coming through," he said.

New toxins being tested included zinc phosphide in a paste form, which could be six years away, and sodium nitrate, which was now used for curing meats. Cyanide pellets were being considered, along with new "designer toxins".

Introducing the toxins would require focused research over the next three to six years, he said.

Landcare Research's programme leader for possum biocontrol development, Janine Duckworth, said researchers were "under pressure to reduce toxins like 1080".

Fertility blocking was a "humane option", although it would need to be part of an integrated pest-control plan. Researchers were testing a vaccine that blocked fertility and could be delivered by baits, she said.

Lincoln University senior lecturer Shaun Ogilvie said research into the use of plants to be used in natural pest control was being developed.

#### MAN CONVICTED FOR PROTECTING HIS 'CASTLE'– NZ HERALD (22 JULY 2010)

A Taupo man who pointed an airgun at police, mistakenly believing they were burglars, is unhappy he has been convicted as a result of the incident.

Homeowner Jeremy Graves had come home late on March 13 and used a 100kg statue to smash a double-glazed window when he could not find his spare keys, The Dominion Post reported.

He went to sleep but was woken up by noises inside the house, the court was told.

Unknown to Graves, his neighbour, an off-duty policeman, had heard the glass smashing and called police, thinking it was a break-in.

Two unarmed police officers who responded yelled out identifying themselves as police but received no response.

Graves said that when he heard noises he panicked and grabbed an unloaded air pistol beside his bed.

He stood at the top of the stairs and pointed it at a dark figure standing at the front door.

Graves, 34, was convicted in Taupo District Court yesterday of assaulting a policeman and unlawfully presenting a firearm at police. He received a deferred sentence.

Judge Chris McGuire said the case highlighted two important legal principles - a homeowner's right to protect their property, and police's ability to investigate a suspected crime.

Graves was faced with the dilemma of all homeowners who find an intruder in their home and arm themselves "either with a firearm, a bat, or even a glass vase", he said.

"If there is a moral in this then it is 'don't resort to using a weapon'. Mr Graves would not have been convicted if he had chosen a baseball bat."

Outside court Graves said he was unhappy with the decision.

"The judgement says a man can no longer consider his house his castle."

- NZPA

#### HUNTER GORED BY PIG IN WAIKATO – NZ HERALD (25 JULY 2010)

A man was seriously injured today when he was gored by a boar while pig hunting in the Waikato.

The Whatawhata man was hunting with a friend on a rural property inland from Kawhia, 50km north-west of Otorohanga, shortly before 4pm when their dogs bailed a large boar.

While killing the pig, the 36-year-old man received a deep gash to his left forearm from its tusks.

His friend assisted, and applied a tourniquet to the wound before the pair returned to a farmhouse and called for help.

The man was flown to Waikato Hospital by the Westpac Waikato Air Ambulance after being treated by paramedics at the scene.

- NZPA

### Student Plucked to Safety by SALLY KIDSON - The Nelson Mail (28 July 2010)

A freezing-cold Nelson College student suffering a severe asthma attack has been plucked from a remote gully in the Nelson Lakes National Park.

Sam Miller, 15, said he was on the second day of a five-day tramp when he started feeling short of breath about 3.30pm yesterday.

"It came on pretty quick."

Sam said it was the first asthma attack he had suffered in years and it was brought on by the cold. "It was freezing."

The party of 30 students, plus two teachers and a teacher aide, were walking from Nelson College's Matakītaki Lodge to St Arnaud and had spent Monday night sleeping out under tent flies in the snow.

Sam said he wanted to keep tramping, but his teacher had made the decision to set off an emergency beacon and call for a helicopter.

It was a "pretty scary" wait, he said, because all the while he struggled to breathe.

He was winched out of the bush near the head of Lake Rotoroa, from a valley of dense bush with a river.

Sam said the helicopter trip to hospital and being winched from the forest floor was awesome. He just wished he had been feeling better during the experience.

The dense bush and mature trees meant the winch lift into the helicopter was "pretty high".

Once he was in the helicopter he started feeling better quickly, and, after a short spell in hospital for observation, he was released last night.

While he was "gutted" at leaving behind his year 10 classmates and sad to be missing out on the tramp, he was pleased to be safe at home.

Sam had a difficult night last night, struggling with a few asthma attacks.

Sam's father, Dave Miller, said it would have been a long night in the bush for Sam and his teachers had he stayed and they had made the right call to set off the beacon.

Mr Miller said Sam was freezing when they saw him at the hospital and it took him a good while to warm up.

He was full of praise for Sam's teacher and the Summit Rescue Helicopter.

Pilot Tim Douglas-Clifford said the rescue was carried out in a steep gully with tall trees. The helicopter was unable to land in the rugged terrain.

The party was tramping the Mole Track heading to the D'Urville Hut, and was near the Bull River.

The rescue was carried out in low cloud and drizzle, and a fresh dump of snow surrounded the area.

"It was extremely cold down there."

Nelson College deputy principal Tim Tucker said the whole incident had been handled extremely well by experienced teachers Stu McDougall and Kirk Milligan.

Ad Feedback Coincidentally, the school had already organised to hold a mufti day tomorrow to raise funds for the Summit Rescue Helicopter.

Mr Tucker said the helicopter had rescued Nelson College students in the past, and he expected it would rescue their boys in the future.

Mr Tucker said a teacher had set off a beacon that had been paid for by the PTA.

The school was alerted at 3pm that the beacon had gone off and it was a tense couple of hours waiting to find out from the helicopter what had happened and if everyone was OK.

"It's incredibly stressful," Mr Tucker said.

"We knew at three o'clock something was wrong, but we didn't know what."

Mr Tucker said the emergency had shown the school had good systems in place.

He was thrilled at how it had been handled.

He had not had a chance to talk to the staff on the tramp because they were out of cellphone range.

The hospital had been adamant the teacher had made the right decision to call for help.

"The people at the hospital said he needed to come out ... it's never an easy decision to push the button.

### Five More Kiwi Killed in Sanctuary by TANYA KATTERNS - The Dominion Post (10 August 2010)

Little brown kiwi are dying unnecessarily at a Wairarapa sanctuary because of poor predator controls, a former conservation worker has claimed after the deaths of five more of the rare birds.

The kiwi death toll at the National Wildlife Centre at Pukaha Mt Bruce now stands at nine in the past month.

Eight were from the population of 30 transferred from Little Barrier Island to Mt Bruce in May.

The ferret thought responsible for four deaths in July was killed, but the latest culprit has not been caught.

A total of 14 kiwi, all freed as part of a wild breeding project, have been killed in their fenceless forest haven in the past two years.

The kiwi share the forest with two other reintroduced birds – kaka and kokako – although DOC said only ground-dwellers such as kiwi were at risk from predators penetrating the buffer zones.

DOC's Wairarapa area manager, Chris Lester, admitted that more kiwi were being lost than were being bred in the wild at Mt Bruce.

There were 54 kiwi under radio signal monitoring in the 942-hectare reserve before the latest deaths.

"Extra staff have been brought in, and standard baits have been replaced in the short-term with bait targeted more specifically at a ferret. Every aspect of the programme is being assessed, but the immediate priority is to catch the culprit."

Pukaha Mount Bruce was surrounded by farmland and had no predator fence, "so the only thing stopping [ferrets] from entering the forest really is our buffer control, our traps which we've set on farmland around the forest", Mr Lester said.

He said "mathematically" there were more risks for kiwi in Mount Bruce than on Little Barrier Island, "but I certainly wouldn't accept that we're playing with their lives. We're doing our very best to protect them and establish a population there".

"What we're trying to do here is establish a sustainable population of kiwi in an unfenced sanctuary," he said.

"Obviously there are risks to that and we've never underestimated those risks and we've never ignored them.

"We're very aware the kiwi in mainland sanctuaries are at risk and rely entirely on the trapping and pest control that we do.

"However, their chances of survival in places like Pukaha are much, much improved on normal uncontrolled wild situations."

Mr Lester said only one in every 10 kiwi chicks reached one-year-old in the unprotected wild, and fewer than one in 20 made it to adulthood.

Ad Feedback At this point, DOC was "certainly not" considering taking the kiwi back out of Mount Bruce, but would be "forced to consider it" as an option if kiwi kept dying.

Mr Lester said DOC was spending a lot of time, money and effort on traps and a buffer zone around the sanctuary, and had the best predator control advice available.

"We've just escalated our trapping regime and our hunting regime to the point where we really can't do much more."

Trevor Thompson, the man initially employed by DOC to set up and run the predator control systems in the forest block, said he had been warning for years that the system was failing.

"Just last Friday I went in front of the Conservation Board to stress again just how unsafe this area was for kiwi until they did their trapping programme properly. I have constantly warned of this very outcome since 2005.



"While there is very dense trapping there, it is almost worthless because the traps are not set properly and, from the 1.6 kilometres of trap lines I followed into the forest last Thursday, not one was set properly. Some have dead rats in them, others are already been set off and there are many heavily corroded."

He said DOC had been repeatedly warned of the high risk.

"Who is going to put their hand up and take responsibility for this? ... These kiwi were safe before they went to Mt Bruce. Now they are dying in a place that was supposed to be their freedom into the wild."

Mt Bruce board chairman Bob Francis said the protection of the kiwi and other rare and endangered birds freed into the wild at Mt Bruce was a high priority. "Immediately following the first wave of attacks, DOC pulled in extra staff and resources including specialised staff and expert advisers, trained dog teams and extra traps to assist in tracking the killer.

"We are throwing absolutely everything we can into the effort to catch what is likely to be the female partner of the ferret caught earlier."

There were already 130km of trap lines, 540 traps targeting ferrets, stoats and weasels, and more than 1000 bait stations aimed at rats and possums.

## DWINDLING NUMBERS

About 70,000 kiwi are left in New Zealand – 200 years ago there were millions. By the turn of the 21st century, there were fewer than 100,000.

At the present rate of decline, there will be about 63,500 kiwi by 2018.

Some species of kiwi – the rowi and tokoeka – are down to about 300 birds each. Little spotted kiwi have been extinct on the mainland for decades, but about 1500 survive in protected sanctuaries.

Nine out of 10 kiwi chicks born in the wild die before they are six months old. Most are killed by stoats or cats. Others are killed by other predators or die of natural causes.

Fewer than 5 per cent of kiwi make it to adulthood.

Kiwi are flightless, but can scurry out of sight of predators such as hawks. With the introduction of stoats, rats, ferrets and cats, many native birds could not defend themselves.

About half of all kiwi eggs fail to hatch because of bacteria or because the adult bird is disturbed by predators.

The Conservation Department, the BNZ Save the Kiwi Trust and community projects spend about \$6 million a year on protecting kiwi.

- with NZPA

MetService Spendup to Improve Accuracy by PAUL GORMAN - The Press (27 July 2010)

MetService is promising more accurate forecasts this year.

The state-owned enterprise is spending hundreds of thousands of dollars improving computer models that guide forecasters in their predictions.

Forecasts are generally between 80 per cent and 85 per cent accurate in New Zealand, a difficult country for weather prediction.

However, MetService wants to lift that rate.

National weather services general manager Norm Henry said the three-dimensional weather research and forecasting (WRF) model currently used by forecasters had 8km by 8km grid squares with weather data at each corner.

The aim was to reduce the grid size, increasing the amount of data and providing more precise forecasts.

"It takes all the observations we have, as well as older model data, and does its best possible interpolation," he said. "The plan is to implement a 4km grid, which is more complex, as cutting the grid spacing in half requires around eight times as much computing power."

Computer upgrades costing hundreds of thousands of dollars were scheduled to be in place by the end of the year, Henry said.

Global computer models gave MetService forecasters a "broad-scale picture of the weather, where the main fronts and highs and lows are, and how they're moving".

"But by doing local modelling, we're effectively down-scaling that. What happens when you down-scale is you get a much better representation of the local terrain.

"It goes without saying the geography of New Zealand is complex, the coastline and the terrain, and that drives a lot of local-scale effects – sea breezes, the height of snow in a winter storm in Canterbury, the amount of rain in the catchment areas around the southern lakes."

Over the past 10 to 15 years there had been a "steady increase in ability" to predict weather more accurately and further ahead, he said.

"I'd be pretty cautious with any forecast beyond five to seven days, but that leads into another interesting aspect of this. We'll never rely on a single model, but instead we try to look at a range of possible model solutions.

"Forecasters spend a lot of time comparing them to each other and assessing how they are performing compared with current observations. Otherwise you can get badly led astray. There's this notion that you don't want to put your eggs in one basket."

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## 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  
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