



NZDA

New Zealand Deerstalkers Association

Rotorua NZDA Branch Newsletter July/August 2022



“The Tines” – photo provided by Sefton Lonsdale

NZDA Rotorua Monthly Events

Committee Meeting

- Last Monday of each month.

Range Shoots

- 1st & 3rd Sunday of every month
- Club members \$5 entry
- Non club members \$10 entry

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

Working Bee

- 2nd Saturday of most months. Weather dependent.

Upcoming Events

Party Hunt

- Dates TBC

Socials

- Wednesday 17 August 2022 – Alec McIver
 - Discussing new pest traps, and etiquette around thermal optics

Range Shoots 10am start

August:

Sunday 7th. 300m target.

Sunday 21st. Centrefire bush scenario Silhouette 300m.

September:

Sunday 4th. Centrefire Deer target 300,200,100,50m.

Sunday 18th. Kids fun shoot.



Presidents Report – JUNE/JULY 2022

Welcome back, well it's been a while from the last report as now we have an editor for the newsletter. So, what has been going on at the Branch you may ask.

Well for starters we have some new committee members which is great as they are new, young and full of ideas, so us old school will be able to hand over soon, to the new order!

They are:

- Zac Bewley, well he's been around but has taken up a second Vice President role under the guidance of Dennis.
- Josh McIver and Jeremy Hutton, they are keen to promote hunting and support the committee with working bee organization amongst other ideas

Not that the old school are left out but it's great to have these two on board, with new faces as it were. If any of you are Facebook followers you will see that Sefton is doing a great job in promoting our Branch to the people, along with organising Hunt Parties etc.

Out on the Range Dennis and Patrick have been organising and running competition shoots, you know the ones the Branch run all those years ago, must admit it's not easy shooting 300m standing.

So, if you think you can beat Malcom Gillice please come out and have ago at the next comp. Check the web site for details.

On the Political front I have written a submission on the new Range Regulations which are being thrashed out as we speak, so we shall see on that front. We have done a lot of work alongside Peter Miles to get the Range in order so I hope there will be no major problems when the Police come to Certify- the Range. On a positive note, Douglas McHardy has passed the course and is now a certified Range Inspector, so congratulations Dougie, he is an NZDA and CNIGC members, so we are covered we hope.

I had the opportunity to meet and listen to the director general of DOC, Penny Nelson. She spoke to the \$400 million investment DOC must tackle such things as biodiversity and climate crises New Zealand faces and also support Tourism as New Zealand opens to the World. On the radar was Deer and Goat control, as farming deer became less popular, farming stopped, 82% sites that were monitored have deer that weren't there before. Goats are a major problem, and this needed work hence NZDA are out to assist with this, as you may have seen in articles from the web site.

She invited Cam Speedie to talk to his work with the Sika Foundation, and how getting numbers down and controlling had a positive effect on the native fauna and the deer as their condition improved due to less animals. He, spoke of the work the Wapiti foundation had done and this is the model that DOC are wanting to use, the term Management and less of Exterminate Deer so we shall see.

Some of the funding will be used on \$30 million Deer/Goat Management

\$15 Million on Tongariro Village, upgrade the wastewater system, with a modern infer-structure, apparently long overdue.

\$60 million Maintenance huts etc

\$13 million Cultural Heritage

\$30 million Predator free

Jobs for nature will also receive a chunk, as Covid had pretty much put an end to this project.

I did make a slight misjudgement as when I was taking to one of the Taumarunui boys I looked over and said that lady is sure to be Forest and Bird alas no, as she came over and introduced herself as the Penny Nelson Director of DOC!!

Well, I will be off to the National Conference along with Sefton and Zac so I will have one over them write up the report on that!!

Cheers
Colin



News

JOINT MEDIA RELEASE: Manaaki Whenua - Landcare Research and Predator Free Rakiura collaborating on world-first predator eradication project



On 5 July 2022 representatives from Manaaki Whenua - Landcare Research and Predator Free Rakiura signed a significant research partnership agreement worth a joint \$2.8 million over 4 years to work together towards ridding Rakiura/Stewart Island of all major predators - possums, rats, feral cats and hedgehogs.

A predator eradication project of this combined size and complexity has never been attempted before. It will be the biggest island predator eradication ever attempted globally and will also be a world-first predator free project on an inhabited island. Rakiura is around 180,000 hectares in size and has a population of 400 permanent residents. As a haven for native species, a predator-free Rakiura will protect these taonga for generations to come and enable nature and community to thrive.

Manaaki Whenua - Landcare Research will provide \$350K per year over the next 4 years of the project to undertake the fundamental underpinning science. This funding will be matched by Predator Free Rakiura. The research partnership will drive deep insights into achieving freedom from predators, a critical part of which is understanding the social aspects of resourcing, achieving and maintaining freedom from predators from the perspective of the local community and iwi.

This ambitious work will be a major step towards the goal of a predator free Aotearoa New Zealand. Rakiura is the anchor for Aotearoa, and what we learn here will help to pave the way for the whole country to become predator free. Dr Fiona Carswell, Acting CEO at Manaaki Whenua - Landcare Research, says: “Manaaki Whenua is delighted to stand beside Te Puka Rakiura Trust in making Predator Free Rakiura a reality. Real communities and projects are what bring our research to life. For us, there is also much to be learned through the co-development of the research with the Trust and the local community. We relish working with local knowledge and approaches to achieving biodiversity aspirations for Rakiura. Knowledge built by this ambitious project will surely have much to offer similar predator-free projects on the mainland in years to come.”

Paul Norris, co-chair of Te Puka Rakiura Trust, says “Predator Free Rakiura is thrilled to be able to partner with Manaaki Whenua – as a leading crown research agency specialising in biodiversity and land science, they will bring a wealth of experience to our project. Together as a partnership this will go a long way to gaining insights to the areas where we need to learn further to progress the aspirational aim of a Predator Free Rakiura. The learning achieved at Rakiura will also, I’m sure, assist in lessons for a Predator Free New Zealand along the way.”

Campbell Leckie, Predator Free Rakiura Project Director, agrees. “There is so much to learn to make Predator Free Rakiura a reality. This agreement for research enables a significant number of individual research projects each year, allowing us to explore predator behaviour, predator distribution and density, and the social and economic impacts of a project of this size and complexity. It will also help us understand the tools and techniques we may need to use, in multiple trials, to be successful.



“Partnering with Manaaki Whenua, to help build the successful pathway to eradication, is critical to Predator Free Rakiura’s success. The scale and amount of research also means we can involve many people of different backgrounds in the research, which is central to building confidence and trust in a successful eradication. We believe the questions asked and answered as part of this collaborative 2 research agreement will be fundamental to the success of Predator Free Rakiura and create useful and practical knowledge for use on mainland Aotearoa.”

Dean Whaanga, co-chair of Te Puka Rakiura Trust, says: “The Mana and the Mauri of Rakiura, its maintenance and protection, the vitality of place, is extremely important to Ngāi Tahu as Kaitiaki. Presently Rakiura is in a state of pōuri or sadness. On the surface a visitor might see the beautiful treasure that it is, however its true mana and mauri will be recognised when the indigenous species return in numbers as seen by our ancestors, that the biodiversity and its mauri is such that traditional practices like mahinga kai, rongoa are undertaken as of right, sustainably, without a feeling of impingement on a struggling environment. The solution is a Predator Free Rakiura, a jewel not just in the crown of Aotearoa but Te Ao Whānui (the wider world). Research, Matauranga and Tikanga give us insight and allow us to understand how to make Predator Free Rakiura a success.”

For further information:

www.predatorfreerakiura.org.nz

<https://www.predatorfreerakiura.org.nz/faqs/>

Predator Free Rakiura media contact: Paul Norris, 021 222 9057, paul.norris@realnz.com

Manaaki Whenua media contact: Dan Park, 022 411 5095, parkdj@landcareresearch.co.nz



Club Contacts

Postal Address : PO Box 857, Rotorua 3040

Email Address : nzdarotorua@gmail.com

Website : www.nzdarotorua.org.nz

Patron	Malcolm Perry	
Honorary Solicitor	Barry Rodgers	
Life Members	Rod Houghton	Ph 332 2577
	Malcolm Perry	Ph 348 4473
	Dennis Price	Ph 3484343
	Colin Petersen	Ph 343 9481
	Gary Winslade	
Branch Executive		
President	Colin Petersen	Ph 343 9481
Vice President	Dennis Price	Ph 348 4343
Vice President	Zac Bewley	Ph 027 674 5745
Treasurer	Peter Franz	
Secretary	Elvis Bowring	Ph 350 3230 / 021 066 7868
Hunts	Sefton Lonsdale	
Hunts	Alec McIver	Ph 027 282 0770
Club Rooms	Mark Slade	mark.slade@bayleysrotorua.co.nz
Newsletter	Zac Bewley	zac.bewley@gmail.com
Committee Members	Malcolm Perry	
	Malcolm Midgley	
	Patrick Reid	
	Ralph Price	
	Josh McIver	
	Sefton Lonsdale	
	Jeremy Hutton	
	Jamie Palmer	

