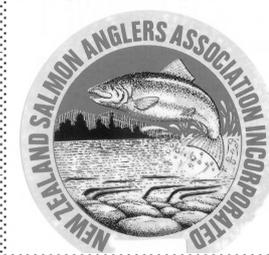


# **NZ Salmon Anglers Newsletter**

**February 2014 Number 113**



**Enter now for the  
Waimakariri Salmon Fishing Competition  
to be held on Saturday 22 March 2014  
Details on Pages 12-15**



2013 Competition Winner Dean Austen

**Official Newsletter of the New Zealand Salmon Anglers Association Incorporated  
P.O. Box 1113, Christchurch 8140  
[www.nzsalmonganglers.co.nz](http://www.nzsalmonganglers.co.nz)**

**NEW ZEALAND SALMON ANGLERS ASSOCIATION (INC)  
2013-14 OFFICE HOLDERS AND COMMITTEE**

<b>Patron</b>	John Hodgson	351 5825	jmhodgson@xtra.co.nz
<b>Acting President</b>	Tony Humphreys	383 9141	tonyhumphreys6@gmail.com
<b>Vice President</b>	Dennis Long	352 2874	Fax 352 3708
<b>Secretary &amp; Treasurer</b>	Heather Saunders	323 8118	ianandh.s@ihug.co.nz
<b>Committee</b>	Phil Ball	349 5993 021 2656133	jeanettephilball@xtra.co.nz
	Pam Ellis	383 0900 021 2113293	npellis@clear.net.nz
	Dave Leigh	980 2623 027 2862865	rae.dave@paradise.net.nz
	James Parbery	03 312 8229	welshflyfishnz@yahoo.co.nz
	Paul Stewart	384 2436	pstewart@xtra.co.nz
	Warren Windelburn	027 2110418	
<b>Honorary Auditor</b>	Trevor Hayes		

**Committee Meetings**

The Committee meets on the first Monday each month (except January) at 7.30 pm in the Canterbury Softball Association premises, Cuthberts Green Sports Complex, Wainoni Road, Christchurch. Members and supporters are welcome to attend these meetings.

**Life Members**

Lindsay Dell, Pam Ellis, Tim Ellis, Brian Foley, Trevor Hayes, John Healy, John Hodgson, Ken Hughey, Ross Lightfoot, Dennis Long, Athol Price, Doug Roy, Stephen Sparrow

<p><b>Disclaimer:</b> The opinions expressed in any letters and articles in this newsletter are the authors' own and are not necessarily those of the New Zealand Salmon Anglers Association (Inc) or the Editor.</p>
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## EDITORIAL

February 2014

Greetings to you all.

It is with much sadness that I have to inform those of you who may not know that our President, Bruce Moody, passed away late last year after a short battle with cancer. He was a great character. His energy and enthusiasm will be sorely missed. He was reluctant to accept the role but showed he had the ability to do the job. We would like to convey our heartfelt condolences to all of Bruce's family and friends.

I had picked up some of Bruce's work while he was still alive but assumed the acting President's role at the request of the Committee after his death. As I had been Secretary /Treasurer for five years in the 1990's I was familiar with the requirements of the job. My thanks to the committee members for their support.

There was further sadness in our year with the passing of three other NZSAA longstanding members: life member and former Patron, Athol Price; committee and life member Brian Foley; and past president and life member Ross Lightfoot.

Tributes to our old friends and colleagues are in the following pages.

Our recent focus has been on the NZSAA Waimakariri Salmon Fishing Competition on 22 March 2014. We are pleased that the Hunting and Fishing NZ Christchurch region stores have agreed to be our major

sponsor for this year. They have promised a generous range of prizes so please show your appreciation by supporting them. If you can, please enter and join in the fun as it was a great day last year. Competition details and entry form follow in this newsletter.

Sadly I won't be here for the competition as my wife and I had booked a holiday to Japan which we can't change. I know the committee member have everything in hand. My thoughts will be with you on the day so have a great time

Members may recall that during his NZSAA presidency, Ron Stuart was driving a sponsored project to install a wheelchair platform at McIntosh's on the Waimakariri River. The 2010-11 earthquakes caused serious damage to the Waimak riverbank and the project was deferred while remediation and stabilisation took place and necessary plan amendments made because of the changed conditions. Ron now has the project progressing, with NZSAA support, and sponsored funding.

The next major event after the competition will be our AGM in late May. Please try to make the meeting as it is usually an entertaining evening. Also consider if you'd like to be on the committee as we would like some more members.

The fishing hasn't been as good as last year but there are still fish being caught. The lack of rain in the mountains has made the conditions difficult but with some perseverance and a lot of luck I'm sure you'll be rewarded. Granted the fish have been small, especially at the Waimakariri, but they give a great fight and they taste just as good.

Tight lines,

**Tony Humphreys**  
**ACTING PRESIDENT**

#### **Letter to the Editor**

The following letter was recently submitted to The Press but so far has not been published. It is printed here for members' information:

*"Do farmers actually farm" by Martin van Beynen (The Press, Dec 28): This article is of great importance, because it is asking a question, and it deserves answers, by everyone. Of consequence there have been many, many letters to the Editor of The Press.*

*The NZSAA have considered these statements and consider that there are many aspects that at yet have not been evaluated, or made known to the general public.*

*The first aspect is, what is the true state of the aquifers.*

*The answer to the aspect will have to come from the bore hole drillers association. Have they been silenced by the Government? It is no use hiding behind commercial sensitivity. This is now of national importance to the survival of Christchurch and Canterbury.*

*Most areas outside of Canterbury have storage lakes for their public supply of potable water, and they can deal with problems of water purity if they arise. Christchurch in particular has a serious problem because we rely on our underground aquifers. As the average water table levels drop over the coming years, the subject of pollution and nitrate levels will become the issue. When the water level is high, the spray irrigation induced pollution will travel to the sea at the aquifer's level, so depending on which aquifer your well is and which quality of water, as to what is obtained.*

*The lower water levels will cause many of our farming community into bankruptcy if they cannot afford to deepen their bore wells to get cleaner water. The proposed National Policy statement will not meet the requirements for the Canterbury Plains.*

*It will be only a short time of a few years, to reach the point of exhaustion and pollution of the underground water that the "Plains Irrigation Scheme" will have to be consigned to supply the water for Christchurch and the plains.*

*Will the Government promise to not interfere in a decision reached by collaboration in a group setting?*

*Why are we letting our greatest resource of pure water be destroyed when at present it is worth \$1,000 per cubic metre as bottled water?*

**John Hodgson**  
**Patron, NZSAA**



**Bruce Moody**  
**23.3.1949 - 7.11.2013**

Bruce's death last November followed a short courageous battle with cancer. Bruce became President of the New Zealand Salmon Anglers Association in 2012 having been cajoled into the position which had remained vacant since the previous annual general meeting. His initial reluctance was replaced with a growing confidence, enjoyment in leading NZSAA activities, and meeting and working with new people and kindred organisations.

Bruce was a passionate fisherman and spent many voluntary hours helping at salmon hatcheries. He pioneered the use of Alevinator incubators in the rivers in the Canterbury area after discovering the idea on the internet. Bruce found an old fridge and following the design on the web, fitted it out for the purpose of hatching salmon eggs. Alevinator One was soon up and running, or would have been if a flood hadn't carried it away within a week of installation. Not to be deterred Bruce solved that problem by finding a new site at Hacketts Creek, Springfield, where he soon got Kathy and Bevan Mehrtens to agree to its placement on their property. Over the following winters, under Bruce's thoughtful and practical leadership a small team increased the Alevinator from one small fridge with the capacity of 4,000 salmon ova up to today's super Alevinator ready to take 50,000 next season.

Bruce also spent many hours at the hatchery at Montrose Farm above the Rakaia Gorge, Lady Isaacs Salmon Farm, and the ova planting sites at the Porter River, and One Tree Swamp. He was involved with Take a Kid Fishing held at The Groynes each year, was a Ranger for North Canterbury Fish & Game and a Trustee the Future Rivers organisation which provides funding for projects to preserve and enhance our outdoor recreation industry. Bruce instigated and maintained our website. He also headed our very successful Waimakariri Fishing Competition in March last year and to his delight, his grandson, Jack, won a prize for his catch in the Junior Section.

Bruce was a very special person. He blossomed in his role as President and the New Zealand Salmon Anglers Association will miss him greatly. His smiling face will also be missed at the Waimak River mouth at Kairaki where he regularly fished. We extend our sincere sympathy to Anne and the Moody family.



**Athol Price**  
**26.2.1922 to 21.8.2013**

August 21 saw the passing of a foundation member of New Zealand Salmon Anglers Association, Life Member, long term committee member and former Patron.

Athol Price was a tireless advocate of the salmon fishery and was unrelenting in his quest to preserve and enhance the water and fishing opportunities for future generations. He donated a trophy to recognise the most significant contribution to the cause which is presented annually .

Athol was a great believer in the preservation and enhancement of the spawning areas and had developed a wide range of contacts from Environment Canterbury, Fish and Game, landowners and councils to fish farms, that enabled the volunteer stream enhancement programmes the Association to be undertaken.

Along with Dave Denton he started the Take a Kid Fishing Trust which is now being taken nationwide.

Most of the work Athol did would have gone largely un-noticed by most fishermen, but the fact they have access, fish to catch or even water to fish are a result of the foresight of Athol and the dedicated band of old timers like him who knew what the “good old days” were like and wanted future generations to have the same memories.

Never one to seek public appearances, Athol’s final wish was for a private funeral which was held with family and friends. NZAA takes this opportunity to publicly acknowledge the wonderful legacy Athol has left in a lifetime of service and achievement on behalf of the salmon fishery.

Athol is now where the rivers are always clear, the days mild and the fish large and obliging. With your family, we mourn your loss as a friend and colleague. Rest easy, old friend.



## **Ross Lightfoot**

**14.5.1941 - 4.1.2014**

Ross passed away early in the New Year, after a period of declining health. He joined NZSAA in 1977, just a few years after the founding of the Association.

Ross was President for five terms between 1979 and 1990, a period marked by several significant events and battles, including the Rakaia Water Conservation Order, salmon by-catch that culminated in the Salmon at Sea Agreement with the commercial fishing industry, and Waimakariri River meat and fellmongery waste discharge consents.

Ross was made a Life Member in 1992 following many years of outstanding service to the salmon fishery.

Ross was a keen and successful salmon angler. Many of us will remember this Star newspaper photo of Ross's 19.5kg salmon caught at the Ashburton River mouth in 1978 - the glory days of salmon fishing.

Ross leaves a legacy of achievement in his efforts to preserve the salmon fishery.



## **Brian Foley**

**17.7.1943 - 26.12.2013**

Brian died suddenly on Boxing Day 2013. He had been a NZSAA member since the early 1980s and on the Committee for most of that time. He was made a Life Member in 2008.

Brian's efforts in the past had concentrated on stream improvement work to ensure the best possible conditions for spawning salmon and for angler access to favourite fishing grounds. Brian had always had an affinity with the West Coast and spent some time living there on a business venture. He established a valuable liaison with local fishing groups and kept NZSAA well informed on the state of the West Coast salmon fishery. However, in typical West Coast style, some fishing spots and seasonal runs remained "State secrets" at certain times no doubt intended to prevent a gold-rush from the townies over the east side of the South Island!

Despite some years of ill health, Brian retained his enthusiasm and remained on the Committee. Successful heart surgery a few years ago allowed Brian to take a more active part in NZSAA's activities and enjoy his salmon fishing.

## 2013 AWARDS

### Athol Price Plaque

#### Rosalie & Jules Snoyink

Rosalie and Jules Snoyink have been members of NZSAA for 32 years. They live in Glentunnel and enjoy the best of rural living and the pleasures of fishing for salmon in the Rakaia and Waimakariri Rivers. That they have found time to fish is amazing because they have spent so much time over many years fighting to preserve the water resources of these rivers and the environment that we enjoy.

Who will ever forget the huge community protest and submissions made by the Malvern Hills Protection Society against the Central Plains Water scheme and its proposal to build the dam and flood the Waianiwaniwa Valley. The Snoyinks were the prime drivers in this campaign which successfully saw the dam proposal being dropped and a modified scheme subsequently being approved.

While this was undoubtedly the biggest project, Rosalie and Jules continue to advocate on all matters affecting water use on our Canterbury rivers, the most recent including the Rakaia River Water Conservation Order amendment, Canterbury Water Management Strategy, Freshwater Reform and Resource Management Act reform.

NZSAA is grateful to the Snoyinks for the assistance and knowledge they have passed on to us in preparation of our own submissions on water matters. We owe them huge thanks for their efforts on our behalf to retain and maintain the salmon fishery for the future. The award of the Athol Price Plaque to Rosalie and Jules is a small recognition of the outstanding service they given to the fishery and the community.



*Rosalie and Jules receiving the Athol Price Plaque from Athol Price*

## Barry Craig Earthquake Memorial Trophy

### Colin and Diane Eaton

As this newsletter goes to print around the anniversary of the 2011 earthquakes, it is appropriate to record the winners of the award for 2013, Colin and Diane Eaton.



These two members have given many hours and years of effort to our Association. Whether it is help with ova planting in all of our locations or raceway cleaning at the hatchery, they have never failed when called upon to help.

Colin and Diane are also very keen salmon anglers. Their favourite area to fish is at McIntosh's on the Waimakariri River and their presence there has influenced other anglers to be more responsible. They are deserved recipients of the Barry Craig Earthquake Memorial Trophy.



### NZSAA LAPEL BADGES

Newly manufactured NZSAA Salmon Badges are available at \$15 each + \$3 p&p. If you would like one (or more), please contact the Secretary, Heather, at [ianandh.s@ihug.co.nz](mailto:ianandh.s@ihug.co.nz) or phone her on 03 3238118.

# **FIN CLIPPING SALMON..... to be or not to be?**

**by Ron Stuart**



The fish in this picture shows removal of the Adipose Fin, which was carried out when it was a hatchery raised fry prior to its release. The practice of this fin removal is done purely for identification so that when it returns as an adult, clear recognition can be made to distinguish it from a salmon born in natural or other enhanced circumstances.

Hatchery raised salmon are released for the purpose of providing angler catch opportunity and for a percentage to return to the hatchery for capture in the trap and later stripped of ova from hen fish or milt from the jacks, which is used for raising further hatchery stocks or providing ova for the Salmon Enhancement Programme where it is used in Incubators, Alevinators or Scotty boxes.

Within the salmon cycle a percentage of fish will stray and not return to their exact original release location. Recent video footage demonstrated that fin-clipped salmon spawning in the wild do not complete the breeding function, as indications show that without the Adipose Fin the jack does not always recognise when the hen has dropped her eggs.

The fact of salmon breeding but not fertilising ova seemed a matter of concern so the topic was fully canvassed with Fish & Game staff and Councillors, Salmon Angler representatives and persons with interest. The decision reached was that the purpose of fin-clipping is purely for identification to show the angler that he has caught a hatchery released fish.

This season during January and February angler catch of fin clipped salmon has been 35% of all fish caught in the lower reaches of the Waimakariri. This is really encouraging, as had it not been for the hatchery releases the harvest would have been considerably less.

As a licence holder I am thrilled with the job done by our hatchery operators and Fish & Game to give us the opportunity of catching salmon at a time when wild returns were not available. The observation of a limited number of salmon straying into other breeding environments is not a matter of concern because, in the mix of things, the number is insignificant and there is no research to show this has a detrimental effect with salmon breeding. Research does show that the removal of the Adipose Fin does have an 8% increased tail movement to compensate when moving in aggressive turbulent waters.

For the future, some fin-clipping will continue for identification purposes but, bear in mind, there have been releases of unclipped salmon from hatcheries and it would be reasonable to assume, as an example, that salmon runs coming into the Waimakariri in the earlier part of the season could contain up to 50% of hatchery origin fish. This combined with our overall Enhancement Programme has maintained good management of the fishery, given the other environmental factors working against us.

## Remarkable Recovery

On the day of 4 February salmon angler Ray Harrison had a chore to do and when he completed it he decided to pop into McIntosh's on the Waimak for a fling. Lo and behold he hooked up the 7kg, 85cm fin clipped female salmon, with developing ova, shown in the story above. What a prize as it was his third time on the river this season.

The significance of this catch is that the salmon was fin-clipped which means it was a hatchery released fish from the Fish & Game Hatchery at Peacock Springs. There have been an exceptional number of fin-clipped fish caught this season during the December/January/February period, plus a number of unclipped smaller salmon landed, which gives an indication that they originated from one of the hatcheries serving the Waimak.



The importance is that F&G North Canterbury have raised and released a substantial number of hatchery raised salmon at around 50gm size as part of the Salmon Enhancement Programme.

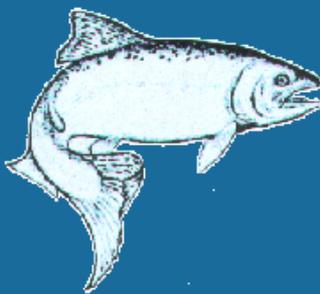
This year is the remarkable recovery of salmon returning early before the wild run and providing angler catch. If this initiative had not taken place there would be many anglers complaining that there are no salmon to be caught. This is a return for your licence fee and believe me the wild run is yet to come and it will because members of NZ Salmon Anglers Association carried out ova Planting of some 200,000 eyed ova in the high country streams, three seasons back and this equates to an additional 2000 salmon expected back into the Waimak. Another successful angler had bagged seven Waimak salmon by end of January, six of which were also fin clipped.

My message: buy a licence and join NZ Salmon Anglers Association to support our fishing future.

**Ron Stuart**

Saturday 22 March 2014

## WAIMAKARIRI SALMON FISHING COMPETITION



**COMPETITION AREA:**

All river below Railway Bridge,  
Excluding Kaiapoi River  
(refer competition rules)

**START TIME:** First Light

**FINISH TIME:** 4.00pm

**WEIGH STATION**

Located at river mouth Kairaki  
Open 7.00am. Close 4.30pm

### \$4000 PRIZE POOL

**PRINCIPAL SPONSOR: HUNTING & FISHING STORES**

Christchurch: Tower Junction & 575 Colombo St  
North Canterbury: 305 Flaxton Rd, Rangiora

**ENTRY FEES**

Adult \$20

NZ Salmon Angler member \$15

NZSAA membership + entry fee \$40

Junior (16 yrs or under) Free

**SOCIAL EVENT & PRIZEGIVING**

5.00pm: Prizegiving Kairaki Beach Camp Hall

BYO drinks and \$2 sausage sizzle BBQ

Partners and friends welcome.



Competition organised by  
NZ Salmon Anglers Association

PO Box 1113  
Christchurch 8140

**ENTRY BY OFFICIAL ENTRY FORMS AVAILABLE FROM:**

NZ Salmon Anglers Association committee members or website [www.nzsalmonanglers.co.nz](http://www.nzsalmonanglers.co.nz)

President Tony Humphreys - phone 383 9141 [tonyhumphreys6@gmail.com](mailto:tonyhumphreys6@gmail.com)

Secretary Heather Saunders - phone 323 8118 [ianandh.s@ihug.co.nz](mailto:ianandh.s@ihug.co.nz)

Hunting & Fishing Tower Junction & 575 Colombo St, Christchurch, & 305 Flaxton Rd, Rangiora;

Kairaki Beach Camp Office; Anglers Warehouse, 42 Maces Rd, Bromley;

Fisherman's Loft, 359 Lincoln Rd; Complete Angler, 280 Cashel St; Blackwells Kaiapoi

Early Entry Prize Draw closes 5.00pm Saturday 15 March 2014.

Other entries received up to 9.00am Saturday 22 March 2014

## PROGRAMME

- Saturday 15 March 2014** 5.00pm: Early Entry Draw closes
- Saturday 22 March 2014** 9.00am: All entries close
- Saturday 22 March 2014** Daybreak: Competition begins  
7.00am: Weigh station opens  
4.00pm: Competition closes  
4.30pm: Weigh station closes  
5.00pm: Prizegiving:  
Kairaki Beach Camp Hall,  
Featherston Ave, Kairaki Beach.
- BYO refreshments and \$2 sausage sizzle BBQ

An entry form is included on the following page. Full Competition Rules can be obtained from the contacts shown on the poster. They are also on the NZSAA website [www.nzsalmonanglers.co.nz](http://www.nzsalmonanglers.co.nz) and will be issued with entry registrations.

### Principal Sponsor

# Hunting & Fishing

## Christchurch Region Stores

75 Clarence Street, Tower Junction, Christchurch  
Phone 03 3430212

Christchurch City Centre, 575 Colombo Street  
Phone 03 3775090

North Canterbury, 305 Flaxton Road, Rangiora  
Phone 03 3131313

# WAIMAKARIRI SALMON FISHING COMPETITION

Saturday 22 March 2014

Organised by NZ Salmon Anglers Association (Inc)



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## ENTRY FORM

Full Name .....

Address .....

.....

.....

Phone ..... Cell.....

Email .....

Fishing Licence Number..... Expiry Date.....

N Z Salmon Anglers Association Member? YES / NO

Junior Entry Date of Birth .....

### Entry Fees for Competitors

Adult	\$20.00	.....
NZ Salmon Anglers Association Member	\$15.00	.....
Junior - 16 years and under	Free	.....
Adult entry plus NZ Salmon Anglers Assn membership (Please fill in membership form attached.)	\$40.00	.....

Payment Enclosed

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Send Entry Form plus Cash or Cheque payable to  
NZ Salmon Anglers Association (Inc)  
P O Box 1113 Christchurch 8140

### Competitor's Declaration:

I enclose my Competition entry and agree to abide by the Competition Rules and Conditions..

Signature.....Date.....

## Maintaining Biodiversity in Rivers

NZSAA wrote to the Commissioners at Environment Canterbury as follows:

“What limits is ECAN going to set for dissolved oxygen to ensure that a vibrant biodiversity is maintained in the rivers? There is a strong link between decreased water flows resulting in increased water temperatures and a corresponding decrease in dissolved oxygen levels. The Commissioners’ are charged with setting the standards.

It is difficult to reconcile comments in The Farmers Weekly News, Irrigation Conferences, Zone committees with sustainable water usage, while ECAN appears to remain silent on these issues. It seems odd that the science is not being used to set the standards to ensure the biodiversity is maintained and improved, and where commercial interests (and others) continue to damage the environment without being held to account and to make good the damage that they have done.

New Zealand Salmon Anglers Association is very concerned about public statements being made by representatives such as Mr Ian MacKenzie. It is amazing how little appears to be understood by the Federated Farmers about the whole environment and what makes a sustainable eco system.

Public opinion is a strong force, and political necessity can bring about the wrong result essentially because of inaccurate information. We wish to restate what we know about requirements of the salmon fishery to be self-sustaining in maintaining the wild stock.

With all the submissions by the Association to the Hurunui, Waimakariri and Rakaia rivers, over 30 years, we restate the essential information that what is good for salmon is also good for the health of the rivers. The fact is salmon are the best environmental inspector from the river mouth to the high country spawning streams. Trout are the next best inspector but do not travel so far, and it costs nothing to any authority. Salmon and trout are highly sensitive to small changes in water flows, water temperatures and dissolved oxygen levels and a good visual marker for the health of the waterways.

The first and most important issue is a clean, cool stream of water from high country spawning streams to the sea. The river temperature has to be lower than the sea temperature for entry into the river for a period of time, before the salmon commit for the spawning run. If the river temperatures increase too much, with a corresponding drop off in dissolved oxygen, they will move out of the area or die.

The chances of catching salmon is significantly increased when the water temperature is below 15°C. Salmon have been observed returning back to sea at 17°C rather than migrating up the river. At 17°C and over, salmon become very difficult to catch. At 22 °C salmon will perish. (Oliver and Fidler 2001).

We have stated in our submissions [in particular ‘The Variation to the Rakaia Water Conservation Order] that at 17°C it is indication that at 19°C all water takes must cease below the gorge bridges. The area above this point is controlled by the W.C.O.

Oxygen depletion occurs at the rate of 2.5% for every 0.6°C increase in temperature. (Temperatures quoted above are based on readings taken at the Rakaia and Waimakariri Rivers over the last 10 years.)”

Dame Margaret Bazley, Chair, Environment Canterbury, replied as follows (abridged):

**“Limit Setting for Dissolved Oxygen**

Limits for dissolved oxygen in Canterbury are being set through the proposed Land and Water Regional Plan. The first strategic policy of the Plan clearly sets outcomes for Canterbury Rivers that includes temperatures and dissolved oxygen levels. The policy states that “lakes, rivers, wetlands and aquifers will meet the fresh water outcomes set out in Table 1”. In Table 1 all rivers in Canterbury apart from those classified as “spring-fed plains” have an upper limit of 20°C and a minimum dissolved oxygen saturation of 90%. For “spring-fed plains” rivers the limits are 20°C and 70% DO saturation. For lakes the maximum temperature is 19°C. These levels have been set based on a considered scientific opinion as to what is both possible to achieve and maintain maximum protection for in-stream values.

The plan outcomes outlined above had a considerable amount of input from fisheries and water quality scientists both within and from outside Environment Canterbury. The outcomes have received submissions from the public and representative bodies such as Fish & Game NZ which have been considered by independent hearing commissioners. We are expecting the results from their deliberations soon at which point we will know whether the proposed outcomes will remain.

We believe that this policy, as part of an integrated approach to land use and water quality management as detailed in the Plan and required by the Resource Management Act and the National Policy Statement for Fresh Water, will protect Canterbury’s rivers from the degradation you outline.

*(Continued on page 17)*

	<b>LEXINGTON LEGAL</b> BARRISTERS & SOLICITORS	55 Charles Street Kaiapoi, Christchurch P O Box 133, Kaiapoi 7644  Phone 327 8074 Fax 327 6759
<b>Greetings Fishos</b> For all your legal requirements: Areas: Conveyancing (Buying & Selling Property) Wills & Estates Family Trusts & Gifting Matrimonials		<b>Darren R Pierce LL.B/B.Com</b> <a href="http://www.lexingtonlegal.co.nz">www.lexingtonlegal.co.nz</a>
Property Lawyer: <b>Darren Pierce (North Canterbury Fish &amp; Game Hon Ranger)</b> <b>Phone: 327 8074 Mobile: 0274 349 704 Email: darren@lexingtonlegal.co.nz</b>		
<b>FREE WILL SERVICE</b>		

To support the PLWRP we are also developing a series of sub-regional plans and sections which allow local communities to debate the limits set for individual rivers and streams. To date the temperature and dissolved oxygen outcomes in the Plan have not been changed in the sub-regional processes as the community felt that they were important values to uphold. All of these planning processes are community led and would benefit greatly from input from organisations such as your own.

#### **Views of Ian Mackenzie**

Ian Mackenzie is part of the community that debates what water quality standards should be set, as is your organisation. Our job at Environment Canterbury is to consider the views of the community (including all the groups representing different interests) and, in the light of all views, set policy for the good of Canterbury as a whole.

In setting policy, we are bound by national legislation. The suggestion from Mr Mackenzie that communities are unable to decide for themselves what a body of water should be used for is incorrect; this is exactly what is being achieved through the sub-regional plans and sections outlined above.

#### **Further Information**

Members of your organisation may be interested in information that ECan supplies on river temperatures at 29 sites through the region. At present it is the latest temperature, but it is planned to extend to show a time series of temperature in the same manner that flows are displayed. It is also planned to extend the network to more rivers as budget allows. This information is on the river flows page of the ECan public website.

We are looking to convene a meeting of groups with a recreational and environmental focus in the coming months so that we can discuss progress with the management of water in Canterbury. We would very much like to involve you in those discussions and will contact you to invite you to join us.”

**Dame Margaret Bazley, ONZ, DNZM, Hon DLit  
Chair**

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383 2093 A/H**



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Cookers  
Freezers

## Habitat Restoration - an Opinion

A number of our salmon spawning streams have deteriorated for spawning through a drop in water volumes, increased farming practice, removal of vegetation adjacent to streams, intensive grazing and pollution contamination. Of all these disadvantageous circumstances most can be influenced by people management intervention.

This comes at a cost and landowners around these streams struggle to maintain a economic living and sudden changes to their standard land use practice could have consequential outcomes in the immediate future.

NZ Salmon Anglers Association considers that through appropriate authorities, consultative communication and cooperation there can be initiation and investment to develop progressive planning for future results. Salmon habitations in waterways give an indication of the health of that waterway. If the visits of salmon for spawning have declined, then it is sure that the waterway is not now so healthy.

Already Fish & Game have initiatives with substantial investment to enhance some of our high country wild salmon spawning streams. This is really great and land owner co-operation supportive. However within our salmon enhancement locations we are identifying a deterioration in returns, in spite of intensive and regular ova planting activity.

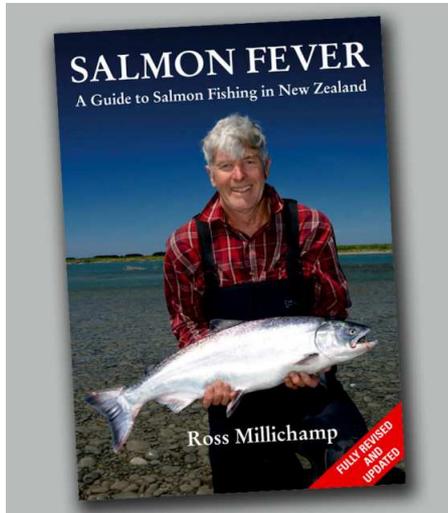
The options are to stop ova planting activity in these locations or initiate planning and investment for restoration. Through volunteer labour we are not able to improve the attributes sufficiently to attract returns for spawning as it takes a holistic plan for future health.

We are working on angler behalf to identify these locations, consult with Fish & Game and develop forward planning. Your role in the scheme is to talk up habitat restoration, take a personal interest and support good practice.



**359 Lincoln Road, Christchurch**  
**Phone (03) 338 3131 Fax (03) 338 3535**

Email: [info@fishermansloft.co.nz](mailto:info@fishermansloft.co.nz)  
Website: [www.fishermansloft.co.nz](http://www.fishermansloft.co.nz)



This book is a new edition of the highly successful 1997 publication of the same name. So much has changed in the fishery since 1997 and this version is a complete re-write from cover to cover with all new photographs. It covers tackle, angling techniques, salmon biology and behavior, transport, safety and includes a description of every significant New Zealand salmon fishery. This book is a must-have for any salmon angler who really wants to get among the fish.

ISBN 978-0-473-26515-1

The author, Ross Millichamp, has spent most of his life living in Canterbury, right in the midst of New Zealand's top salmon fisheries. Ross is well known to NZSAA through his 20-year career with Fish and Game New Zealand.

In 2008 Ross disappeared off the writing scene when he was hospitalized with a serious infection which required extensive rehabilitation and left him with a number of permanent disabilities. *Salmon Fever* is his first major work since that event.

*Salmon Fever* is a self-published book that is available initially through South Island fishing tackle shops and TradeMe.

RRP \$50.00 inc GST  
[includes FREE postage on internet orders  
– see TradeMe]

For further information:

**Ross Millichamp Environmental**  
17 McDougall Avenue  
Christchurch 8014  
[rossmillichamp@vodafone.co.nz](mailto:rossmillichamp@vodafone.co.nz)  
03 355 1811 or 027 9600 724

<https://www.facebook.com/salmonfever2013>



## HOLIDAY ACCOMMODATION WESTLAND

**Lake Kaniere via Hokitika**

**Jackson Bay via Haast**

**Bruce Bay: Half-hour Drive South of Fox Glacier**

All baches self-contained with pots/pans, cutlery, power, shower, fridge, washing machine and freezer (except Kaniere, no freezer). All baches sleep 8 people.

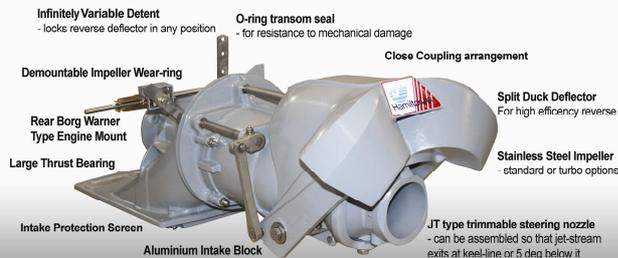
You need to supply all disposable items including wood and coal for the Yunka fire (except Kaniere, electric heating), sheets, pillowcases, sleeping bags, etc. On leaving, a clean and tidy bach would be appreciated for the next people.

Rates: **Kaniere:** \$70 per night up to 4 people. \$20 per person above this.  
**Bruce Bay & Jackson Bay:** \$65 per night

*For more information and bookings you can call:*

*The Hokitika Angling Club  
 C/o Hokitika Cycles & Sportsworld  
 Phone 03 755 8662 (shop hours)*

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# Vote for Outdoor Recreation

From David Haynes, President  
New Zealand Federation of Freshwater Anglers



It's both entertaining and gratifying that our politicians are all jockeying for the high ground in respect of winning the outdoor recreation vote. Whether it's National's Bluegreens "environomy", NZ First wading into the SNA1 (Snapper) debate, United Future's outdoor central policy plank or the Green party's Clean Rivers Campaign, suddenly the outdoors seems to matter to everyone. Here at Federation Towers many of us have seen and heard this many times before and will sit, watch and take bets on who will be the first politician to pop up on TV wearing a Swandri and holding a fishing rod (albeit by the pointy end, no doubt)!

Not to be outdone we at the Federation have published our manifesto which will be winging its way to all political parties as the election hots up. How increasingly important we recreational fishers, fresh and salt water, are becoming and it is behooven to us all to exercise and push this to the limits. Here is our 12 point manifesto and we hope you agree with at least most of it.

## **1. Keep Fresh Water Fresh**

Freshwater is our greatest renewable natural resource – without it there is no life, but it under increasing threat from intensive agriculture, industry, electricity generators and other water intensive businesses which threaten the sustainability of our water bodies. De-watering of the Selwyn River (Canterbury) Lake Taupo pollution, the degradation of Lake Rotorua and Lake Rotoiti (North Island), Manawatu and Tukituki Rivers are but few examples. The roles and rights of recreational users to fresh water must be protected and its protection and management enhanced.

## **2. Retain Public Ownership and Control of River and Lake Beds**

All freshwater waterways, including their beds and margins, should belong to the Crown for the perpetual benefit, interest and enjoyment of the New Zealand public. The management of all freshwater within New Zealand to be vested in public hands. Prohibit, via legislation, private ownership, sale or trading of freshwater or the rights to use such water i.e. tradeable water rights.

## **3. Tighter Controls on Intensive Land Use**

Stock and exotic forestry cause major damage to the quality of habitats in lakes, streams and rivers. Central and local governments should work together to set, impose and monitor limits on farm intensification (e.g. stocking and planting densities), fertiliser use and oblige the user of the land to undertake reparations for any damage to land and adjacent waterways or failure to meet those limits.

## **4. Recognition of Freshwater Values**

Give greater recognition and protection to the public values of natural waterways e.g. Their ecological, environmental, scenic, wilderness or recreational values. These values should have primacy when assessing proposals to dam, divert, abstract, append, change or in any way modify the flow, quality or characteristics of that waterway.

## **5. Riparian Enhancement and Nutrient Management**

Central and regional Government policies and programmes should require fenced vegetation buffers along water margins where the adjacent land is farmed intensively and all pollution sources should require nutrient management plans which prevent nutrification of waterways.

## **6. Sustainable Public Management - Freshwater Sports Fisheries**

Fisheries research has shown salmonids (trout and salmon) to be the most sensitive fish species in New Zealand rivers to water quality i.e. they are the first to suffer from pollution, low flows and increased temperatures – effectively they are ‘the canaries of the waterways’. As protection of trout and salmon habitat is a requirement of the RMA, regional councils should be required to report sports fish quantities and qualities in waters within their jurisdiction, as an indicator of their effectiveness when discharging their environmental management obligations.

## **7. Prohibit Import, Sale or Liberation of Certain Fish**

Introduce legislation to make it a criminal offence to import, sell, possess or liberate any species, for either commercial or recreational reasons, which may threaten New Zealand freshwater sports fish, their habitat and environment. This includes pest species, such as carp and genetically modified fish.

## **8. Criminal Offence to Import, Farm or Sell Trout**

The current prohibition of the sale of trout flesh is the single biggest protection our trout fishery has against poaching and introduced disease. All trout to be “recreational fish only” and not to be farmed other than to stock recreational fisheries.

## **9. Retain User Control of Fisheries**

NZFFA strongly supports the 130 plus year old Fish & Game user management democratic model for trout, salmon and introduced game birds, along with DoC’s management of the Taupo fisheries region. Fish & Game Councils should remain licence holder elected/appointed (i.e. the sport remains user controlled) with no Government or race-based appointees. Fish & Game’s powers to be extended to allow it full control over licence categories (such as overseas or guides licences) and licence fees.

## **10. Retain Equal Recreational Fishing Access Rights for all New Zealanders**

The rights of all New Zealanders to participate in New Zealand's sports fisheries shall be equal under all laws and regulations governing such fisheries. The “exclusive capture” of access to and participation in any freshwater fisheries by commercial interests must be made illegal by amendment of Section 26ZN of the Conservation Law Reform Act.

## **11. Extend Wilderness River Zones**

Create “helicopter -free“ zones on selected wilderness rivers to protect the quality of fishing and access by Kiwis, to be administered by Fish and Game NZ.

## **12. Re-Assert the RMA 1991**

Repeal law under current Bill that would allow the minister to fast track over RMA, Water Conservation Orders or regional plans. Revoke EPA “fast track” process for same reasons.

## Precision Seafood Harvesting

A new trawl that has been described as “revolutionary” has been revealed by scientists and three fishing companies in New Zealand. The design of the highly selective harvesting system allows fishing vessels to target specific species and fish size and greatly increases protection for small fish that can swim free through ‘escape portals’ and non-target fish, which are released unharmed.

The project, ‘Precision Seafood Harvesting’, is based on the principle that the targeted species don’t need to come to the surface exhausted – if they can swim comfortably inside the large PVC liner then they will be in perfect condition, will be more sustainable and will fetch higher prices for fishing companies using the technology.

The project is a collaboration between New Zealand scientists and fishing companies Aotearoa Fisheries, Sanford and Sealord, who are investing \$26 million into the project.

In response to NZSAA concerns regarding salmon by-catch and the PSH trawling method, Fish & Game North Canterbury comment as follows:

*“Both North Canterbury & Central South Island F&G staff meet with the major commercial fishing companies annually to discuss the Salmon at Sea Agreement. A salmon exclusion zone around Banks Peninsula is still in place during the period around Christmas when large numbers of salmon were historically caught in this area, and is limited to a small number of smaller horse powered boats during this period. F&G are sent a summary of the total weight of salmon caught by trawlers each year and the numbers are very low compared with the 80’s.*

*Since the Salmon at Sea Agreement was put in place well around two decades ago, 80% of the price commercial fishers get at the wharf for salmon is paid as a levy to MPI and there is therefore no incentive to catch salmon. Add to that the increase in commercially grown salmon and there is simply no desire for these companies to catch salmon and in fact it is more of a hindrance to the commercial fishers rather than a valued catch. The PSH method will not change this and should mean they can return the salmon alive rather than land it with all the associated paper work.*

*Of note: F&G get a number of complaints annually about trawlers fishing around the main river mouths and that they are catching all the salmon. This is not the case as these boats are targeting flatfish and are towing too slowly to catch salmon.*

*Hopefully this allays any concerns members may have.”*

**Steve Terry**  
**Fish & Game Officer**

## Fish & Game News

### Salmon Release at the Groynes

Kids have been having a great time at the Groynes lakes over the last few months. Things are expected to get even better with plans for over 1000 salmon to be released into the lakes before the end of April – although not all at the same time!

### New Premises

North Canterbury Fish & Game are happy to announce that they have purchased new premises on Johns Road (Close to Lake Rotokohatu). The previous offices in town were demolished following the Christchurch earthquakes.

### Water Quality Monitoring of Salmon Spawning Streams

Fish & Game are joining forces with Environment Canterbury to monitor water quality in salmon spawning streams in the region. The programme was set up to monitor the effects of farming intensification in the high country. Fish & Game will be collecting samples and inspecting the streams. ECan will be doing the laboratory work and analysis

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Navy blue  
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Or phone the Secretary, Heather Saunders, on 323 8118



Future Rivers provides funding for projects to preserve and enhance our outdoor recreation industry, projects that make a long term difference – for things that may otherwise not get done. Sponsorship funds are held in a Trust and are allocated on a case by case basis. Types of projects Future Rivers typically manage sponsorship for can include: Access • Public Awareness • Environmental Litigation • Wetland development • Ecological Tourism • Stream fencing / weed control • Riparian planting • Research • Education.



#### **Future Rivers funding Fish in Schools: Young Anglers - 'Hooked on Fun'**

Since the inception of the pilot programme in May 2013 this project has developed into a multi level education experience for kids from ages 8-16 years of age. There were 18 schools participating across the North Canterbury region with a release day for all fish being bred in schools in November and December. Fish ova were supplied by Fish and Game North Canterbury and have been monitored by facilitator Peter Robinson (F&G Councillor and NZSAA member) making sure numbers stayed up in all the tanks around the area. Temperature gauges and automatic feed dispensers were supplied by Aqua One whose product donations have been influential in the development of a programme structure strong enough to be implemented nation wide.

#### **Kids Fish Out Days & National Facilitation for 2014**

With facilitation from Peter Robinson, there were nine Fish Out days in early summer 2013, all incorporated with the Young Angler pilot programme. These took place at The Groynes and at Lake Lyndon in the high country, giving kids an opportunity to experience fishing in natural surroundings and really 'get hooked'. Volunteers came on board from local clubs as well as parents.

Check out the website for some great photos and stories:

[www.futurerivers.co.nz](http://www.futurerivers.co.nz) and Facebook

Contact: Fraser Chirnside [fraser@futurerivers.co.nz](mailto:fraser@futurerivers.co.nz)

## Otago News

### Release into the Leith

Over 32,000 salmon smolt weighing an average of 46.30g were released into the Waters of the Leith on 10 January 2014 with support from Clearwater Salmon Hatchery and the Dunedin Community Salmon Trust Inc.

This gives in total 81,500 smolt released in the months of December and January: 12,000 ex Sawyers Bay Salmon Hatchery, 37,000 and 32,500 ex Clearwater Hatchery. There is more to come from the Sawyers Bay Hatchery in the next few months. This will complete the largest ever release totals for a season into Dunedin Harbour waters.

### Off with their Heads

Fish and Game are calling for the heads of all salmon caught anywhere on the Lower Clutha River from the Roxburgh Dam to the mouth, and including the Pomahaka River. The collection will assist with ongoing monitoring of the population and assessment of salmon enhancement efforts.

Salmon heads are needed so that the ear bones, or otoliths, can be recovered. The otoliths have rings like a tree which are used to determine age. With further microchemistry analysis in the lab otoliths can also act as a fish passport – revealing where a salmon has been, when, and how long they spent there. This is because the concentration of elements and isotopes in the otoliths reflects the different concentrations found in different waters in which the fish lives throughout its life cycle.

The results can provide important information on the life history characteristics and movement patterns of the population. Natal origin can be determined, not only telling us whether the salmon was produced in a hatchery or the wild, but also where in the catchment the wild salmon were spawned, as well as providing insight into how salmon are using different habitats during each life stage. It will also help identify important areas of natural production to direct habitat protection and enhancement work.

Anglers in the Roxburgh area can drop heads off at the in the marked chilly bin at 3727 Fruitlands-Roxburgh Road. For alternative collection details please contact Helen Keeling at the Dunedin Fish & Game Office. (03) 477 9076 [otago@fish-game.org.nz](mailto:otago@fish-game.org.nz).

*"The finest gift you can give to any fisherman is to put a good fish back, and who knows if the fish that you caught isn't someone else's gift to you?"*

*Lee Wulff*



**YOU'RE INVITED  
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# **NZ Salmon Anglers Association (Inc)**

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- ▶ PROTECT OUR WATER RESOURCES
- ▶ ENSURE APPROPRIATE LICENSING REGULATIONS
- ▶ ASSIST BREEDING PROGRAMS



**Post To: N.Z. Salmon Anglers Association (Inc)  
P. O. Box 1113 Christchurch 8140 New Zealand**

I wish to become a member of the NZ Salmon Anglers Association Inc and agree to be bound by the Rules and Constitution of the Association

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Address \_\_\_\_\_

Contact details \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Available to assist with volunteer work weekdays/weekends?

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Signature of Applicant \_\_\_\_\_

