

# APRIL NEWSLETTER

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Paul Lenz - Golden Bay Branch

### National Executive Reports



Craig Benbow National President Malvern branch E: craig.benbow@deerstalkers.org.nz

In the South Island an extended summer weather pattern continues and we are yet to have a frost on the Plains.

From many I have talked to, the roar was a bit flat due to the high temperatures. There was a lot of hunter activity also, but I have seen some great trophies taken across the country.

I hope everyone managed a bit of time in their favourite patch or a new one. Over the weekend I went away for an overnighter with family and Dave and Joshua Keen. Dave put the acid on me to get away for a couple of days - it has become the norm to have too much to do and no time for hunting. Cheers, Dave! Results were good for my daughter who took her first deer, a nice Fallow for the table, and my oldest boy scored a nice buck for his efforts. Dave and Joshua eventually got some cooperation and filled their quota as well, so a great weekend. I had never experienced the "croak" and it was going off. A great experience and we all learned about Fallow and their behaviour.

The 25th of April was the due date for submissions on the latest Arms Act regulations. Thank you to all that made submissions. Members and branches alike should be heard. The regulations will significantly affect our ability to continue our sport and that must be demonstrated to the Police and politicians as it is quite clear from what is proposed, neither really have a clue when it comes to how individuals and clubs operate.

The Arms Act is now gone beyond the Frankenstein state it was in and is turning into a Godzilla of a thing that carries a cloak of regulations that, in my opinion and many others, creates a situation where no one can truly understand what is required and when and by whom. A complete re-write of Arms legislation is the only option to ensure sports people are heard and the law is sufficient to ensure safety of the general public yet allow for lawful use of firearms for sport and enjoyment.

Enjoy the rest of Autumn and good luck to all heading in on Tahr ballots or sneaking back out after that stag or buck you failed to connect with.

#### Wayne Smith South Island Rep Marlborough branch

E: wayne.smith@deerstalkers.org.nz

As always, a lot on. Conference administration is well down the track on a number of different fronts and appears to be shaping up nicely. I'm looking forward to taking a day either side and doing a bit of sightseeing while driving down and then back to Blenheim. Conference itself I think will have a different feel from previous events.



Late last year NATEX consulted with branches on a 1-page Strategic Plan which was subsequently approved by the Board. Gwyn has been busy breaking that down into a Business Plan which is up for discussion at our next meeting on 8th May. I'm not sure on the process after that at this stage but it may be close to approved by Conference time and then will become part of our communication out to branches. With everything we are currently doing, and the things we aspire to in the next couple of years, all now sitting it a single document it's a bit daunting but good to have a detailed road map laid out.

Our agenda for the 8th May hasn't been finalised yet but I suspect getting subcommittees up will also be on the agenda to move forward along with a range of other things we will try and progress once we are clear of Conference.

#### A Word from our Chief Executive, Gwyn Thurlow



Firstly, a thanks to all those members who renewed this March and April. Secondly, a big welcome to all new NZDA members who recently joined.

I hope you found using NZDA's updated online invoicing system simple and efficient. I also hope you've managed to use your new membership discounts found on your membership cards.

Most branches don't hold meetings or events in April because committees and members are hunting. I encourage everyone to get along to May meetings - after all, it's meeting likeminded hunters and sharing stories that is one of the biggest benefits of membership.

I have been busy on advocacy work, especially relating to firearms renewals and processing delays. Myself and Bill O'Leary (Fish and Game) were interviewed by RNZ recently - to listen to the full radio interview click <u>here</u>.

NZDA has written letters of concern to the Minister and that correspondence is shared below.

We also had NZDA in the news, and you can see the Newshub/TV3 interview that aired recently below.

I spent ANZAC day thinking about our service people and also finalising and submitting NZDA's Arms Regulation Consultation response to Police. NZDA calls for practical changes that are safety focused.

I took time off over the Easter period for the roar. I went hunting with GAC General Manager, Tim Gale for a week, followed by three days with my farther in Nelson Lakes. Both trips were enjoyable and I was thankful to spend the time in the bush with these gentlemen. It's great to walk the talk.

NZDA tahr rep, Dave Keen, is currently in the Alps on a tahr hunt in the Adams Wilderness Zone. I will follow him into the same block as I was lucky to draw the second period. We'll then both take the 2020 tahr survey winners on a trip after tahr. It will be interesting to see first hand the impact of DOC's years of culling. If you are on a ballot hunt, please fill out the surveys on the heli pads prepared by the Tahr Foundation and Kea Conservation Trust. The more data hunters contribute, the better our organisations can advocate.

Finally, 31st May is the cut-off date for our annual National Competitions. Forms need to be submitted by 5pm, 1st June to National Office. Please contact your branch secretary or the National Office team for help. The forms can be found under the "Conference" tab on our website. So, get out there and take photos, write, and participate in shoots. If you were lucky to secure a trophy head between 1 June 2020 and 31 May 2021, please enter it this year.



Behind the scenes, Gwyn working hard to represent and advocate on behalf of recreational hunters when being interviewed at Deerstalkers House, Wellington.



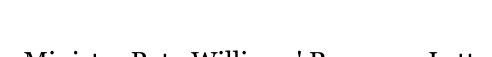
Click <u>here</u> or the image above to watch the full Newshub interview featuring Gwyn.

### Police Firearms Delays: NZDA's Letter to Police

### Minister Poto Williams Expressing Concerns

Click on the image of the letter to read the document.





Gwyn Thuicw Chief Executive Officer

Minister Poto Williams' Response Letter

Click on the image of the letter to read the document.

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Gwyn Thurlow Chief Executive Officer Office@deerstal.org.org.nz

Dear Gwyn Thurlow

I refer to your letter detect 25 March 2021, in which you wrote to me on behalf of the New Zealand Devertalizers Association (N2DA), regarding the backlog of finants is capital tons.

21-0114

Tou have suggested that Luse my powers under section 74(1)(a) of the Arms Act 1983 (the Act) to provide temporary extensions for existing I sense holders.

I have discussed the mattern your sided with Police. It is important to note that the Arms Act does not give the Nikister of Police the powers to override the provisions of the Act in the way you have suggested.

The Act has provided the explicit addity for regulations to extend the expression of a license in nervox-clournationes as set out in action 24(3)[44]. These specific choices are "in the event of a pandemic, an epidemic, or an emergency being declared ander the Call Defence Theorymous Management Act 2022. These clournations do not carefully apply. In all other insumitaneous frequencies is issued for ten years and express on the specified date.

Lacknewledge the impact on hunters who may have applied for a new locate well in advance of the expiry date of their server it knows and have yet to receive a new locate before their licence expires. While incomentient, I am advised that prople who are not helders of a current locate are still able to participate it does building provided they are under the immediate supervision of a holder of a current locate holder.

While the processing of applications was impacted by COVID-13. Fam advised that the overwhelming masses from a likence sopining before a new licence is issued is due to licence holders sob witting their applications class to or after the explicit date.

Police has taken steps to remind licence holders to apply in sufficient time and to progress the COVID 19-exempted applications by:

- + continuing to notify licence holders 4 to 6 months in advance of licence expiry:
- Coloning to nony interface in a not received three months in admitted in admitted party.
  Following pilling application is not received three months before explinit
  reminding loaner holders of the implications of possessing finearms while holding an expired
  - licence;
- Improving the licensing process by improving the guidance to feticion makers;
  Increasing throughput by refining the administrative processes; and

#### HUNTS Update



#### Rob Howey National HUNTS Co-Ordinator Porirua branch E: rob.howey@deerstalkers.org.nz

Revalidation of Instructor warrants is still on going and I would remind any instructor who hasn't sent in their paperwork yet to get on to it if you want to retain your warrant.

This year we will be reviewing the standard operating procedures to make sure they are still fit for purpose. I would appreciate any feedback from the coal face on changes or updates you would like to see made.

This year at conference we are running an instructor networking session on the Friday before the opening ceremony. Our host branch instructors are organising some activities for us to make it fun, so I would encourage any instructors thinking about attending to signup and get to Queenstown to be part of this event. I trust everyone has enjoyed a good roar season this year after the disappointment of the covid lockdown last year.

If you have any questions or concerns please get in contact with me directly, happy hunting.

# 

#### Pureora Forest Park Hunting Competition

As the annual DOC Maniapoto district organised hunting competition was cancelled last year due to Covid 19, there were great expectations for a successful and well supported Pureora hunting competition this year.

Local hunters did not disappoint, with some excellent red deer heads entered on prize giving day, 18 April. Douglas Score measurers from Waikato, Te Awamutu and Thames Valley branches measured the biggest 20 heads, and National AHT Chief Judge Mark Sarjeant compiled the list of top 10 winners as well as the "average D/S of all measured entries" which won a helicopter trip into the Ruahines.



This annual competition has been running now for 34 years and the first prize of a free mounted head has been made each year by Vern and Louise Pearson of Sika Country Taxidermy - a tremendous commitment.

A static display on the history of Norman Douglas and the Douglas Score was a back drop for a "Guess The Douglas Score" of a red deer head and members from Waikato and Te Awamutu branches enjoyed friendly banter while offering advice to those family and hunter participants.

GAC General Manager Tim Gale attended the day and briefly addressed the crowd of hunters and family about the role of GAC.

Immediate Past President Trevor Chappell had worked with DOC on organising and securing donors to ensure the competition was a success and the intention is to enlarge next years competition to include pig jaws that are taken from the Pureora ranges.

NZDA Competition Manager Mark Sarjeant was also featured on the Te Awamutu Courier, click the image below or here to read the full article.

Thursday, April 1, 2021

## *<b>ECOUNTRY*

# Scoring veteran to oversee **Pureora hunting competition**

A 30-year veteran of New Zeahand's hunting scene will oversecjudging in the Hunting Competition this year. The popular competition, managed by the Department of Conservation's (DoC) Manipoto District staff, is iradificially heddin, he samual dever recein suiture

Conservation's (DOC) Maniapolo District staf, is traditionally heldin the annual deer roor in autumn. It was cancelled in 2024 due to the Covid 39 nationwide lockdown, but returns for 2021 with the addition of pigjaw scoring to beoverseen by the The Kuit Pg Hunting Club. New Zealand Deerst alkers Association (NZDA) competition manager Mark Sarjeent will manage the scoring in this year's event, dirawing on Sy year's sevent, dirawing on Sy year's sevent, determine score system used to determine winners. Organisers say he has a good understanding of the history of the Douglas Score system and how hunting in New Zoaland base serolved, "I didin y first Douglas Score course in 180," says Mark, "In 19691 became a National Training Antler Hom and Tusk (AHT) judge and in 2004 took over running as XDD AHT competition manager. "The first wart the Wastato

manager. "The first year the Waikato branchof the NZDA used the Douglas Score was 1949. It was



adopted by N2DA in 1957. "The whole idea of the system is you can use it to compare. We can look at heads from the 1950s and 1960s and can compare them to today. "When I first started measuring back in the 1990s you never saw a

redicer head that would scoremore than 300. "Now half the entries at nationals are more than 800. They are just getting better and better." Mark says huming has changed over the years he has been working of the second participating.

National Training Antier Hom and Tusk judge Mark Sarjeant. hoto / Craig Shaw

"We see a lot more women and children involved, but also now we're seeing people in their 30s taking it up. The says. "Toine's it's to do with getting out in the outdoors. If you're going to go for a trang, why not take a rifle with you? You might see sumething." He anticipates a popular and successful competition for 3021 with high interest from huntes with could not get out into the bush in 303.

2020. "I'm picking it'll be a good roar" his year, because a lot of people dida't get out last year. You can only go so long without hunding, you really missit, "hesays. NZDA and its local branches in Te Awamutu and Walkato are

Awa wanutdand Walkalo are roviding support for the event. NZDA will have an informative display and stall on the prizegiving

day — Sunday, April 18. Mark will also be attending to help trainother judges.

Te Awamutu Courier 9

There are a range of interest arms in the price of the arms of the price of the arms of th There are a range of prizes across

several categories in this year's competition, thanks to various local

more include the highest boughts screes, average boughts screes, you't shok, jun draws, ugliesthoar jun and ugliest rod deer baad, top it Doughts screes and spot prizes throughout the event. To entire, numbers are required to have a valid husting permit for Parceas. Competitions should pre-register heads or jun at an official recording site. sponsors. These include the highest Douglas scores, average Dou

Competition rules and details of recording stations can be found at doc.govt.ng/news/ events/regional events/ pureors/orest-park-huntingcompetition or click 'News and Events' on the DoC

Click the image above or here to read the full article on Mark Sarjeant.

#### Ministers Arms Advisory Group: NZDA Welcomes Appointment of Don Hammond and Michael Dowling

Minister of Police Poto Williams has announced the members of the Ministers Arms Advisory Group, established to ensure balanced advice to Government on firearms that is independent of Police.

Ex-GAC Chair, Don Hammond, will lead the Ministers Arms Advisory Group. COLFO President Michael Dowling has also been selected as a member. NZDA congratulate both candidates, and are grateful for the knowledge and understanding that they will bring to the table.

To read more about the Ministers Arms Advisory Group, click <u>here</u>.



Don Hammond left, Michael Dowling right

#### New Member Promotion - Final Hours!

All new members who join NZDA in March or April 2021 go into the draw to win a pair of Meindl Island Boots!

If you have any family members or mates who are sitting on the fence about becoming a member, pass the news on because now's the time to join!









#### Tahr hunters contributing to kea conservation

The NZ Tahr Foundation, Kea Conservation Trust and Game Animal Council have collaborated to develop the Tahr Ballot Kea Sightings Project.

With the annual tahr rut getting underway, tahr ballot block holders are being asked to record their kea sightings to help conserve kea in the central Southern Alps.

"Kea are a fantastic part of the mountain hunting experience in the Southern Alps, and given how much time tahr hunters spend in the backcountry they are ideally positioned to help monitor these special alpine parrots," says NZ Tahr Foundation Scientific Advisor Kaylyn Pinney.

Each hunting party receives a Tahr Ballot Kea Sightings Project pamphlet along with the NZ Tahr Foundation's tahr returns and information booklet at the helipad before being flown in to their ballot block. They are requested to record their kea sightings on the pamphlet and submit it along with their tahr returns in a dedicated box at the hanger following their flight out.

To read more about the project, click <u>here</u>.



In December 2020 the NZTF sent a proposal to the Department of Conservation requesting that the NZTF begin to administer the tahr ballot from 2022 onwards. The Department had previously offered the ballot

administration to the NZTF before we were entirely established (pre 2018).

NZTF believe that by administering the ballot, the NZTF can acquire more accurate population based information which can be used to establish if we can have more tahr, need less or if hunters need to be made aware of any population biases within the area.

It also establishes a base for other conservation initiatives and begins to forge a more positive relationship for the Department and the hunting sector around the management of tahr. The Department disagreed however, read the full post <u>here</u>.

#### Upcoming Douglas Score Courses

**Bay of Plenty:** To be held on **Saturday 22 May** at clubrooms – 617 State Highway 29, Tauriko, Tauranga further details to follow.

**Manawatu:** To be held on **Sunday 18 July** at clubrooms – 251 College Street, West End, Palmerston North 4412. Level 1 & Level 2 can be taught at this course.

#### NZDA Merchandise - Order Yours Now!

NZDA T-shirts and stickers can now be purchased at our online <u>shop</u>.

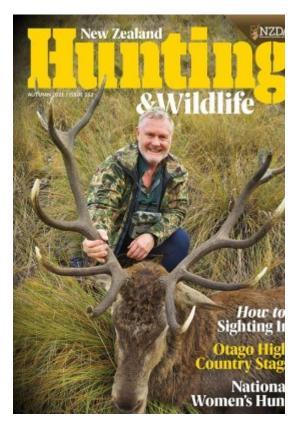
There are two T-shirt versions available, black or white, in mens and womens sizes. More options to come. The price is \$45.00 (including domestic shipping).

We also have high quality NZDA bumper stickers for sale at \$15.00 (including domestic shipping).

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#### NZ Hunting & Wildlife Magazine - Autumn 'Roar' Issue #212

Click here to read the latest Autumn Edition!



# Printed editions also available

There is still the ability to order your printed copy of NZ Hunting and Wildlife Magazine and have it delivered to your home address.

\$10 a copyor\$29 for 4 x editions

As we've now completed the move back to the Collina Terrace office, we've found the back issues of the magazine which are available for purchase.

Order your printed editions here!

#### 2021 NZDA Annual Conference, Queenstown



The upcoming AGM will be hosted by Southern Lakes branch from the 11th to 13th of June 2021 in Queenstown.

The event will be held at the Crowne Plaza, Queenstown. **Registrations** will be closing 12th May.

For those not attending the full AGM & Conference, tickets are on sale for just the functions - all members are welcome.

The Friday night function is at the local Hunting and Fishing store, which includes prize giveaways, a BBQ and guest speakers.

The Saturday night function is being held at the Skyline Gondola and Restaurant overlooking town. This is the awards night and the results of the AHT results, mixed in with guest speakers and of course some great Southern food and hospitality.

For full details, ticket sales and a copy of the registration forms, visit the Southern Lakes Website <u>here.</u>



Hunting and Fishing will host the friday night function.

# WANTED - Video or images highlighting your club in action

As hosts of conference 2021/22, the Southern Lakes branch would love to showcase what the volunteers of the Deerstalkers do for our conference guests and attendees.

The branch will edit and put together a short 2 minute presentation made up of images or video from our branches.

So if you are at the range, at a club night, checking traps, on a club hunting trip or even a committee meeting, take a photo or video on your phone (Landscape would be best) and send it to:

Sharon | <a href="mailto:sharon@deerstalkers.org.nz">sharon@deerstalkers.org.nz</a> or,

via the NZDA Facebook on <a href="https://www.facebook.com/NZDANational">https://www.facebook.com/NZDANational</a>

#### Southern Lakes Branch Ladies Hunt

It seems the South Island ladies are "out there doing it" too.

Organised by the Southern Lakes Branch, Anzac weekend saw 17 women from a number of branches, ranging from age 22 to 67, come together and hunting hard despite the uncooperative and cold, wet weather.

Southern Lakes branch member and organiser Katie Dugan said "It was such an empowering weekend in so many ways, full of learning and experience and bonding. Everyone saw animals and we even got 3 trophies on the board - Red, Fallow and Chamois".

Katie went on to say that "This was a great opportunity to showcase that hunting is not just for men, in fact as a result we have picked up a number of new members that bring some highly talented skills to the club membership and volunteer committee."

Full write up and photos to follow in the next edition of the quarterly Hunting and Wildlife magazine.



#### Hunting Apps

#### How you can help do your part for conservation

Are you using any hunting apps on your trips? Both the Sika Foundation and Fiordland Wapiti Foundation have released convenient and easy to use mobile phone apps which allow you to submit data on any Sika/Wapiti, native birds, predators and rubbish you come across in your journey.

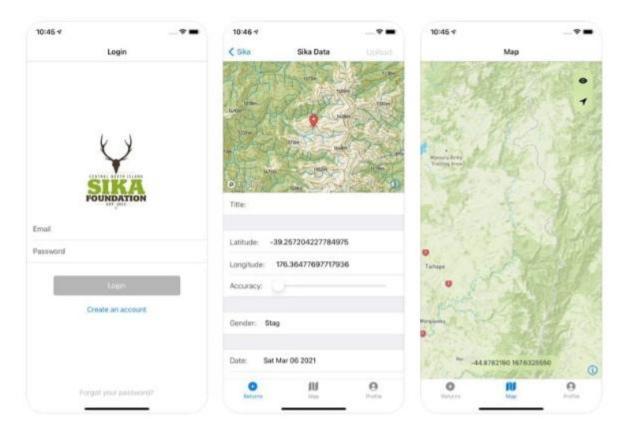
If not, download the apps now so you can easily submit important info on the Sika/Wapiti deer harvest in the Central North Island or Fiordland area.

Both organisations use the data for conservation purposes to better understand and monitor the herd. It's a game changer for their data collection programme, so download and start using it today:

#### Sika Foundation App

If you're an Apple user, click <u>here</u>.

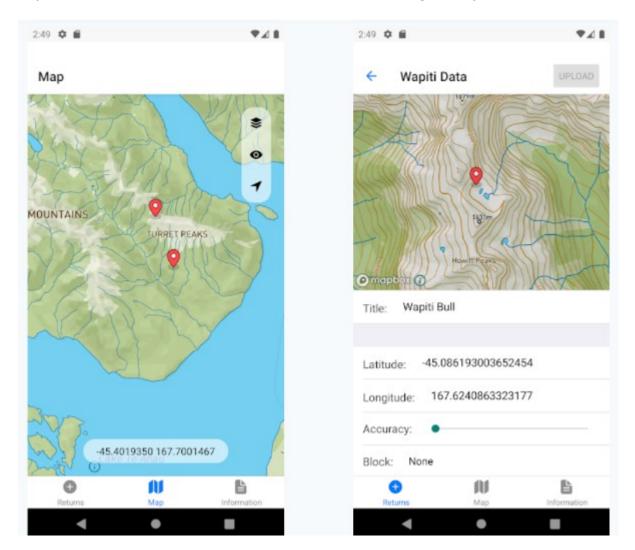
If you're an Android user, download from the Google Play store here.



#### **Fiordland Wapiti Foundation App**

If you're an Apple user, click here.

If you're an Android user, download from the Google Play store here.



Fiordland Wapiti Foundation App

#### Missing hunter likely fell to his death in West Coast's unforgiving alpine terrain

A Swedish hunter died because he failed to follow basic safety rules while exploring some of the most "brutal terrain in New Zealand, with holes, bivvys and rocks the size of houses".

Hans Christian Tornmarck had limited experience in New Zealand's alpine

environment, <u>but went hunting alone in the Karangarua Valley in South</u> <u>Westland on May 12</u> without a personal locator beacon and did not fill in the hut intentions book.

To read the full article, click <u>here</u>.

# Policeman faces long recovery after suffering burns to 18 per cent of body

Constable Kris Dale was flown to Christchurch Hospital on April 9 after catching fire from a gas cooker which he was using to boil a stag's head in his garage.

Read the full article here.



Brad Ramsay - Taupo Branch

#### Incorporated societies facing major reform

The Incorporated Societies Bill 2021, which was introduced to Parliament last month, is set to bring about large-scale reform of the not-for-profit sector.

The goal of the Bill is to put in place a modern framework of legal,

governance and accountability obligations for incorporated societies and those who run them.

One change that will require immediate action by many societies once the legislation is passed is the requirement for societies to have a constitution which meets the new standards imposed by the legislation.

NZDA branches are incorporated societies, so will need to adopt a constitution. It's important our committees are across these changes.

Read the full article <u>here</u>.

#### 'Designer' deer herds touted to help farmers

A researcher looking at the different foraging behaviours of deer says it could help farmers create the perfect "designer herd" for their land.

AgResearch associate Bryan Thompson said individual deer had preferences for where they wanted to feed - ranging from intensive lowland farms to rugged high-country hills.

He said there was a range of factors that influenced where a deer wanted to forage, including its personality, health, social interactions, past experience, food availability and diet.

Thompson said if those foraging behaviours were better understood, it might be possible to create herds with deer that were suited to specific farms.

Click <u>here</u> to read the full article.

NZDA Heritage Trust's Historical Badge Hunt Continues... To Continue...



Rare pre-1957 NZDA membership badges

Have you seen either of these badges? The NZDA National Heritage Trust seeks a donation of above for inclusion on a display board of the Association's Badges.

The badges were in existence pre-1957, after that date the date rings were removed and some slight alterations were carried out.

If you believe you have an NZDA badge of value, please send pictures when contacting John Riley from the National Heritage Trust at <u>museum@deerstalkers.org.nz</u>

#### @NZDA on Instagram and Facebook

In this section we showcase our members' content posted on social media so, for your chance to be featured, follow <u>@NZDANational</u> and <u>@nzdeerstalkersassociation</u> and just tag your photo to either of the pages.



Instagram - @nikolai\_haps



Instagram - @ivan\_pavich

#### Heartland Hotel Fox Glacier Discount

We are pleased to announce a new members discount with Heartland Hotel Fox Glacier.

A great deal for those looking for a place to stay during their trip to Fox Glacier, or if you are planning on travelling to the West Coast for the South Westland ROAR being organised by DOC in the next couple of months.

The property offers a complimentary hanging shed, freezer space is available (this will need to be pre-booked and there will be a small fee)

plus of course, the hotel offers full restaurant and bar facilities, pool table and large screen TV etc.

The offer is \$120 per room (i.e. \$60 per person twin share) per night and this will be available to book until 31 October 2021.

To make a booking, call 0800 69 69 63 or email reservations@scenichotelgroup.co.nz



#### Stay at Heartland Hotel Fox Glacier for only \$120 incl gst / per room / twin share / max 2 pax

Complimentary hanging shed | Freezer space available (additional cost, butchered meat only, limited space). Enjoy a well deserved meal at the onsite White Pub Café & Bar – open for breakfast, dinner & bar meals with a large screen TV & pool table.

#### Bookings available on: 0800 69 69 63 or reservations@scenichotelgroup.co.nz

24 hour cancellation policy applies. Offer is net non-commissionable and available to book & stay until 31 October 2021. View the full terms and conditions here.

#### The Outdoor Store NZDA 10% Discount Offer

The team at the Outdoors Store (part of The Loggers Shop) have just joined our growing team of retailers offering exclusive NZDA members with a discount of 10% off your next order of outdoors gear or equipment (excludes their work equipment range). Check out their website by visiting them <u>online</u>.

Visit the team at 4/38 Ellis Street, Brightwater, Tasman 7022. An online discount code will be available soon but you can get deals by visiting in store and presenting your valid 2021/22 membership card.



### Go Native NZDA 25% Discount Offer

Remember to visit Go Native and use the NZDA member discount code to get 25% off your next order thanks to the team at <u>Go Native World</u>.



Visit <u>www.gonativeworld.com</u> today!

#### Interislander Ferry NZDA Discount Code



NZDA are pleased to offer financial members a discount when using the InterIslander Ferry.

Enter the code **FA5474** under the "Book using a group code" tab on the website. For more info, please <u>click here.</u>

# Other NZDA Supporters Offering NZDA Members Deals and Discounts



### Update your Contact Information

It is important we have your most up-to-date contact information. If you

have recently changed your email or postal address now is the time to tell us, please email <u>membership@deerstalkers.org.nz</u> to let us know.



#### Protecting Hunters' Rights in New Zealand Since 1937

www.deerstalkers.org.nz

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