



# NZDA

New Zealand Deerstalkers Association

## MARCH NEWSLETTER

ISSN 2744-5380



Lake Howden (Joshua Keen, South Canterbury)

**Final Hours to Renew!!! 2021/22 Membership  
Renewal Promotion**

# RENEW YOUR NZDA MEMBERSHIP BEFORE 31ST MARCH



BE INTO WIN  
A FULL  
HEAD-TO-TOE  
PACKAGE

BY  STONEY  
CREEK



Big thanks to you for helping support NZDA's advocacy work!

If you are an existing NZDA Senior, Super, Student or Junior member for upgrade this year! and you renew your membership by 31 March you're in the draw.

Terms and conditions apply. See the NZDA website for more info.

If you haven't renewed your membership, today is your last day to renew in order to qualify for the Stoney Creek promotion. We will be drawing the lucky winner on the 1st of April.

Terms & conditions apply, see [NZDA website](https://www.nzda.org.nz).

## National Executive Reports



**Craig Benbow National President**

**Malvern branch**

E: [craig.benbow@deerstalkers.org.nz](mailto:craig.benbow@deerstalkers.org.nz)

March saw a dream run of weather and even the first period Wapiti hunters did not get washed out and so this meant lots of people got outside to enjoy our special places.

The fine weather ended this week but I am sure many of us will take the opportunity to pursue our sport and take advantage of our current Covid-19 free status over the long-weekend.

Membership renewals have been executed in a timely and efficient manner this year and, while there may be the odd issue here and there, full credit must go to the National Office team who worked hard to get invoices out, and then membership cards, to our members.

If you are having membership issues please contact [membership@deerstalkers.org.nz](mailto:membership@deerstalkers.org.nz) and the team will sort you out as soon as possible.

There have been some questions put to me around NZDA national level committees. Here is some background and an update on where we are at:

It appears over time the management of our committees has become somewhat disconnected and the terms under which they operate are unclear. The National Executive have initiated a process of putting together 'terms of reference' applicable to all committees which can be tailored to ensure each committee has the ability to do what it is charged with undertaking and access using the resources to achieve its purpose.

In the past NZDA have operated with various models that at one time saw only two committees being operational, but at other times several committees operated at once. One thing is for sure, committees are critical to a highly functional NZDA.

We are all volunteers with other responsibilities and so need wide support through committees which can collate and assess information and give expert advice and guidance to the board and our CEO.

We see many people outside of the National Executive team with skills and knowledge in specific areas and we want to involve these people in committees.

Defining the basis by which our committees operate is critical. We are presently working to draft these guidelines.

Further announcements regarding the establishment of NZDA national level committees will be made shortly.

Enough of the nuts and bolts, Easter is nearly here, the roar is under way, and we are free to access our hunting grounds so get out there, enjoy your friends' and family's company, keep watch on the ones who are still learning or re-learning after a while on the couch, but above all else take the time to be safe.

My message is one of "safety and mates first, meat second". If you are fortunate to gather the kai make sure everyone gets to share the harvest this land provides.

## A Word from our Chief Executive, Gwyn Thurlow



The roar is finally here!

March was a busy month ensuring members are renewed and I did no personal hunting to make sure that happened. I hope you're enjoying your new look cards and NZDA discounts.

My highlight this month was appearing on the news promoting recreational hunting, NZDA, and the roar to all New Zealanders alongside Callum Sheridan, Auckland member. It was great to see our new branding front and centre on national TV.

To long-time members, I hope you took advantage of the amazing deal that Stoney Creek sponsored and renewed your membership before today.

To all members, remember to promote NZDA when out hunting this roar and point out to your friends and family the epic Meindl boots 'new member promotion'. I have personally been a long time user of these boots and was speaking to Joel at Stager Sport when we came up with the promo.

I want to thank both Stoney Creek and Stager for supporting NZDA.

I'll be taking a full week off to go deerstalking in the Southern Alps for the roar. I'm looking forward to enjoying my time in the backcountry because after all that's what I love, and my passion for hunting is what gets me out of bed every day to work hard representing New Zealand's recreational hunters.



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



Callum Sheridan of Auckland branch also being interviewed by Newshub, click the image to watch the full feature.

# POLICE ASK FOR YOUR INPUT ON PROPOSED FIREARMS REGULATIONS

## **ACTION REQUIRED - IMPORTANT ISSUE FOR FIREARMS OWNERS**

**Due date for submission 25 April 2021**

Police are now receiving submissions on the Public Consultation Document for proposals on new Regulations under the Arms Act 1983, that is located on Police's website.

You can find the Public Consultation Document, the Submission Form and further information about the submission process at:

[www.police.govt.nz/consultation-regulations](http://www.police.govt.nz/consultation-regulations)

Submissions are being asked to be made in five weeks' time, and the closing date for submissions is 25 April 2021.

Submissions can be made by completing the Submission Form and emailing the form to [consultation@police.govt.nz](mailto:consultation@police.govt.nz) or posting to Firearms Policy & Partnerships, 13<sup>th</sup> Floor Police National Headquarters, 180 Molesworth Street, Wellington.

A press release by Police has also been issued [here](#).

We strongly encourage you to respond and distribute this email to your fellow firearms owners for their action.

NZDA will make a submission, as will your Branch, and we will work closely with COLFO who are also requesting the firearms community's input and seeking advice. Remember, as NZDA members, a portion of your annual fee goes to supporting COLFO and their work.

These Regulations will determine how we use, store and transport our firearms. Please take the time to give any practical advice to improve what is proposed.

We strongly encourage you to make a submission.



Department of  
Conservation  
*Te Papa Atawhai*

## Pureora Forest Park Hunting Competition back for 2021, with local NZDA branches helping DOC

NZDA Competition Manager Mark Sarjeant will manage the scoring in this year's event, drawing on 30 years' experience with the [Douglas Score system](#) used to determine winners.

The popular competition, managed by the Department of Conservation's (DOC) Maniapoto District staff, is traditionally held in the annual deer roar in autumn. It was cancelled in 2020 due to the COVID-19 nationwide lockdown, but returns for 2021 with the addition of pig jaw scoring to be overseen by the Te Kuiti Pig Hunting Club. To read the full media release, click [here](#).



NZDA Competition Manager Mark Sarjeant

## Media Release: DOC calls for hunters to put safety first this Easter

Last year's roar hunt was cancelled due to the COVID-19 Level 4 lockdown. It's predicted more hunters than ever will head to the hills this autumn chasing stags.

DOC's Visitor Safety Manager, Andy Roberts, says each year during the roar there is a spike in hunting accidents, such as slips, trips, falls or firearm injuries.

Read the full media release [here](#).



Sika stag by Bill Wallace of Bush Branch

## 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.

## Bowhunters, NZDA runs a National AHT Competition just for you!

With the roar/rut not far away, we remind those members who bow hunt that our National AHT competition offers a dedicated section for you.

In 2002/2003, the National Executive approved three categories of competition for bowhunters:

- 1) Senior (18+)
- 2) Female
- 3) Junior (under 18 years of age)

We are aware branches such as Hutt Valley, Thames Valley, Central King Country and Palmerston have many successful bowhunters among their ranks. Indeed, a CKC member took a magnificent fallow buck (DS 250) which never got to ATH Nationals, an awesome trophy which deserved to be recognised at national level.

We strongly encourage that animals taken with a bow are entered into this year's National AHT competition. The stalking and successful taking of a trophy by bow is in a class of its own, and is recognised accordingly.

So, bowhunters, get out there and take those great trophies this year and then enter them into your club and national AHT competition.



Sean Johnson, Hutt Valley, "Hunger Games"

## NZDA Merchandise - Order Yours Now!

NZDA T-shirts and stickers can now be purchased at our online [shop](#).

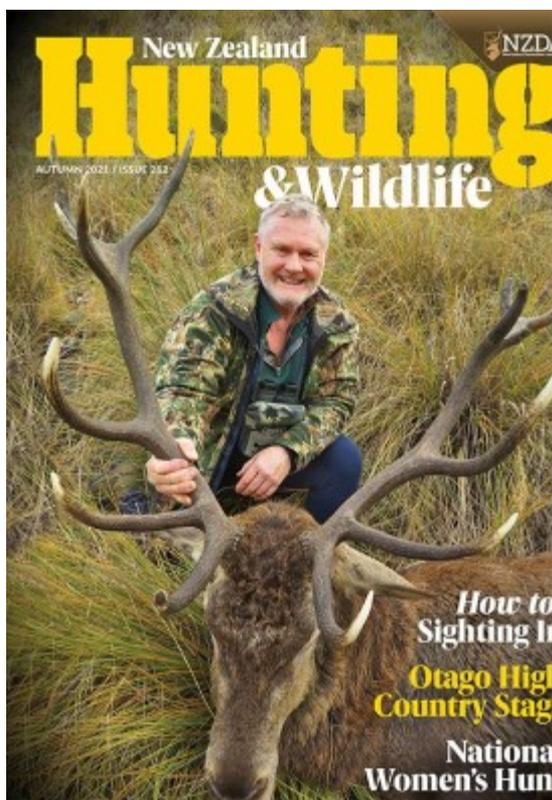
There are two T-shirt versions available, black or white, in mens and womens sizes. More options to come. The price is \$45.00 (including domestic shipping).

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



## 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 copy

or

**\$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 with special accommodation rates on offer - quote NZDA Conference when booking.

For more details, visit the Southern Lakes Website [here](#).

**Registrations are now open.**

Flying? Air NZ have no change fees on flights till the end of June, so book now to make the most of the cheaper airfares.

Conference paper one was sent to branch committees by the National Secretary, Dan Friedman, on 25 Feb 2021.

Missed that? Then these and all AGM papers including registration forms are available for download on the [website](#) along with the 2021 competition entry forms.

There is also a hard copy of the competition rules & entry forms going out to branches.



## NEWS ISSUE #2 MARCH 2021

The second COLFO News Issue discusses the following issues in detail:

- [No end to the backlog of licence applications](#)
- [Second round of confiscation](#)
- [Firearm Prohibition Order Amendment Bill](#)
- [COLFO AGM](#)

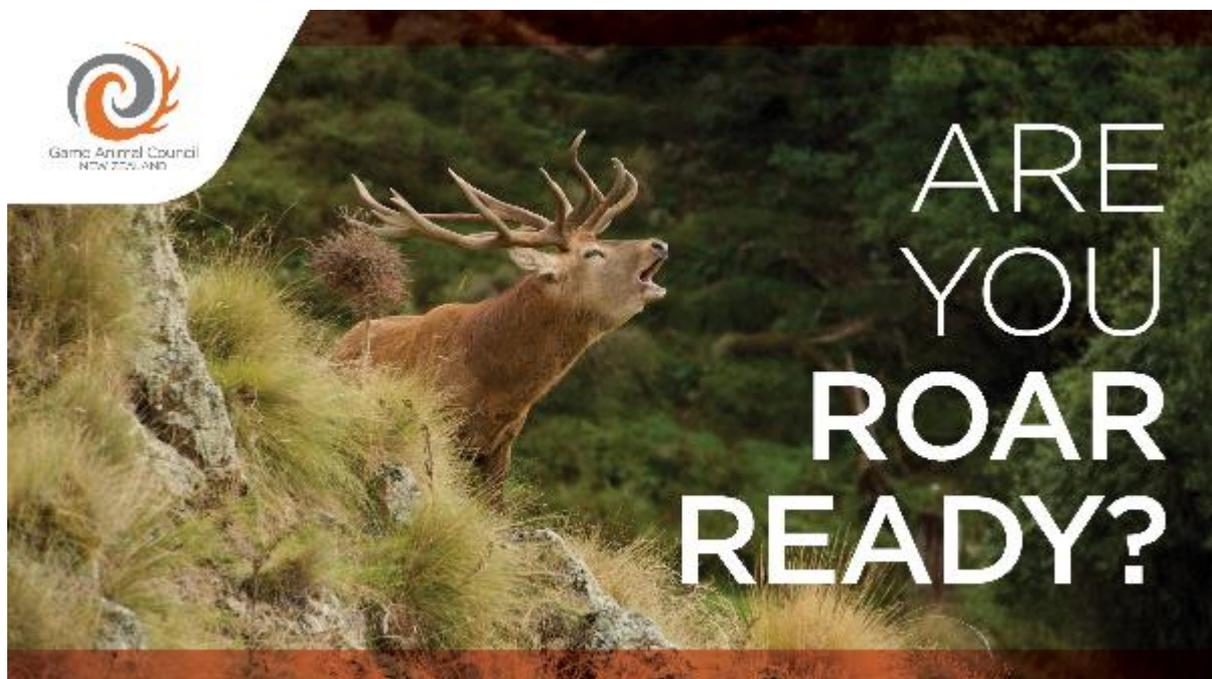


## Game Animal Council NEW ZEALAND

The Game Animal Council (GAC) is reminding hunters to be well prepared ahead of their autumn hunting trips by making sure they are 'roar ready'.

Preparation for a hunt is essential – make sure you give your gear a good check over before you go, know what to expect weather-wise by checking the long-range weather forecast, always carry hardcopy maps to supplement whatever electronic navigational aids you use and leave your intentions (including when you expect to return) with a reliable contact.

Read more about it [here](#).



Looking after our game animals and their habitat

GAC have launched an online resource to help hunters implement good game animal management practices and achieve beneficial hunting and conservation outcomes.

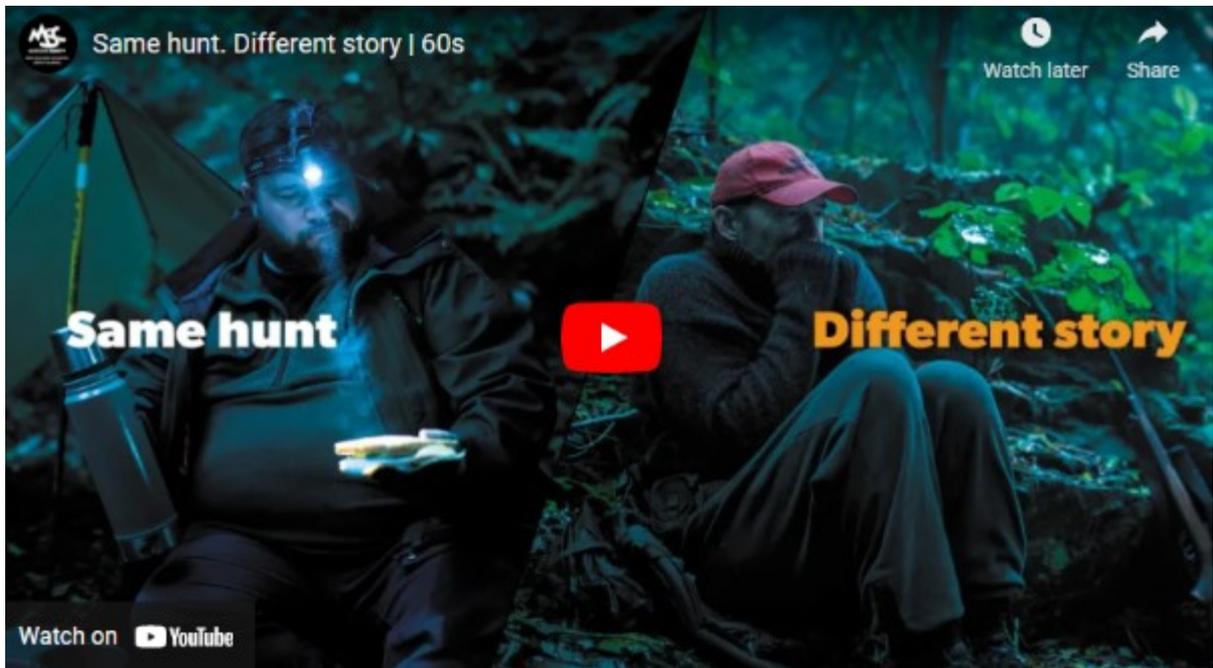
“Looking After Our Game Animals is intended to explain in simple terms how deer, tahr and chamois herds work, how the choices we make while out hunting can have an impact on those herds and most importantly, help protect the habitat they depend on,” says GAC General Manager Tim Gale.

Read more about it [here](#).



Whether it's an evening hunt or a backcountry adventure, what you do at home can make all the difference in the bush.

The NZ Mountain Safety Council in preparation for this years Roar have put together a video which showcases some very common things that can change any Kiwi hunter's story in the outdoors. Which hunter are you?



[Click above to watch the full video.](#)



## Police announce modernised firearms licence cards

### Media Release - 30 March 2021

Police are launching new firearms licence cards with additional security features.

“Police has been working hard to modernise our processes around firearms and becoming an effective regulator of the Arms Act. A key component of this is safety and security. These cards will help deliver on that,” says Inspector Michael McIlraith.

“The purpose of the updated licence card and the new features, is to bring firearms licencing in line with other modern identification and licence cards that have an increased level of security. This will support firearms licence holders, dealers, and dealer employees.”

The main new features are:

- a three-digit version number.
- a barcode and magnetic strip to support future point of sale transactions.

- the licence holders date of birth embossed under their photo.
- endorsements written in full, as opposed to acronyms.

The attached image shows the updated firearms licence cards with the new security features.

“The three-digit version number is a key feature because it ensures that only one version of the firearms licence in circulation is valid. For example, if a licence is expired, lost, or stolen and the licence holder applies for a replacement, the new licence will have an updated version number, and the previous card becomes invalid preventing any unlawful use,” says Acting Superintendent Mike McIlraith.

“Police is also in the process of developing an online compliance tool that will be released later this year. This tool will validate the details on any firearms licence, including the new version number, assisting licence holders to meet their obligation by ensuring they only buy and sell from people who hold a firearms licence. The online licence checker portal can be used by both the buyer and the seller in any over the counter, or in person transaction, where both parties can input the details of the respective firearms licence to ensure that they are current.”

“It is through the introduction of these improved procedures and supporting compliance tools, that Police can endeavour to keep firearms only in the hands of people who have shown themselves responsible enough to have them.”

The launch of the updated firearms licence will only impact those applying for, or renewing, their licence. All existing firearms licence holders can continue to use their current licence.

# Firearms Licence Guide



## Don't let an Accident Change your Life this Hunting Season - NZ Police Safety Video

The NZ Police have shared a hunter's story after he and his long-time hunting partner faced a very tragic lesson on a hunting trip in 2008. It is a timely reminder ahead of the roar. Click on the image below or [here](#) to watch the full video.

The timing of this release overlaps with the presentation by Dr Karl Bridges to NZDA members regarding his thesis - Failure to Identify Hunting Incidents - which showed in his research that external peer pressure and/or making snap decisions is a material factor in the failure to identify your target. The real key is *taking time* to make a 100% identification of your target. To read more about Dr Bridges' research, [read here](#).



Click above to watch the full video.

## Remarkables Conservation Areas Reclassification - NZDA Submission

NZDA submitted on the Remarkables reclassification consultation called for recently by DOC. In summary, NZDA's position in this area should be reclassified as either (in order of preference):

1. Conservation Park under the Conservation Act 1987; or
2. National Reserve under the Reserves Act 1977.

NZDA opposes a National Park status because DOC would be required to remove introduced animals which includes deer.

**To read NZDA's full submission, click [here](#).**

## Branches follow National NZDA Womens Hunt's success to organise local Ladies Interbanch Hunts



If you missed out on the first NZDA National Womens Hunt, both the Thames Valley and Southern Lakes branches have organised hunts of their own.

### **Thames Valley**

- May 13-16, if you are situated in the upper North Island, get in touch with Maureen Coleman of the Thames Valley branch (see flyer below for full details).

### **Southern Lakes**

- April 23-26 (Anzac weekend), if you are in the Queenstown area, check out the Southern Lakes [website](#) for full details.

Sarah Cotching from the Bay of Plenty branch, who helped co-organise the National event, was interviewed by Rod&Rifle Magazine - the article is an excellent summary of what you're in for if you decide to register. To read the full article, click [here](#).

It's great to see the enthusiasm for women's hunting and NZDA fully supports this direction. Secure your spot on a local ladies trip today, as spots are limited!



IN ASSOCIATION WITH THAMES VALLEY BRANCH



# LADIES INTERBRANCH HUNT AT SIKA LODGE

Back by popular demand, a weekend of hunting, catered food, shared experience, new learning and great camaraderie.

Cost: \$25.00 food. \$30 p/night

**MAY 13-16 \* SIKA LODGE \* KAIMANAWAS**

TO REGISTER CONTACT: MAUREEN  
0273337786

[a.j.coleman@extra.co.nz](mailto:a.j.coleman@extra.co.nz)

## NZDA Heritage Trust's Historical Badge Hunt Continues...



A rare pre-1957 NZDA membership badge

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

The badge was 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 [museum@deerstalkers.org.nz](mailto:museum@deerstalkers.org.nz)

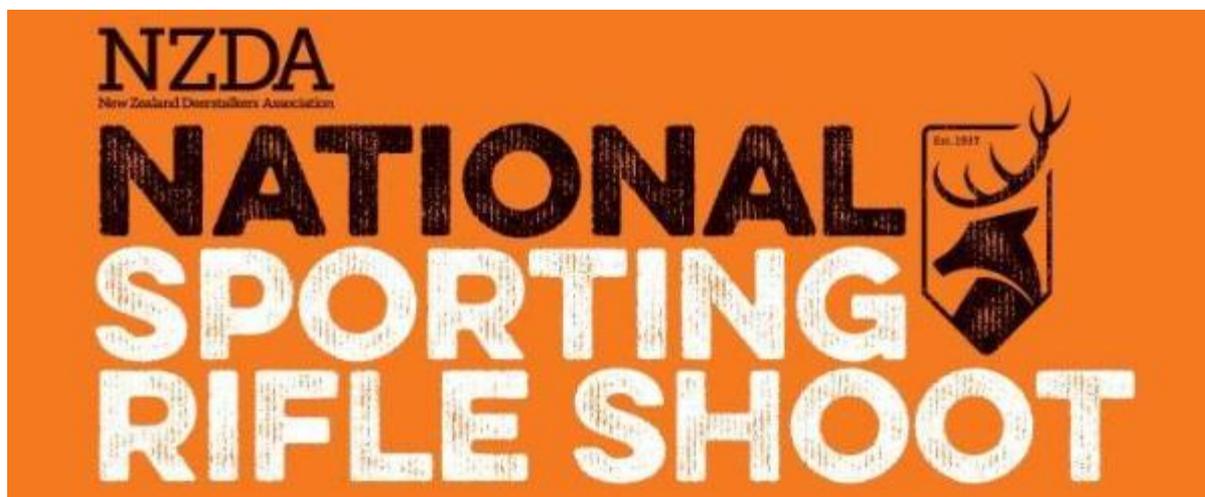
## @NZDA on Instagram and Facebook

In this section we showcase our members' content posted on social media so, for your chance to be featured, follow [@NZDANational](#) and [@nzdeerstalkersassociation](#) and just tag your photo to either of the pages.



Instagram - @nzdawaikato - 2021 Hunts Course

## Shooting Competitions



A great thanks to the shooters who supported the NZDA National Sporting Rifle Shoot event with your attendance.

We hope you enjoyed your days shooting and get use from the prizes that you were able to select from the products donated by our shoot sponsors.

Keep your eye out for similar format events that we intend to take to the regions.



Some images of the shooting event.

## 2021 Woodhill Fallow Deer Ballot Application Form

The South Kaipara Fallow Deer herd (the Woodhill herd) is the only recognized fallow deer herd north of Auckland, having been there for 105 years.

For anyone planning on hunting in the region, there will be a daily block fee of \$170 for the Ballot Holder and up to 2 companions on the block; and an application fee of \$20.

To apply, click [here](#).

## 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](mailto:reservations@scenichotelgroup.co.nz)



**Heartland**  
Hotel Fox Glacier

# Hunting for a GOOD DEAL?

**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](mailto: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 [online](#).

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 [Go Native World](http://Go Native World).

Visit [www.gonativeworld.com](http://www.gonativeworld.com) 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 [click here](#).

## 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 [membership@deerstalkers.org.nz](mailto:membership@deerstalkers.org.nz) to let us know.



[NZDA Facebook](#)



[NZDA Instagram](#)

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

[www.deerstalkers.org.nz](http://www.deerstalkers.org.nz)

ISSN 2744-5380

You are receiving this message because you have previously registered as a member of the NZDA.  
Please [click here to unsubscribe](#) if you no longer want to receive emails from us.