



NZDA

New Zealand Deerstalkers Association

OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

ISSN 2744-5380



Photo Credit: Marcus Minogue, Taupo branch, Scenic, 2021 National Photographic Competition

Swazi 'Refer a Friend' Promotion!!!

Sign up your mate to go in the draw to win!

If you refer a friend to NZDA and they join up between 1 October 2021 and 31 December 2021 you both go into the draw to win a [Swazi Tahr XP Anorak Jacket](#).

For many years the Tahr Anorak has been recognised around the world as the very height of excellence in wet weather jackets.

Swazi have recently upgraded the Tahr XP in Swazi's NEW Generation 4 Whisper Fabric.

Prize draw open to full NZDA membership types only upon joining (Senior, Junior, Student and Superannuant).

Swazi have supported NZDA kids shoots for years and we are super excited to collaborate with Davey and his team on this epic prize.



REFER A FRIEND MEMBERSHIP COMPETITION

SIGN UP TO NZDA BETWEEN
1ST OCTOBER & 31ST DECEMBER

**BOTH YOU AND YOUR FRIEND
WILL BE IN TO WIN A**

SWAZI TAHR ANORAK JACKET

OPEN TO FULL MEMBERSHIP TYPES ONLY

National Board Reports

Craig Benbow National President
Malvern branch



E: craig.benbow@deerstalkers.org.nz

Yet again it has been a busy month for many of us, me included, and with the grass growth taking off a lot of animals have been taken to fill freezers, with a benefit being hunters manage game animal numbers.

The appointment of our new HUNTS assessors and co-ordination staff is an exciting time for NZDA and our HUNTS program. Full details can be found further below in this newsletter.

I hope branches across New Zealand take advantage of the ability to get additional instructors qualified and delivering HUNTS courses to our many members keen to learn the skills to hunt successfully.

Our interactions with external organisations continues at pace. There is a lot going on in the firearms space with new safety initiatives being worked on, giving feedback to Police, range/club certification, and training of additional range officers being part of a swathe of work.

We are currently drafting a terms of reference for a new Firearms Sub-Committee that will provide opportunities for those with a keen interest to take part in overseeing and governing the way that NZDA manages our responsibilities to branches and members around implementation of the new regulations. Our range certification specialists should be thanked for being part of a new NZDA team that will ensure NZDA ranges are certified to Police imposed standards.

You may or may not be aware but, I chair the Backcountry Trust and recently the other NZDA representative on the trust, David Keen, stepped down from his role as a trustee. Dave has been a valuable member of the Backcountry Trust and his knowledge has assisted us on many occasions. I am pleased to announce that Gordon George has stepped into that vacant NZDA seat. Gordon's knowledge of the lower North Island and many other places he has been make him an ideal person to assist the trust as we continue to deliver maintenance and restoration of Backcountry hut facilities across New Zealand.

Dave was recently appointed to Vice Chair on the Tahr Foundation, so it doesn't look like he will get downtime soon!

The trust board and NZDA board wishes to thank Dave for his work, volunteer time, and commitment, and look forward to keeping in touch.

Keeping on the subject of the Backcountry Trust, I announced at the trust's Annual Board Meeting in August that I would be stepping down myself from all roles with Backcountry Trust at the 2022 AGM. I have been chair since the trust was formed in 2017. It is time a new leader took the reins to carry the trust forward. So, there will be a NZDA position on the trust that needs to be filled by a keen NZDA nominee. I am announcing this now in the hope we can get a suitable candidate identified and have them sit in on meetings before they step into the role in August 2022 alongside Gordon. We need someone with good governance skills, preferably some business experience or specific skills in management, and a really keen interest in delivering for all back country users and engaging new volunteers in the work we do. You will work along side representatives of FMC and Trail Fund. Expressions of interest can be made to me directly or to other board members.

Morgan Rogers North Island Rep

Hastings branch

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Spring flush is upon us and I have been freezer filling off the Kaweka clay pans, hunting Sambar, and introducing my boy Jack (7) to hunting.



I rate this time of year equal only to that of Autumn and this month I was lucky enough to be hosted by fellow board member, Alec McIver, and his wonderful wife, Wai, for a Sambar hunt. I secured a stag which will be hung proudly at home. What made this hunt special was the circumstances behind it and the spirit of the discussions we had. We struggled to find the time in a busy world, but we made the time. We discussed what mattered and re-centred our thoughts and took stock in what our purpose is. We enjoyed each other's company too. It was a great hunt not only for the trophy but also as a reminder of what we do and why we do it. It also inspired me to make time and take my boy hunting. Key message – *make time, as there is unlikely ever going to be "that gap" you are waiting for.*



Alec McIver (left) and Morgan Rogers (right) with Morgan's trophy Sambar.

On the 18th of September we held a national NZDA board meeting in Wellington. Whilst the meeting had some highlights regarding the increasing membership base, healthy looking financial performance, encouraging progress in cross pollination between kindred organisations and the news of a new branch forming in Alexandra, we also discussed volunteer and executive fatigue along with succession planning.

We as a board are excited to have revitalised and structured two new subcommittees, with a third in the pipeline.

The two established are:

- 1) National Access Committee (Chair appointed, members to be

appointed)

2) Game Animal Management Committee (Co-Chairs appointed, members appointed)

The third to be established soon:

3) Firearms and Range Committee (Terms of reference being drafted)

The purpose of establishing these subcommittees is an inclusive way for us to supercharge our efforts to achieve what's important for our members in areas identified in the NZDA business plan as essential areas of work.

These subcommittees are not intended to be heavy, taxing, slow moving, bureaucratic groups but more nimble, focussed, directive forums where subject matter experts can come together to share national initiatives, challenges and provide advice on decision making at an NZDA board level.

This should be viewed as an exciting opportunity for a larger group of our membership (and non-membership) to get involved in national policy in a light touch way and learn more about topics that affect us all, governance and decision making to support the pathway for a better future for us all as recreational hunters and firearms users in New Zealand.

This is also a great forum to get closer to the national office and provide some insights as to what we do and hopefully entice your interest in becoming national board members in the future.

Now is a significant turning point for us, we need your help to support us in ensuring our voice is heard loudly, clearly, respected as leaders in our field, and as one.



**Callum Sheridan North Island Rep
Auckland branch**

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The month of October has seen further progress within the NZDA with various work streams being completed and others starting.

As part of the Game Animal Management committee I have made contact

with some branches regarding a collaborative approach to goat control with DOC, so far we have put 10 branches forward to assist in this space. The idea being branches are to undertake goat control in specific conservation areas and report back to DOC or use already gathered information to identify problem areas.

If any branch is interested, please get in contact with me.

The GAM committee has fairly quickly identified a problem around accurate data on our wild animal numbers throughout the country (or lack of data, should I say), and we are currently working on a hunter kill return form to specifically gather data on big game species. The end result being a link available to hunters (not just NZDA members), the specific details are not yet firmed up and hunter engagement will be key. Implementation will not happen over night and it's important we get it right, so watch this space.

GAM's discussion with DOC and OSPRI on aerial poisoning is well underway and engagement is all round positive. A meeting with OSPRI went fairly well, finding out that all conservation land aerial poisoning operations they undertake has deer repellent included, my comment to them being "OSPRI is doing everything we want apart from not doing it".

DOC doesn't quite have the same policy, and as mentioned in my last report only 50,000 hectares are budgeted for deer repellent across all of their operations nationwide in 2022. This is in the hundreds of thousands of hectares, talks are going well and our main aim is to work with not against. The only way to achieve a realistic outcome is with compromise in my view.

During the past month I have been gathering CV's and cover letters for prospective range inspectors in the Auckland area. These inspectors will be trained to inspect ranges and pass on comment to the NZ Police for certification. Creating a pool of individuals who can inspect ranges for police certification is imperative to being able to keep our NZDA ranges open under new regulations, hence why I was more than happy to help gather information. We had good uptake in the Auckland area, so much so that there are not enough spaces for all applicants. We hope more training will be opened up for prospective inspectors in future.

A Word from our Chief Executive, Gwyn Thurlow

NZDA App Gets a Big Thumbs Up

The NZDA App now has 1,300 users.



We've received many positive comments from members saying that using the discounts already paid off their annual NZDA membership fees!!! And additional discounts will generate material cost savings and put money directly into the pockets of our members. This fact alone should put to bed the question 'what do I get out of being a NZDA member?', other than supporting hunting and shooting in New Zealand and being part of the best hunting club network in New Zealand!

Welcome to our New Members

I am proud to welcome on board all the new members and I welcome any feedback you have.

To existing members, if you see new faces at your clubrooms, events, or ranges, please introduce yourself and say hello.

If you are a new member please don't be shy, we're all hunters and shooters and being part of the NZDA gives you an opportunity to socialise with likeminded people.

Why not take advantage of the Swazi join a friend promo and help strengthen our voice?

Taranaki & North Taranaki Clubs Visit



This month I spoke to a packed out Taranaki and North Taranaki club night.

Earlier this month I visited and spoke with Taranaki and North Taranaki clubs. It was a great turn out of engaged hunters. I was hosted at the North Taranaki hall where a feast of venison was cooked and supplied to members and guests. The room was packed and I didn't leave until 11.30pm after many conversations with members.

It was a pleasure to explain what happens in my day-to-day role advocating for hunters and making sure NZDA's operations appear seamless.

The members of Taranaki are active and looking to establish a rifle range for the benefit of all shooters in the area and I felt a really positive mood in the atmosphere. I spoke to a couple of younger committee members who are really getting things going, so I encourage more of that.

I was hosted by members, Stephen and Mark Heath, whom I thank for their hospitality.

Woke NGOs, Councils and Government Agencies Block Hunting Access, Do Not Fund Game Animal Management, Mislead the Public, and are the Cause of Problems

It has been sad to see media publish reports this month of 'problem' big game animals. The Forest & Bird propaganda PR team are also in full swing. Deer have been labeled as pests and shown passing through urban areas or portrayed as the cause of altered bush near tracks (we all know recreational hunting is prohibited within 200m of public tracks).

These one-sided reports (no, NZDA wasn't contacted for comment) make out that deer are an out of control problem, with hunters being scapegoated. But what is really the issue here?

It's access. Simple access.

Hunters have been shut out of areas by "conservationists" who have then caused their own 'problem game animals'. These same people then bleat like feral goats when animals they haven't let be managed increase in numbers beyond the sustainable carrying capacity of the land.

NZDA has a Game and Game Management Policy and relevantly to this issue, the policy statements of NZDA are:

- NZDA and its members shall participate in the management of New Zealand's wild animals in numbers consistent with adequate conservation of water, soil and vegetation resources of their habitat on public land; and
- NZDA shall promote and secure on behalf of all New Zealanders, recreational hunting areas on public lands [sic].

When I first started as NZDA CEO I had a meeting with the highest level DOC officials, it didn't get any higher. We discussed openly that hunters were shut out. It was a known issue. We agreed to sort that, however, over a year later nothing seems to have been achieved. We have extended the tahr ballot and recently hunters were given access to some remote areas of Nelson Lakes National Park. What else has happened, nothing.

Earlier this year I wrote a detailed submission to the Wellington Regional Council regarding its parks plan consultation noting that hunters are excluded as a legitimate recreational activity from vast public lands in the region. I even presented in person to the councilors. The fact is, woke and poorly informed 'decisionmakers' are closing up areas to hunters. These locked out hunters would freely hunt game animals and keep a lid on

increasing game animal numbers. There would be a balance achieved, with win-win outcomes, resulting in happy hunters directly helping to manage game. All at no cost to the taxpayer or ratepayer (or the environment).

What happened from all my efforts? Sadly, not much. We seem to be ignored. We are given lip service. All the while the problem gets worse and NGOs like Forest & Bird get a platform to spurt hyperbolic statements and generalise that game animals are out of control when, in fact, it couldn't be farther from the truth. But it is the truth in areas where those same people 'manage' the land, as they have shut out "**unters*".

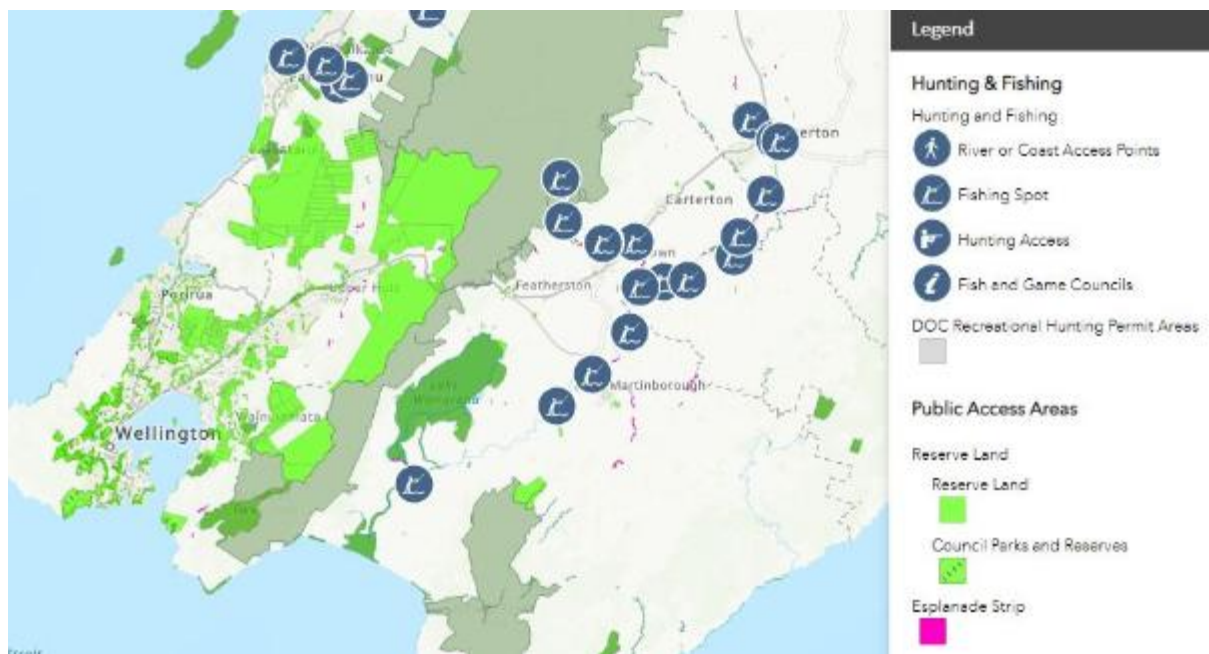
What's the answer? Start listening and respecting hunters. Start giving hunters access. Simple.

The map below of the Wellington region highlights council controlled land that is restricted for hunting. No surprises then that there are deer, goats and pigs walking down the streets of Lower Hutt.

Deerstalkers are here. We've made the offer to help. I wonder if the seat warming bureaucrats will accept the offer? We would even share some organic, free range, venison or pork sausages with them.

What's more, if Forest & Bird were doing their job right, they'd be advocating for the 250,000 firearms owners to get out every weekend and harvest big game. Forest & Bird should be calling for more hunters to have access. Instead you'll see them calling for poison operations and culling animals to waste from helicopters. Who has the moral and ethical high ground here? I know what I think.

This will be a developing issue. If hunters don't swing in behind NZDA, who advocates and operates in the interest of hunters across New Zealand, then we're soon to have a Deer-mageddon on our hands.



Spot the 'Hunting Access' symbols. The grey shading is the open hunting area, where DOC permits allow hunting. The green areas are locked up to hunting by Wellington Regional Council, with exceptions.

HUNTS Course and new HUNTS Staff

I've started my journey on HUNTS and took part in the sessions leading up to the hunting weekend - I'll do a trip report next newsletter. So far we have covered gear, bushcraft, firearms and marksmanship, as well as ethics, safety/emergencies, and first aid.

There are 16 trainees on the course from a range of backgrounds, with a diverse level of experience, but all new to hunting.

I've really enjoyed meeting people and sharing knowledge and experience.

It has been great to see friendships quickly develop.

My highlight was the water crossing session when we did full immersion training with packs on. It had snowed on the Tararua tops the day before so everyone felt what it was like to get truly cold and wet.

Taking people through such practical and 'on the ground' training puts them on a good footing for hunting in our backcountry.

More to come.



HUNTS UPDATE - Staff Appointed



Our new HUNTS staff have come onboard to enhance what our volunteers already do so well. The team are there to help branches, instructors and our future instructors with administration, program improvements, and increase the pool of volunteer instructors.

We are very excited to be working alongside the volunteers in order to boost the HUNTS programme and provide direct support where needed.

The new HUNTS staff team are meeting for the first time on the 1st and 2nd of November in Wellington to start building a plan for the future. We will soon be asking all our valued volunteers for input and advice on areas we can improve. We have three years to transform our HUNTS programme and the aim is to improve things in the same way that the National Association has done so in the past year.

Welcome new HUNTS Staff



**Erin Hewetson National HUNTS
Coordinator
Direct branch**

E: erin.hewetson@deerstalkers.org.nz

Erin will be working alongside Rob Howey, our volunteer National HUNTS Coordinator, and the office team in Wellington to coordinate our HUNTS programme. Some of you may have spoken to Erin over the last year as she has been working on all of the system improvements for our members.

"Growing up in rural Marlborough I was surrounded by hunting and the outdoors which have both had a huge influence on my life. I take every opportunity I can to be outside, whether it be hiking, swimming, camping

or my biggest passion - scuba diving."

"Many of you will know already that I have worked at the NZDA as assistant memberships officer for the past year so when this new role became available, I applied hoping to take on a new challenge."

"I'm excited to be working alongside highly knowledgeable and experienced outdoor leaders and hope that my individual perspective will contribute to the success of the HUNTS scheme moving forward."

**Tom McCowan National HUNTS
Assistant Coordinator & Iwi Liaison
Wellington branch**

E: tom.mccowan@deerstalkers.org.nz

Tom is a member of the Wellington branch where he is a committee member and club hunt organiser. Tom will assist Erin and Rob as well as engage with Iwi to bring hunter training to more people.



"I live in Wellington and have been a member of the Wellington Branch of the NZDA for the last five years, and now sit on the Wellington branch committee where I arrange branch hunting trips."

"I spend most of my time hunting in the local Tararua and Remutaka ranges, mixed in with Tahr and Chamois trips through the year, and I am equally obsessed with fishing and diving around the country."

"My professional background is in fisheries science and management, and I'm excited to now be involved in enhancing the HUNTS program for the NZDA."



**Pete Henderson HUNTS Assessor
(South Island)**

Southern Lakes branch

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Pete has been a member of the Southern Lakes branch for many years and been involved with HUNTS governance and course delivery for over 20 years as a volunteer.

"I've been a member of NZDA Southern Lakes for over 30 years; I was the 7th HUNTS instructor to gain the qualification in NZ and I've thoroughly enjoyed running the courses and helping those new to hunting learn new skills."

"Over the years I have been a firearms instructor and assessor with the Mountain Safety Council for about 20 years. For a similar period of time I was the search team leader for Wakatipu Land SAR."

"Currently I am a guide with my own concessions and business called ['Out There Southern Adventures'](#)."

"I'm looking forward to getting into this new role."

Mike Spray HUNTS Assessor (North Island)

Direct branch

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Mike lives in Mahia, Gisborne, and has extensive hunter training and firearms experience having formerly been involved with MSC and SSAA in Australia.

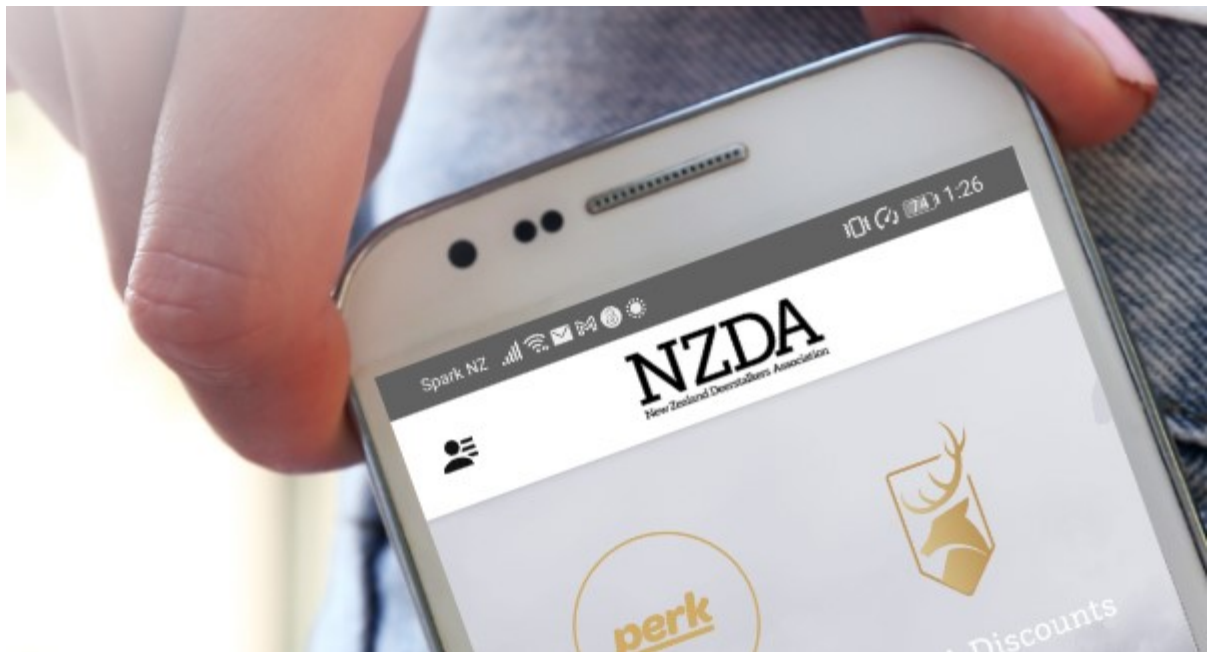


"The outdoors and hunting have been my passion since an early age, and I have been very fortunate to enjoy it as a career."

"A past MSC Programme Manager for Firearms and HUNTS, time working with the Game Council in NSW and SSAA in Victoria, I feel able to give the NZDA HUNTS programme commitment, skills and experience, not only for the various outdoor and HUNTS disciplines but the assessment and accreditation of Instructors."

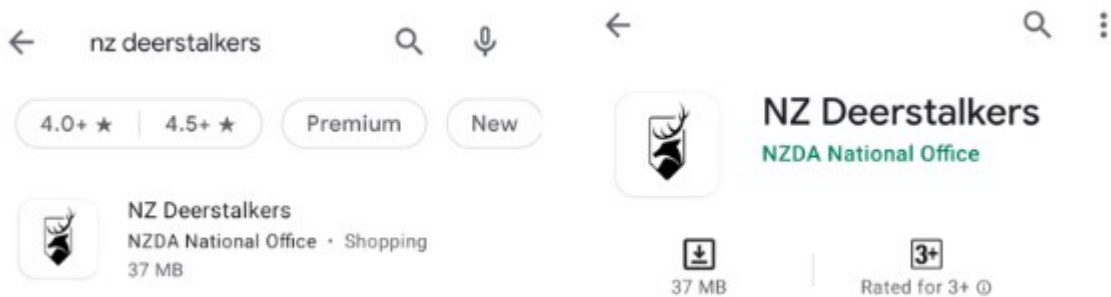
"In times of uncertainty and increasing regulation around firearms ownership and the freedom to hunt, I am so pleased NZDA has been given the funding and opportunity to progress HUNTS for the education of a new generation of hunters so that our pursuit remains lawful, ethical, and safe."

REMINDER: NZDA Memberships & Discounts App Live!



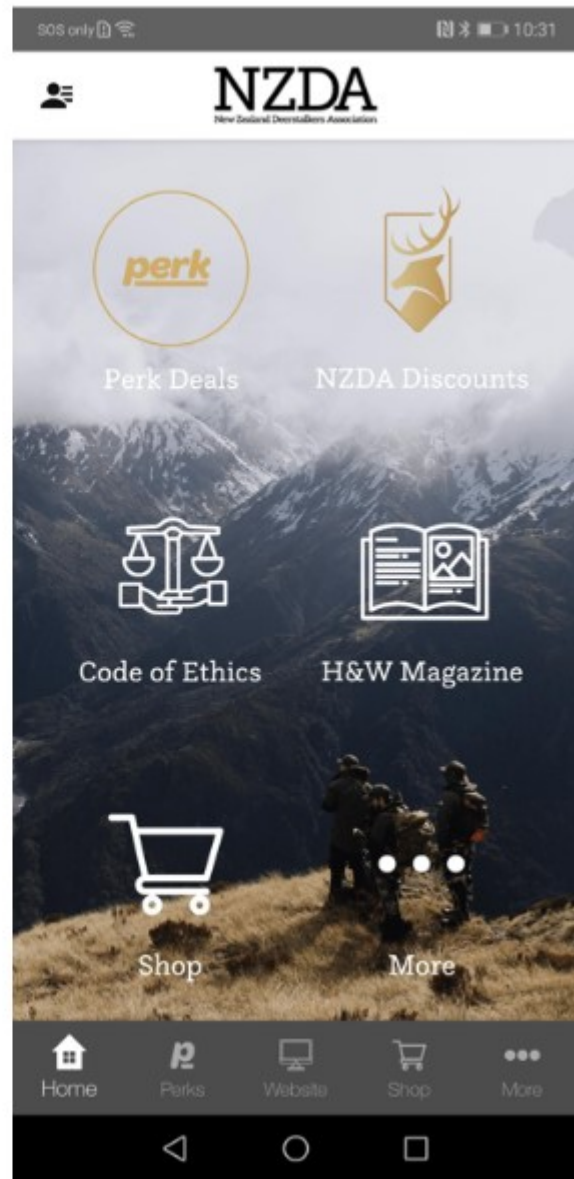
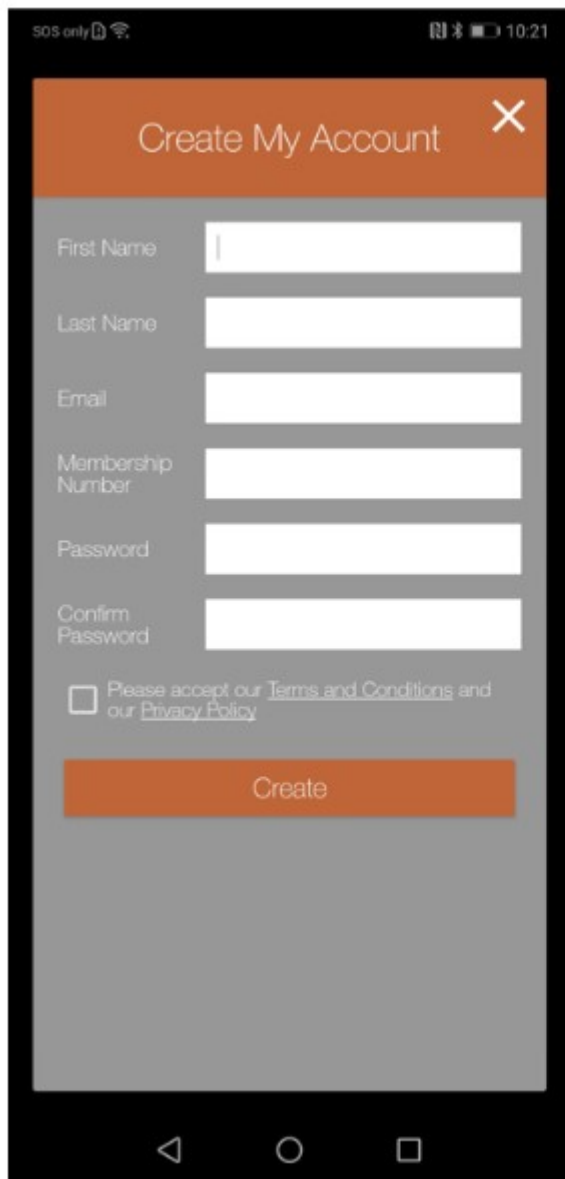
How to download the app

1) Go to Google play or the Apple store and search for **NZ Deerstalkers**. Select **Install** or **GET**.



2) Once installed, either open via the app or click open. Once in the app, you will need to register - Click **Register Here**.

3) Enter your membership details into the fields and click **Create**. You will then be able to access the App and the Member discounts. Enjoy!



Key Information

The app will only permit access to financial members.

- Please contact membership@deerstalkers.org.nz if you have any invoice or payment queries.

Your membership number is required when registering.

- The easiest way to locate this is by checking your NZDA issued membership card.

If you are a Bay of Plenty member, please place a hashtag before entering your membership number. For example:

- If your number is 12345, please enter this as **#12345**.

Where to download the app

The app is live now on both the Apple Store and the Android Google Play Store.

- If you have an Iphone or Apple device, use the App Store:



- If you have an Android device, use the Google Play Store:



Contact

If you are having trouble downloading or using the app, please email the Membership Manager.

Don't forget to quote your full name, branch and membership number when reaching out.

Niraj Patel

Memberships & IT Manager
membership@deerstalkers.org.nz



Photo: Greg Hill, North Canterbury branch, Section A, 2021 National Photographic Competition

In the News: NZDA Nelson help the hungry after deer cull



From left to right: Nelson Mayor Rachel Reese, Carina Jackson, Greg Couper (Branch President) and David Haynes. Photo supplied by Stuff.co.nz

The Nelson branch of the New Zealand Deerstalkers Association has given Kai Rescue more than 30kg of venison sausages and patties, which will be distributed to those in need of food.

Committee member David Haynes said the venison came from a managed hunt, which is sometimes done when a landowner wants animal numbers to be reduced to a manageable level.

Read the Stuff article [here](#).

Read also the Radio New Zealand article [here](#).



Zero Invasive Predators | Upcoming predator elimination in the South Ōkārīto area

South Ōkārīto is one of the first areas within the Predator Free South Westland project to be targeted for predator elimination.

Thanks to the wide support of the local community and Te Rūnanga o Makaawhio and through the generosity of a range of government and philanthropic funders, the Predator Free South Westland (PF South Westland) project is now well underway across a 100,000ha area in South Westland to permanently eliminate three predators—i.e. possums, rats and stoats—in order to restore nature and sustain local communities.

To read the full update, click [here](#).



South Ōkārito operational area of effect.

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 | Spring Issue 214

[Click here to read the Spring Edition!](#)

Printed Copies

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

The back issues of the magazine are also available for purchase.



Order your printed editions here!

In the News: Forest-munching pests colonised a third more conservation land in the past eight years



Click the photo above to watch the full video. Supplied by Stuff.co.nz

Early-morning walkers and runners in Blenheim thought they were dreaming when a deer ran past them on Thursday morning.

Forest-munching hooved animals have spread out and colonised almost a third more conservation land during the past eight years – just as the Government was beginning to realise pest control could boost carbon stocks.

"Feral deer, goats and pigs now roam 82 per cent of the conservation estate, up from 63 per cent in 2013, according to Department of Conservation (DOC) monitoring."

Click [here](#) to read the full article.



Media Statement | GAC's Response to Forest &

Bird Propaganda/Misleading Media Article

Valued introduced species require a modern management approach

Valued introduced game animal species including deer and wild pigs require a consistent and modern management approach that recognises both their environmental impacts and their value to our communities, says the Game Animal Council.

“Valued introduced species are an important part of the fabric of this country,” says Game Animal Council Chair Grant Dodson. “They are a part of the everyday lives of many New Zealanders and provide significant recreational, commercial and food gathering opportunities for our communities.”

“They do however, present environmental challenges, which is why the Game Animal Council is pushing for a much more consistent and enduring management strategy that gets away from the all-or-nothing, divisive and ultimately unsuccessful style of animal control practiced in the past.”

Click [here](#) to read the full release.

Looking After Our Game Animals – Game Animal Management Project

Being a hunter brings with it great reward, but also a high degree of responsibility. This not only means hunting safely and being properly trained in the safe use of firearms and the necessary backcountry skills, it also means looking after our game animal herds and the precious habitats they live in.

The Game Animal Council have developed a Management Project which is designed to help hunters make good game animal management decisions that will benefit both hunting and conservation.

NZDA is recognised as an influential stakeholder in New Zealand's hunting sector and the GAC have written expressly to seek NZDA's support for their recently launched hunter education resource.

To read the letter, click [here](#).

To read about GAC's management project, click [here](#).

LOOKING AFTER OUR GAME ANIMALS

HEALTHY ANIMALS REQUIRE A HEALTHY HABITAT

The health of the game animal habitat is the foundation of the hunting resource. A healthy habitat with quality feed produces quality animals. Too many animals have a negative impact on the habitat and the health of the herd.



HUNTERS AS CARETAKERS

By making the right choices as to what we harvest, hunters can manage our game animal herds, improve the hunting experience and help our native species thrive. In this way we can be caretakers of the game animal habitat.

IT'S QUALITY OVER QUANTITY

A male-focused harvest leads to a herd with a high proportion of breeding females.

A more female-focused harvest provides better herd balance with lower animal densities and a healthier habitat. This means higher quality animals and better hunting. This is a 'win-win' for hunting and conservation.



MEASURING OUR SUCCESS

Success is hunter-led game animal management that balances the desire to target trophy males with the need to harvest more females.

The benefits of good management are outstanding rut hunting, quality meat and young males being given the opportunity to mature. It also means a healthy forest and better outcomes for our native species.





Police do not know source of 82% of illegal firearms

Research has revealed that although Police claim that the source of illegal firearms is licensed firearm owners, it cannot find the source of 82% of the firearms it seizes - opening the possibility that they enter the country with drugs and other contraband.

The Council of Licenced Firearms Owners (COLFO) has written to Police Minister Poto Williams to advise that after two years' work it has discovered that the Police have insufficient evidence for claims that legal firearm owners are a major source of firearms to gangs and organised crime groups.

The revelation has undermined Police Commissioner Andrew Coster's recent claim that Operation Tauwhiro exists because "our biggest concern is firearms stolen out of the lawful fleet".

Click [here](#) to read the full report.

Media Statement 7th October | COLFO

Firearms licence extensions granted to those affected by COVID-19 delays

New Arms Act amendments enacted today gives extensions to existing firearms licence holders whose renewals have been delayed by this year's COVID-19 lockdown, says Minister of Police Poto Williams.

"This is a necessary regulation that supports firearms licence holders caught out by COVID-19 Alert Level changes and unable to progress their renewals during this time. This reflects similar enactments which followed the 2020 COVID-19 lockdown," said Poto Williams.

"The extensions only apply to licence holders who have already been through the Police firearms vetting process, so only to licence holders who Police are already aware of.

"I want to reiterate - it is illegal to possess, procure or use a firearm

without a valid licence. It is a privilege, not a right, to own or use a gun in this country."

Click [here](#) to read the full statement.



OSPRI have invited NZDA members to give our feedback on their 2022 National Aerial Operations plan for TBfree pest control operations.

The feedback document and details about how to make a submission [are available here](#).

The plan outlines the proposed aerial 1080 pest control operations in support of the National Pest Management Plan for 2022.

You will see in the submission form that OSPRI are asking for feedback on the boundaries, timing and nature of the proposed aerial operations.

The feedback period runs from 26 October 2021 to 26 November 2021 and there are a number of ways to make a submission, including an online submission form. If you would like to meet to discuss, please contact consultation@ospri.co.nz.

This will provide an opportunity for people and organisations interested in, or affected by OSPRI's pest control operations including landowners, farmers, hunters and recreational land users to discuss any concerns they may have regarding the proposed operations.

If you have any immediate questions or comments please contact consultation@ospri.co.nz. We encourage you to share this with relevant or other interested stakeholders.

Tahr Foundation - New Duke of Bedford Award Announced



The Tahr Foundation have announced the creation of a new trophy to be awarded at next year's Sika Show.

The Trophy will be known as the New Zealand Tahr Foundation Duke of Bedford award in honour of the then Duke, Herbrand Arthur Russell, who in 1904 graciously hand selected and presented the original tahr to New Zealand from his herd at Woburn Abby, Bedfordshire in England.

The primary focus of the Tahr Foundation in creating this new award is to encourage a more enlightened approach to the sport of trophy hunting. The competition is open to any bull 8 years of age and older.

To read more, click [here](#).

**Sika Show 2021 | POSTPONED | New Date
February 2022**

SIKA SHOW 2021 EXHIBITOR LIST

BIG GAME ARTISTRY	FIORDLAND WAPITI FOUNDATION	NEEDLE & NAIL	HUNTSMAN THERMAL OPTICS
WILDSIDE HUNTING	NZ TAHR FOUNDATION	RED STAG TIMBER HUNTERS CLUB	SUNSAVER
NZ AMMO	AJ PRODUCTIONS	ADVANCED ARCHERY	BERETTA NZ
SHOOTER READY	SCARY SHARP	FISH CITY - RECREATIONAL HOLDINGS	FERAL DESIGN
BLOODLINE GEAR	ARLINGTON ARMS	THE FOX'S TROUSERS	NZ GAME ANIMAL COUNCIL
RIVERS TO RANGES	WEKATECH - MOA STEALTH COVERS	HARD KORR LIGHTING	SKELETON OPTICS NZ
BULLIVANT TAXIDERM	ALPINE SPORTS - STRASSER RIFLES	CUNCITY	SOUTHERN APPROACH
SWAROVSKI OPTIK	HUNTING AND FISHING NZ	SABRE TACTICAL	DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
M2 OVERLAND	LOWA BOOTS	CHILLERMAN	BOB'S BILTONG
CUSTOM CARTRIDGES	HUNTECH	GLACIER SPORTS - GLACIER RIFLES	GAMECO NZ
HELI SIKA	ZEROPAK	PACMELO NZ	BIVOQUAC OUTDOORS
CLASS ART	CERBER	ADVANCED OPTICS	SAFARI CLUB INTERNATIONAL
STONEY CREEK	GARMIN	HIGH QUALITY MERCHANTS	GLYN FEME HUNTING
MIA GEAR	TRAEGER	CUNS NZ	NZ BAW HUNTERS SOCIETY
SIKA FOUNDATION	MOUNTAIN ADVENTURE	K-POW HOT SAUCE COMPANY	RUDOLPH OPTICS
HUNTERS AND HABITATS	TATONKA	ARB 4X4 ACCESSORIES	RESCUE COORDINATION CENTRE
MAUNGAHAU LODGE	JETWAY	GUN-TECH NZ	REFLECTION FOODS
PURE SALT	LED LENSER	NZ WOMAN'S HUNTING	HAMILLS TE AWAMUTU
WILD GEAR	LEUPOLD	LIT LE FALLOW	TARARUA WILD FOUNDATION
GOODWOOD PRODUCTS	YETI	TAKACAY NZ	LOCATOR BEACONS NZ
BACKLANZ	STYX MILL	CORALSEA SAFARI'S	SSSIX - NZ HUNTER GROUP
DELTA OPTICAL NZ	MSR	AUSTRALIA OUTBACK BUFFALO SAFARI'S	RATBAG JEWELLER
LEICA OPTICS	ZAMBEZIAN	PHITEN PERFORMANCE	MIGHTY MIX DOG FOOD
NGAMATEA HUNTING & FISHING	BACK COUNTRY FOODS	NIKI KNIVES	BATCH 10 - LIQUOR MERCHANTS
THE GEAR HUT	SPK NZ	HOGS & HINDS CLOTHING	EMCO
CAMERON OUTDOORS	PEAK PERFORMANCE	LEGEND HUNTING GEAR	WILD WEST WORCESTER
ROD AND RIFLE	NZ PIC HUNTING ASSOCIATION	HI TECH COMPOSITES	HUNTERS FOR CONSERVATION
EXPEDITION READY	PHONESCOPE NZ	STRICTLY OUTDOORS - XPLORA	ACT PARTY
NZ OUTDOOR MAGAZINE	TARGET DYNAMICS INTERNATIONAL	KAIWHAKANGAU	OSPRI
SMITH ATTACHMENTS	JPB FURLEY & CO	TRUE-FLITE NZ	BLUE DUCK STATION
PORONUI STATION	FOREVER HUNTRESS	MOUNTAIN HIGH CLOTHING	WHOLESAFE
MICKLACAARD NZ	FREE RANGE HUNTING NEW ZEALAND	HUNTAHR	WILD TINE
RIDGELINE CLOTHING	POLARIS	TE ANAU HELICOPTERS	WARFIGHTER ATHLETIC
OUTDOOR SPORTS NZ	KAWEKA OFF ROAD GEAR	KILWELL SPORTS	HUNTERS DIRECT
S. R. MARSTON & CO	BUSHBUCK	NZ DEER STALKERS ASSOCIATION	NATIONAL PARTY
RUAHINE PORTS	ZOE-BETH MILADA BRAKE - ART	NZ HUNTER MAGAZINE	
RURAL BUTCHER	UNJUSTIFIED RISK CLOTHING	COUNCIL OF LICENCED FIREARMS OWNERS	

Click the poster above to check out their website.



Department of
Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai



Photo: Snow Hewetson, Marlborough branch, 2021 National Photographic Competition

Tahr Update

Summer Hunting Opportunities and Control Operations Update

DOC have published some maps of bull tahr sightings. There are four new maps of the aerial control undertaken to date for the 2021/22 Operational Plan. These cover control undertaken in MU 2, MU 4 (Westland Tai Poutini and Aoraki Mt Cook National Parks) and MU 6. Previous maps from aerial surveys, control and observations remain available.

To view the maps, click [here](#).

Update on 2021/22 Tahr Control Operational Plan operations

Since July, aerial control operations have been undertaken in Management Units 2 (South Whitcombe/ Whataroa), 3 (Gammack/ Two Thumb), 4A (Westland Tai Poutini National Park), 4B (Aoraki Mt Cook National Park), 5 (Ben Ohau) and 6 (Landsborough).

The majority of planned aerial control for 2021/22 inside the Management Units is now complete. Some control work will still be occurring inside the feral range, outside Management Units (this will have concluded by mid-November).

No further aerial control will be conducted in MUs 2, 3, 4B, 5 or 6 under this annual Operational Plan (which runs through to 30 June 2022) and control within MU 4A will conclude by mid-November.

You can see all the details using the following [link](#).



Photo: Ivan Pavich, Waikato branch, 2021 National Photographic Competition

In the News: Where's All the Damn Ammo? Federal Premium's President Has Some Answers

This is a pretty wild time to be running an ammo company: There are an estimated [7 million new gun owners in the U.S. this year](#), consumers have been panic-buying rounds in everything from .22LR to .300 Win. Mag., and retailers [are backordered for months](#); plus, there's the global pandemic complicating supply chains and workers' safety.

Frustration over the ammo shortage has created some pretty fun conspiracy theories. These are probably the top three: 1) Companies are stockpiling their product to drive up demand; 2) Ammo plants have shutdown completely; 3) Ammo companies are in cahoots to stop selling to civilians and are now selling only to the military.

The reality behind the ammo shortage is a lot less provocative. After a few years of tough sledding, ammo companies now simply can't keep up with the unprecedented demand.

To read the full article, click [here](#).



Photo supplied by Outdoor Life.

Scoped Rifle North Island Championships 13th & 14th of November

Scoped Rifle North Island Championships

13th & 14th November 2021



NZDA
New Zealand Deerstalkers Association

Venue:

Tokoroa Shooting
Sports Complex
205 Newell Road
Tokoroa

Start Time

Range Opens:

8.30am - Saturday & Sunday

Briefing:

9.30am - Saturday & 9.00am - Sunday

Shooting:

9.45am - Saturday & 9.15am - Sunday

Refreshments:

Coffee & Tea provided



Enquires:

Malcolm Perry

M: 027 625 9608

E: mpmalcolmperry@gmail.com



All Welcome

Graded, All Equipment

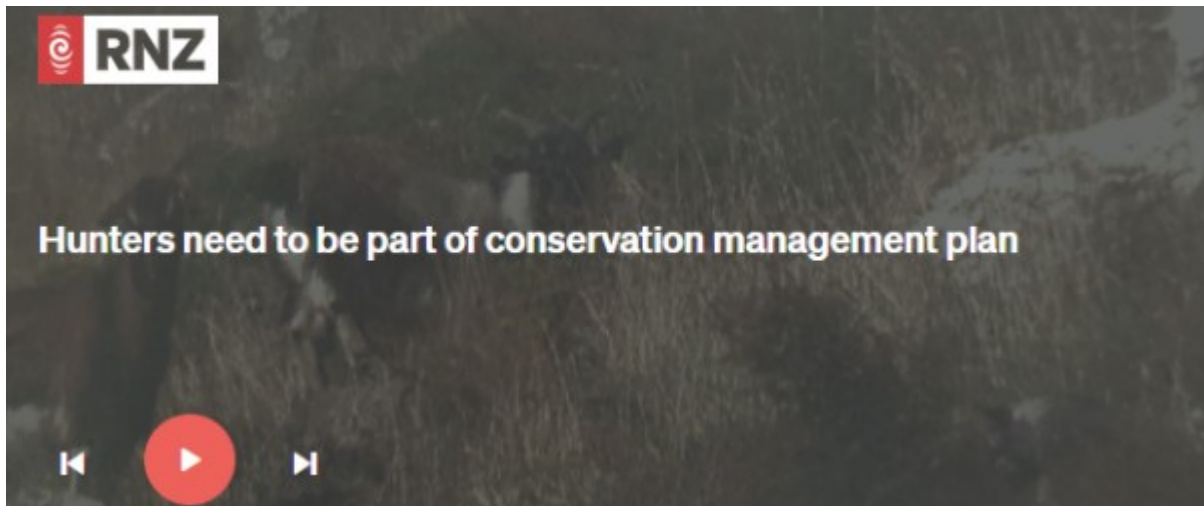
Hunter Class (Rifle must be a factory hunter style, trigger weight no lighter than 1.5 pounds, No scope restrictions, No target gear, eg shooting jacket, pants, shoes, gloves, etc.)

Registration:

Names to be with
Malcolm Perry
by Friday
5 November
2021

RNZ Midday Report | Radio Interview

Hunters need to be part of conservation management plan



Click [here](#) or the play button above to listen to the full report.

Hunters want to help protect the country's conservation estate, but say they need to be included in conversations about culling deer, pigs and goats.

Forest & Bird has created a series of maps from official data, showing virtually all conservation land on mainland New Zealand, and large areas of privately owned land, are under attack from herds of wild deer, pigs, or goats.

It says the feral animals are affecting important carbon sinks and the ecological integrity of native forests.

The Game Animal Council chair Grant Dodson told Māni Dunlop he agreed there were increasing numbers of these wild animals but says it's important that everyone - especially hunters - is part of the planning of a management plan.

In the News: Rifle Accidentally Fired while Hunters Prepare for Trip

The accidental discharge of a rifle in a Brightwater neighbourhood had the potential to cause "significant danger to property".

A 23 year old appeared before the Nelson District Court on Monday, where he pleaded guilty to a charge of discharging a firearm near a dwelling.

The incident happened on the afternoon of May 29 when preparing to head out on a hunting trip.

To read the full article, click [here](#).

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North Canterbury HUNTS Course Action





Follow the branch Instagram on [@northcanterburydeerstalkers](#)



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The NZ Mountain Safety Council presents a free app and website to support your next adventure.

Photo: Chris Smith



Scan the QR Code + try it out



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- + Customise your gearlist
- + Add your trip members
- + Save and edit later
- + Share with a trusted contact
- + Comment on how it went!



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