



# NZFFA May 2023 Newsletter

{name} - Welcome to Your Newsletter

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## Notice of AGM

NZFFA AGM will be held from 09:30 Sunday 25 June 2023 via electronic (Skype or other).

Due to limited bandwidth, we will only be sending invites to Executive and Affiliated Clubs.

Those invites will be sent out soon

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## Presidents Report for AGM June 2023

### Environment Court

The decision for the NZFFA to attend the Environment Court where the Environment Canterbury Regional Council (Ecan) is seeking a Declaration that Ecan is not accountable for monitoring and enforcing the Rakaia River NWCO 1988, as an interested party under S 274 of the Resource Management Act 1991, is the defining decision of the past year.

Four years ago the NZFFA decided to make water quality and quantity in the Canterbury Region the focus of the Federation's advocacy.

This was not a parochial decision, simply a recognition that this region has the most polluted and most over allocated freshwater of any region in New Zealand.

Ecan's poor decision making, inadequate regulations, monitoring and

enforcement provides lessons other regions of New Zealand can learn from.

Things have begun to unravel badly for Ecan;

- Wilco Terink's leaked report identified a lack of compliance with Rakaia River irrigation consents which Ecan appears unable to monitor and enforce
- Manawa Energy's (Trustpower's) attempt to store "virtual water" in Lake Coleridge for later sale to Central Plains Water has not been challenged by Ecan.
- Diffuse nitrate pollution of region's aquifers from intensive farming continues unchecked.
- The near extinction of Stokell's smelt from Canterbury's braided river mouths including the Rakaia River is a national embarrassment.
- The latest, (August 2020), NPS FM standards, (nitrate "bottom line" of 2.4 mg/L NO<sub>3</sub>-N), and the NPS NES standards, (winter grazing) have made Ecan's \$40 million Land and Water Regional Plan (LWRP) redundant.
- A damming MfE report on the pollution of the Ashburton Gorge Lakes "Lessons Learned" reflects poorly on Ecan's planning and policies.
- The Environment Defence League's (EDL) challenge of Ecan's non notified irrigation consents is before the Environment Court

It seems the legacy of the Environment Canterbury (Temporary Commissioners) and Improved Water Management Act 2010, (Ecan Act), including the non notified & non statutory Canterbury Water Management Strategy (CWMS) and a decade of government appointed commissioners is coming home to roost

Ecan's chief scientist's models, evasions, deceit, and deferrals, together with the "managed/politicized reporting" initiated by Ecan's senior managers has created a mess that Ecan no longer wants to acknowledge.

By seeking a Declaration that Ecan is not accountable for the region's NWCOS it appears Ecan is attempting to tidy a mess of its own making by distancing itself from the problem through a Declaration in the Environment Court

If any of the NWCOS across New Zealand are to continue to have any value in protecting outstanding waterways, it is essential that

Regional Councils such as Ecan are held to account.

### **This is a national issue!**

This will commit much of the Federation's reserves towards legal costs and will require further active fund raising.

David Haynes and other executive members have already made generous donations towards these costs.

David has been central to driving this case and interaction with James Gardner-Hopkins and his legal team.

The NZFFA and NZ Salmon Anglers are both working to support Fish & Game as interested parties. The NZFFA and NZ Salmon Anglers may have to combine forces to defray expenses, but both of us feel it is important to remain independent of F&G.

This is an important project to see through for the sake of all New Zealand anglers.

### **A resignation**

Sadly Rex Gibson has advised the NZFFA that his health is not improving and as a result wishes to be removed from the executive. Rex had expressed an interest in becoming the next president before his health problems arose.

We wish him all the best.

### **Standing for Ecan**

As you are aware, I was a candidate in the local body elections in October 2022 standing for Ecan in the Selwyn/Ashburton seat as a representative of the NZFFA.

While unsuccessful, I managed over 11,000 votes in a strong farming ward heavily dependent on irrigation.

The money spent on my campaign certainly raised awareness of water quality issues in the wider community, (and some ire from the farmers).

An interesting experience standing on a very divisive ticket.

I was rebuffed at the meet the candidates meeting in my home town of Ashburton, but received strong support from others at meetings in Rolleston, Lincoln and Darfield.

Overall a good way of getting out our message that the pollution of Canterbury's freshwater is unacceptable.

Thank you to Steve Gerard and David for supporting my campaign.

### **Nitrate testing**

I have continued with my monthly nitrate sampling of the Selwyn Water Zone.

David has the results presented in a google docs spreadsheet.

A wet spring, summer, and autumn in Canterbury has seen higher flows in the Selwyn River resulting in lower nitrate levels due to dilution from rainfall and the aquifer recharge in place in the upper reaches of this river.

The set of drains along Chamberlains Road below the land sprayed with treated sewage water from The Pines treatment station at Rolleston continue to have very high nitrate levels as does Harts Creek and the well at the Ellesmere Golf Club.

Housing development around Lincoln, Springston and Hallswell is keeping the nitrate levels in the LII and Hallswell rivers above the NPS FM "bottom line" of 2.4 mg/L NO<sub>3</sub>-N despite limited farming activity.

Vicky Southward, an Ecan councillor has expressed an interest in contracting me to do some water testing for one of the water zones. We did less testing last year. Some for Ecan in South Canterbury with councillor Elizabeth McKenzie, who did not get re-elected, and a repeat test day for Springston South.

David Haynes had a stand testing water at the Nelson A&P Show.

### **Office bearers.**

For some time I have signalled that I will not be standing for re-election as president.

I have had an interesting and rewarding four years, but I want to step back and enjoy time with my young son who has the makings of a keen angler and hunter.

I will of course be around as the immediate past president and will

see out the Environment Court Declaration.

David Haynes has worked hard with Andi to organise our membership lists and other necessary administrative tasks. Thank you both Andi and David.

David may want a hand with his treasurer and secretarial duties.

Anyone interested please attend the AGM and let us know.

A special thanks to Andi Cockroft who compiled a Federation newsletter most months and does sterling work with NZFFA's website and Facebook.

## **The Future**

There is a very real need for an independent advocacy body fighting for freshwater and angler interests.

It has become clear to me that the NZFFA is needed for its freedom to speak without regard to political pressures from the Ministry of Conservation and others.

We need young blood of both genders as anglers and executive if we are to continue in this role.

Peter Trolove

President

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## **Nitrate Testing Selwyn District 25 May 2023**



Coopers Lagoon May 2003

**N03-N mg/L**

Rakaia bach tap	0.64	0.57	0.62	0.61
Jollies Brook	1.43	1.24	0.89	0.92
Coopers Lagoon	2.34	2.41	2.47	2.4
Taumutu stream	4.65	4.26	6.82	7.78
Harts Creek	7.96	8.54	8.81	9.0
Leeston Domain	630	690	1520	670

**mg/m3**

Tramway Res. Rd	0.67	1.05	1.27	2.09
Drain Rd	0.48	0.93	2.36	2.91
Hanmer Drain	1.54	1.42	1.71	1.78
Irwell River	0.81	0.78	1.29	1.58
Coe's Ford	6.61	6.03	5.00	6.96
Powells Rd A	4.62	5.63	6.68	7.75
Powells Rd B	6.99	5.47	6.13	6.47
LII River	3.90	4.2	3.84	3.83
Hallswell River	2.45	2.21	2.58	2.79
Lincoln Wetland	1.59	1.94	3.30	3.45
Liffey Spring	4.03	3.74	3.68	3.86
Goulds Road	4.93	6.21	7.22	7.40
Preen	6.89	7.39	7.88	7.87

Nautilus	6.43	7.42	7.75	7.78
Mid Chamberlain	7.12	9.73	9.89	9.85
Swamp Rd Cnr	6.70	8.30	9.16	9.31
Chamberlain's Fd	6.87	6.0	4.72	7.14
Birdling's Brook	8.43	7.59	7.55	9.23
Ellesmere Golf C.	12.5	12.3	12.2	12.3

## Comment

The Selwyn and some drains are higher than usual due to recent rain

Both the LII and Hallswell Rivers are still giving high nitrate results for those rivers.

Hart's Creek nitrate result remains high

Nitrate levels in the shallow well at the Ellesmere Golf Club continues to exceed the MAV for drinking water



Photo shows "high" flow in Drain Road drain.



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## Trout Fishing - Once Hooked, There's No Escaping!

by Tony Orman

All sorts of people go trout fishing. Among them have been or are the famous. Among New Zealanders, property developer Bob Jones, golfer Greg Turner and his brother, noted poet Brian Turner, Kiri te Kanawa, Sam Neill and quite a few others. In the past US crooner Bing Crosby secretly slipped into New Zealand year after year to go trout fishing while world leaders from US presidents Jimmy Carter and Dwight Eisenhower have been avid fly fishermen.

British royalty have fished New Zealand rivers such as the Tongariro River while sporting legends such as golfer Jack Nicklaus have fished South Island rivers. Hollywood actors not infrequently, are keen trout fishermen.

In New Zealand anyone can go trout fishing as long as the annual licence fee is paid, unlike other countries where a fee for the right to fish is often paid to landowners adjoining rivers. It is truly a public sport.

The public ownership of New Zealand fish and game sport is no accident. Such a system was set in place by the early European settlers who sought to escape the feudal structure of the UK where the best fishing by dint of income and wealth, is the preserve of those who can afford the high fishing-shooting-hunting rights charges and access fees.

New Zealanders have guarded and cherished this unique egalitarian foundation and principle for over a century. It's written into law that thou shalt not charge for the right to fish for trout.

Summer is the favoured time for trout fishing, outside of the Rotorua-Taupo areas, where trout fishing during the cooler months is often better.

Why do people fish? Is it a form of escaping from work and business stress?



Undoubtedly it is a therapy - a way to unwind and relax. It's about physical exercise, being outdoors, going with the flow and "just being there." I picked up a fridge magnet on a visit to Alaska and its words capture to a good degree about just being there on the river.

Titled "Advice from a River", it ran "go with the flow, go around obstacles, slow down and meander, stay current - the beauty is in the journey."

Then again, I've always liked the reasons given in US novelist Robert Traver's writings. He wrote in "Trout Magic" in 1974:-

***"I fish because I love to; because I love the environs where trout are found, which are invariably beautiful and hate the environs where crowds of people are found, which are invariably ugly; because of all the television commercials, cocktail parties and assorted social posturing I thus escape; because in a world where most men seem to spend their lives doing things they hate, my fishing is at once an endless source of delight, and an act of small rebellion....."***

***Because fish do not lie or cheat and cannot be bought or bribed or impressed by power but respond only to quietude, humility and patience; because I suspect that men are going along this way for the last time and I for one, don't want to waste the trip; because mercifully there are no telephones on trout waters; because only in the woods can I find solitude without loneliness, because bourbon out of an old tin cup always tastes better out there; because one day I will catch a mermaid; and finally not because I regard fishing as being so terribly important but because I suspect that so many of the other concerns of men are equally unimportant --- and not nearly so much fun."***

One beauty about trout fishing is that it is a lifelong sport. Youngsters can fish as soon as they can walk and run. And I knew of one fly fisher in Nelson who at 97 years of age, went to his beloved stretch on the Motueka River to fish.

Women are often especially skilled fly fishers for trout with their finesse and delicacy.

So if you haven't trout fished but have always wondered about it, contact your local fish and game office or community information office to see if there's a local trout fishing club.

That's the best way to learn. Rub shoulders and go fishing with a "gun". And there's a multitude of trout fishing books to pore over.

And trout fishing need not be an expensive sport. You can buy fly rods costing over \$1,000 but it's not vital to enjoying the sport. Some years ago I knew a very successful fly fisher who used a rod made by Rotorua's Kilwell rod makers that was marketed as a boy's rod. It was an inexpensive blue fibre glass rod called the Robin Hood. Now Jim fished with that season after season, taking 300 to 400 trout from Nelson Rivers until one day it broke in two while he was battling a big brown trout on the Buller River!

While there's winter fishing, the next full trout fishing season starts on October 1.



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## Begging Notice - Part Tres



To those who have already made a contribution to our cause, out gratitude - Thank You, Thank You, Thank You!

NZFFA still needs ongoing funds to help us with our ongoing representations on your behalf.

Legal fees are never going to be cheap, and there are several issues needing our immediate attention.

Anything you can do to assist would be so much appreciated - either a one-off or a regular monthly contribution.

See here at <https://nzffa.com/all-donations-gratefully-received/>

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## Is Trout Fishing Declining?

by Tony Orman

**Previously published in “NZ Trout Fisher” Winter 2023 issue.**

As an angler and hunter and an observer on rivers and in the backcountry, even around town and even in the garden, I have noticed disturbing trends of declines in many species. Examples are insects, kingfishers, shining cuckoos. In the absence of scientific studies, it's called anecdotal.

Trout and rivers are just one part of the bigger picture, i.e. the total ecosystem. This article is not meant to be unduly pessimistic. It's intended to be a wakeup call to trout fishers to shed their apathy, to maintain and enhance the resource of rivers and trout and arrest the decline and reverse it.

Frankly it's a wake-up call to the "authorities" too - Fish and Game, the Department of Conservation, regional councils, government and cabinet ministers and a few others to boot.

It needs examination, thought, open minds and discussion and a will to rectify the situation.

Nevertheless, there is no one silver bullet that will fix it, which frankly is why nobody has. The solution is bigger than anglers. Bigger than Fish and Game. Bigger than agriculture, bigger than towns. It needs system changes, cultural changes within government, government administrations and even Fish and Game, the latter with a bigger vision and stronger advocacy.

I set about writing a discussion paper for the Marlborough Freshwater Anglers Club. The more I researched and delved deeper the more I unearthed. I imagined the paper might be a thousand or so words. It ballooned out to well over 10,000. Here is just a small segment.

One should be wary in jumping to conclusions that may be hasty. I have to admit I do less trout fishing than say ten years ago as I have discovered saltwater fly fishing for kahawai to be a diversion from trout. But in recent seasons, the Wairau River has been more and more disappointing. A classic chalk stream Spring Creek several kilometres north of Blenheim, holds far, far less fish

than thirty years ago. The Goulter, once a magnificent stream is a mere shadow of its former quality of the 1970s and 1980s.

I remember about 1991 after a 20 year absence returning to a Wairau tributary Top Valley Stream and being dismayed at the reduced flow compared to 1970, the result of the valley now a monoculture of pines. Those pines have grown since, their water intake has exploded upwards.

In April last year when I visited, I was shocked to see the stream, once an important spawning stream and an excellent fly fishing water especially before Christmas, was bone-dry a couple of kilometres upstream from the road bridge.

Once it flowed all year round. I caught trout in the 1970s that were 2-3 kgs and a friend Geoff took a splendid double figure brown trout. But that was years ago, not today.

The decline is stark and the outlook bleak.

### **Generational amnesia**

In getting the dire situation over to much younger anglers, there's a hindrance in communication encountered.

The problem in convincing many, especially younger folk, is "*generational amnesia*" a term used by Mark Feldman in an excellent letter in 2017 to a national fishing publication. Mark wrote that the term describes the tendency for each generation to "forget" or depending on age, be not even born and therefore unaware of the experience of the generation that went before. Younger trout fishers, perhaps not even born in 1980 - 40 year olds now - just do not understand and realise the quality that once was there - and more importantly that it no longer exists.

I'm not alone in my concern. And some, far better qualified than myself, have expressed their alarm.

Twenty years ago, Wayne McCallum, North Canterbury Fish and Game's Environment Officer, wrote in the November 2000 issue of the magazine "Southern Fishing and Boating" about lowland trout rivers and said that "on careful study, there appears to be more than a problem. Rather the evidence points to a wholesale crisis."

Wayne McCallum's expert views received little or no comment. The impression was that Fish and Game and North Canterbury in particular, did not want to know about it.

There was "a state of denial"

Wayne McCallum obviously felt the same. He wrote "perhaps the biggest factor in causing frustration is the failure to acknowledge the existence of a crisis at all."

Predictably Wayne no longer works for Fish and Game and at a guess probably left out of frustration.

## Maruia River

Several years ago, Bud, a friend and experienced fly fisherman, who had made regular annual trips over 43 years from the Wairarapa to the Maruia River in the Lewis Pass area of the South Island, reflected on his 2013 trip as his “worst ever” of 43 years. He meticulously kept a diary of his 43 annual fishing trips to the Maruia.

On his visit in late January, 2013, Bud caught his 424th (“catch and release”) trout. He had annually fished the Maruia for over 43 years - he was well acquainted with the river.

Bud’s assessment of the 2013 visit as “the worst fishing trip” he’d had in 40 years to the Maruia was based on in his words “fewest trout seen, in spite of the number of hours of hard work and in perfect conditions of clear sky, full sun, no wind, clear water and perfect water level”

Bud’s diary recorded this decline in fish numbers with extensive notes of falling numbers beginning Feb. 7, 2006 and the same comments of decline every year to 2013. Bud went on to say in his letter,

*“in 2013, it was such wonderful weather and easy casting and because wading/crossing was easier it was very pleasant. But it became clear that I was fishing water that once held numerous fish 20,30 and 40 years ago, now held very few.”*

*“In all, my latest visit was characterised by glorious weather and beautiful water – but no fish. I bring this to your attention because in my home region in north Wairarapa, I have seen the same trend of declining trout numbers.”*

And on the “state of self denial” Bud told the Nelson Marlborough Fish and Game Council that “It seems to me to be wrong – and dishonest – for fish and game councils claiming the best fishing for years as some councils do. I understand selling licences has a need for income but that should not obscure the reality of the decline in trout numbers in many rivers. The Maruia seems yet another example of diminishing trout stocks.”

The reaction from the then Nelson-Marlborough Fish and Game was virtual silence. His letter was politely fobbed off.

Isn’t silence really denial?

## Crisis Undeniable

But Bud back then saw the situation as a crisis – needing attention and with questions that urgently need answering.

What are the causes?

Increased dairy farming further up the valley? The use of agricultural chemicals and leaching? Pesticides such as DEW 600 applied for grass grub and known to be lethal to aquatic life? Extensive and successive aerial dropping of 1080 poison for an imagined possum pest? Had Fish and

Game researched changes of bottom fauna and water chemistry changes with this intensive dairy farming or increased 1080? So many questions!

Bud said the answer to NZ rivers would not be found by denying the decline.

“It’s up to Fish and Game to find it out,” Bud said at the time.

And then he candidly added “otherwise Fish and Game is negligent, the fishery declines and Fish and Game’s income, i.e. licence money, will dry up.”

My assessment is that to some degree, the outlook of Nelson Marlborough Fish and Game has changed since Bud wrote his letter six years ago. With a change in managership, Nelson Marlborough Fish and Game are now more alert and concerned. The evidence is showing up in drift dive surveys.

But what a pity the concern nationally was not shown over two decades ago when Fish and Game scientist Wayne McCallum sounded a loud public warning.

It must be born in mind that rivers or any ecosystem invariably undergoes cyclic changes. In the case of the Motueka River which I lived near for a decade, the cycle appeared to be four years, at one extreme numerous trout of a kilogram or slightly above and at the other extreme, fewer but larger individual fish. However Bud Jones’ diary over four decades shows an uninterrupted and undeniable decline.

It’s not only trout but koura and eels too. The whole freshwater ecosystem is under threat. Which invites the question, where is the Department of Conservation in advocacy for clean, flowing waterways which after all are the habitat of native fish?

Instead DOC has at times blamed trout as predators as the reason for declining native fish species instead of recognising habitat is the all-important issue.

## **Habitat**

Habitat is undoubtedly a key.

Trout habitat comprises the three requirements of environment (quality and quantity of flow), cover and food.

What seems unappreciated by local councils is that river flows and the aquifer, i.e. total water resource, is finite. Yet councils are still issuing consents for water takes. For example in Marlborough, the rapidly growing monoculture of vineyards in Marlborough is swamping valley floors. And pine forests for commercial forestry and the ludicrous carbon farming using pines is proceeding apace on hills and with central government’s encouragement.

Then there is the vexed question of agricultural and horticultural sprays such as diazinon for grass grub.

In 2011, the EU implemented a ban on its use.

The US National Pesticide Information Centre (Oregon State University) says “studies investigating the toxicity of diazinon to freshwater fish have found diazinon to be moderately to highly toxic to freshwater fish on an acute basis”.

Environment Canterbury (ECan) reportedly sprays rivers beds annually with Glyphosate a broad-spectrum systemic herbicide and crop desiccant and an organophosphorus compound, with inevitable damage to the soil structure, invertebrates and indeed the whole ecology.

## **Nitrates**

Great research work in recent years by the NZ Federation of Freshwater Anglers led by president Dr Peter Trolove has shown alarming levels of nitrates in Canterbury rivers. High nitrate levels are toxic to aquatic life, whether trout, young salmon returning downstream or native fish.

Again where is the Department of Conservation?

Nitrates are not only a health risk to fish and aquatic life but to humans where a Danish study of 2.7 million people revealed direct links with colorectal cancer. Canterbury and Southland - both with intensive dairying areas - have exceptionally high - world leading - colorectal (lower bowel) cancer rates. Nitrate leaching and run-off are directly linked to intensive dairying.

## **Forestry**

Foreign corporates own some 80% of New Zealand's forest industry. More recent data is incomplete but foreign ownership appears to have further increased with government actively giving incentives to overseas investors to buy up large in New Zealand for carbon farming.

Clear felling of commercial lumber forests exposes whole catchments to any rains and subsequent runoff of silt and debris into streams, rivers and ultimately estuarine areas. Recent studies of the Marlborough Sounds revealed alarming levels of sedimentation - metres deep - with adverse effects on inshore ecosystems and fish numbers.

The same sedimentation occurs in streams and rivers when forests are clear-felled, smothering bottom fauna invertebrates and degrading trout and salmon spawning areas.

Sources point to one detrimental aspect being acidification. The pH level (degree of acidity) is important to both bottom fauna and subsequently trout. Alkaline streams support more abundant invertebrates. If the pH drops below 5.5 (increased acidity) then invertebrates are fewer and long term damage to the fishery, both native and trout, occurs.

According to another Google source, the basic rule for drinking pine is 10 gallons of water for every single inch of tree diameter. That means a 12-inch (30 cms) plant will absorb nearly 120 gallons of water. There are also records that average pine trees can absorb up to 150 gallons of water a day when there is unlimited water. One healthy 30 metre-tall tree can take 11,000 gallons of water from the soil in a single growing season. Think of thousands of trees in a commercial planting and the huge water extraction becomes obvious.

Another source says a pine tree uses 85 litres of water a day whereas a native tree, dependent on species, uses considerably less. Water from a pine forest with a “bare” pine needle forest floor has quicker runoff compared to a typical native forest area with shade-loving undergrowth. In a few words, native forest has a higher water retention factor leading to full and more consistent stream flows.

Anecdotal evidence points to streams much reduced in flow once monocultures of pines have been established. For example, long-time residents in the Marlborough Sounds have observed the same diminished flow after extensive monocultures of pine forests were established. I observed it in the Wairau Valley’s Northbank area on tributary streams like Top Valley as I related earlier.

Fish and Game should be advocating for:-

(a) Better harvesting regimes (as practised in Europe) should be implemented, i.e. (two cuts contour wise, 12 months apart be mandatory)

(b) Local council zoning of land should avoid extensive commercial forestry monocultures.

(c) Buffer zones (50 or more metres - perhaps 100m?) should be mandatory along all rivers and streams.

Marlborough has developed a monoculture of pine plantations and again this is expanding. Political factors such as government’s short sighted “one billion trees” /carbon farming programme will intensify the monoculture. In early summer clouds of pollen can be seen. This has adverse health consequences for many humans; does it have health consequences for the ecosystem and in particular freshwater ecosystems?

### **What can you do?**

Become an active advocate. As a foundation member off the NZ Federation of Freshwater Anglers and a life member, I get frustrated with the apathy. Too often the Federation has to implore anglers to stand for the executive. In the case of Fish and Game regions, cases occur where there’s not enough nominations to fill the required council seats.

I get frustrated with professional fishing guides who after all, make money - profit - from the resource. Only one or two have shown interest to stand for the Federation’s executive. One or two others are like “one night stands”, here with a brief flirtation and then gone.

I get frustrated with a collection of fine writers who might pen magazine articles and have written books but who have never publicly advocated for the resource of clean healthy rivers.

It needs not just one or two who poke their head above the parapet.

It needs an army of anglers to shed their apathy, writers to put their egos aside and to collectively crusade on behalf of water, rivers and trout and salmon.



And don't be afraid of politics because most of the threats are political in origin - it's simply "cause and effect," as my deerstalking, dry fly and political mentor the late John Henderson used to say.

**Footnote;** "NZ Trout Fisher" is a quarterly magazine that deserves the support of every trout angler. You can subscribe direct for NZ \$36.

Contact editor/publisher Peter Storey at <[peter@nztroutfisher.co.nz](mailto:peter@nztroutfisher.co.nz)>

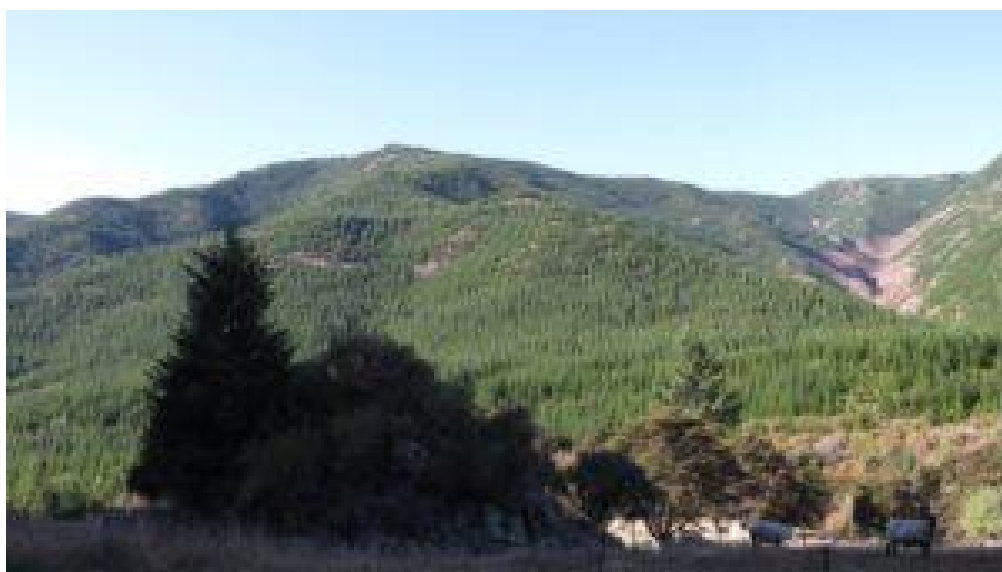
The latest issue has a fine article "Confessions of a Salmon Angler" by NZFFA executive member Larry Burke plus articles on shore line wading, downstream fly lure on the Tongariro, a backcountry fishing tale, another by Serena McDonald "Beginning of a Journey", Christchurch's Avon River,, regular columnist Mel Hollis and more.



Marlborough's Top Valley Stream that once strongly flowed all year round is now dry in mid-summer. It was a major trout spawning tributary and an excellent summer season quality trout stream.



Kingfishers have declined in Marlborough. Is it symptomatic of an ailing overall environment?



Pine tree planting are rapidly taking over productive sheep and beef farms, Waihopai valley, Marlborough



Top Valley was a year round flow and with good 2-3 kg brownies especially early season



## Want Free Advertising for 3 Months?

*(we already have takers)*

As part of a trial, NZFFA Members, Supporters and allied Suppliers can advertise for free in both the newsletter and on our website for a period of 3 months.

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Charges will vary according to size and position etc.

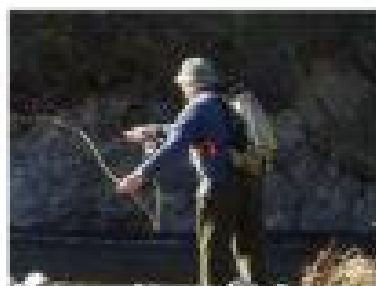
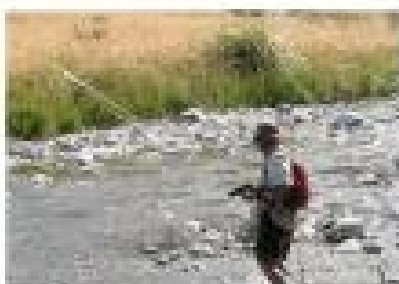
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Quilted Fleece sleeping bag liner with zip. This quilted sleeping bag liner can be used as a spare blanket on a bed, in your sleeping bag for extra warmth, or as a wall hanging in your fishing hut, bedroom, lounge, or where ever you fancy it to be. It could also be used as a summer sleeping bag if you are camping by the riverside. For its lifetime it has been a wall hanging, it has not ever been used as a single sleeping bag liner or double bedspread/blanket when unzipped. It also comes with two pillow slips. The quilt is 180cm x 180cm / x 5'11". Zipped up, it is half the width. It is a single sleeping bag liner with the quilting sewn on to the outer side.





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*Members Advertisement:*

### **RUAKITURI CABIN**

Want an idyllic fishing getaway location?



**THE CABIN:** The cabin is fully self-contained and has electric power. 2 bunks and a single bed. (all bed linen; blankets, sheets, towels etc supplied).

Fridge with small freezer compartment, Microwave, Electric jug, Toaster, Small Electric Stove with 2 hot plates and oven. All cooking and eating utensils. There is an outside open fire and outdoor cooking equipment, for those who

like this style of cooking. Most women like to try this.

There is a separate wash-room, an outdoor solar shower bay and an outside toilet (keys kept in cabin).

There is also a large outside sink bench with cold water on tap to wash dishes etc.

*PS, new flush toilet now installed*

Full brochure at

[https://nzffa.com/downloads/advertisements/RUAKITURI\\_CABIN\\_INQUIRY.pdf](https://nzffa.com/downloads/advertisements/RUAKITURI_CABIN_INQUIRY.pdf)

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## Postings From the Website

Some of our more recent posts from the website (see

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### ONE FACT ABOUT FLY FISHING

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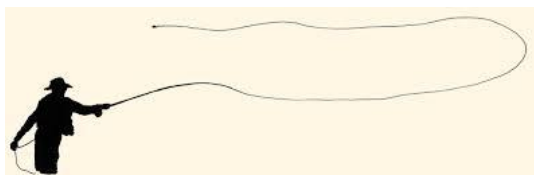
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