

“Ripples”

The Official publication of the Southland Fly Fishing Club. The club was founded in 1974

October 2018



www.southlandflyfishingclub.org.nz



Southland Fly Fishing Club

Editors Choice Tippets

What are the threats to trout and angling in the Indigenous Freshwater Amendment Bill?

The Bill seeks to provide better protection for indigenous freshwater fish. These fish species include whitebait, also known as galaxids, eels, bullies, torrent fish, mud fish and others. Fish & Game supports efforts to provide better protection for indigenous freshwater fish. However, that should not be at the expense of trout and other freshwater sports fish, nor the more than hundred thousand anglers who value these fish for the recreational, cultural and economic benefits they provide. The Amendment Bill as it is now written contains several aspects which pose a threat to trout fishing in New Zealand.

Clause 5:

- Clause 5 gives DoC's freshwater fisheries management plans priority over Fish & Game's fish and game management plans.
- Clause 5 allows the Minister to adopt a national freshwater fisheries management plan which prevails over Fish & Game management plans.
- This is despite both plans having the same legal status under the Act.
- Clause 5 would allow DoC to remove all trout and salmon from particular rivers or lakes, even if those waterways have been identified as significant trout and salmon habitat. This is likely to result in catchments where DoC, Iwi and regional councils can establish management regimes which exclude trout.
- The Bill reduces Fish & Game's right to be consulted as managers of sports fish to the same level as any member of the public.

Clause 6:

- Clause 6 exempts anyone authorised under Treaty settlement legislation from restrictions on taking, possessing or selling sportsfish.
- Clause 6 allows the Crown and iwi to set aside present rules as part of a treaty settlement.
- Clause 6 allows the removal of present bans on the sale of fishing rights.
- Clause 6 allows the removal of present bans on the sale of sports fish.
- Clause 6 removes the requirement for occupiers of land to comply with trout fishing rules and regulations, although they would still need a licence.
- Clause 6 opens up the potential for direct conflict between Treaty settlement legislation and sports fishing.

Clause 17:

- Clause 17 revokes several existing regulations allowing Fish & Game to manage trout and other sports fish.
- In particular, Clause 17 would no longer require a Fish & Game region's consent for the release of fish or ova, or transfer of sports fish and ova between the North and South Islands.
- The Bill reduces Fish & Game's right to be consulted as managers of sports fish to the same level as any member of the public.



Top flies by Robert Reingraber

Cover Photo: Chris McDonald showing how it is done at the casting day. Photo: Dave Harris

"People get the Politicians and fishing tackle they deserve."

John Gierach

Presidents Report by Dave

Over the past month there have been a couple of Club activities that I have not been able to get to. These were the Club representation at the Hunting & Fishing Fisherman's Night where Chris and a couple of others manned our table and again at Hunting & Fishing the following Saturday with a fly tying demonstration. I would like to thank Chris and the others who helped out at these. We did manage to sign up some new members who we hope to see at future meetings and on club trips.

We are now a couple of weeks into the season and the weather continues to be unfavourable and the rivers are still carrying a lot of water. As I write this it is very cold and raining steadily, not good for fishing. Hopefully these conditions have not prevented you from getting out and catching some fish.

I have managed four days out already. On opening day I had a late start due to a very late night the night before (watching Formula 1 on TV) and wasn't sure where I would find fishable water. I planned to look at a couple of small streams as well as the top of the Aparima River and, if I didn't find anything suitable, to head to Te Anau as the Upper Waiau River wasn't running too high and it is always clear. The small streams all had too much colour as did the top of the Aparima River although it also had a lot of people fishing it. I know some were spin fishing and it was clear enough for this but some others I saw were fly fishing. I have no idea how they got on.

Once I arrived in the Te Anau area I headed to Balloon Loop as this has been quite good in the past but there was a strong flow preventing access to the island and its gravel flats. I did have a look at a bit of the cycleway that now goes from Te Anau to Balloon Loop but it didn't look to provide any useful access in the area. From here it was on to Rainbow Reach. The small islands on the other side just above looked inviting but access is hard work and there were already other anglers there. On to Queens Reach where I had lunch before starting to fish. I could see some shapes in the water that looked like they were moving so was hopeful of early action. The shapes weren't fish (and weren't moving) but I was soon into a nice little rainbow. He was soon followed by another but then it seemed to go quiet so I went for a walk. I meet up with some other anglers. Two that were spinning had just landed a little rainbow and then by the boat ramp there was a group who had had success from jetboats and had cooked up some of their catch on the bank. Just above the ramp I landed a third rainbow and decided it was time to head home as I had a couple of things to do at the Lodge on the way home.

On the 3rd Simon and I headed out to where we were going to go opening day. We were greeted by clean water but plenty of it. We headed up river a little way to a favourite pool before starting as it was still a little dark and we wanted to ensure no-one came in above us. There was no sign of any fish in this pool so it was on up the river. Before too long we started spotting fish and Simon soon had his first in the net. Spotting was difficult due to the high flows but we both managed to spot and catch fish with a couple of good sized fish included. It was tough trying to hold on to some of the fish due to the high water flows. This was especially true with my last fish that took off straight down and across into fast water. I managed to stop it eventually and got it back onto my side and into the calmer water. I wasn't keen on letting it go down as there was fast water for a considerable distance downstream. When I finally got it to the net it was my biggest fish for the day. From here it was a very long walk home.

I also went on the Lodge trip on the first weekend. (See report elsewhere).

We have another Lodge weekend at the end of November and it would be good to see some new faces on this trip.



Simon Budd fishing in fast water on his first outing for the season.

Fly Tying Competition - September 2018 by Dave

The final fly for the 2018 off-season competition was the magoo. Just five flies were entered and the winner was Chris McDonald with Julie Cook close behind. Winner of the Hunting & Fishing voucher was Murray Buchanan.



Chris McDonald's winning fly



Julie Cook's 2nd placed fly



The other flies entered in September

Casting Day - September 30th by Dave

The last Sunday of September is when we hold our casting day at Queens Park and this year was no different. We had a good day with a number of members (old and new) along as well as some people who were not members. Some were so new to fly fishing they had not actually assembled their rods before the day. The weather was good and there was a fair bit of tutoring going on as some who were there had not even attempted to use their rod before. Hopefully those who knew how to cast left ready for the season and those new comers at least learnt something.



Casting day at Queens Park

Ripples Editor

Wanted - Ripples Editor

We require a new Ripples editor. If you are keen to edit Ripples or even help let me know. Assistance is available as required and in fact Les and myself have helped Johnny out with this over his period as editor. Even just writing a few articles would be helpful.

If you can help or want to know what is involved contact Dave. 027 201 6722 or dcharris@southnet.co.nz

Fisherman's Night Hunting & Fishing by Chris

John Day, Sarah Smith and myself manned/personned the club's stand at Hunting and Fishing. Nothing like having 3 separate conversations about fishing at the same time. We were quite busy and thanks to Gerald's promotion we signed up 6 new individual members and 2 family memberships. Even better was that we saw three of them at the casting day.

Fly Tying Hunting & Fishing 22 September by Chris

The fly tying demonstration on the Saturday after the fisherman's night was very quiet. Very few people were in the shop. I spoke to more club members than non members during the session. I did however manage to tie more flies than I normally do.

Fly Swaps by Chris

I signed up for a couple of fly swaps during the winter. The first was for "Lures" and the second was for "Wee Wets". A fly swap of say 12 people involves each person tying one pattern of their own choice 12 times and sending them to a postmaster. The postmaster receives all the flies and then sends one of each pattern back to each of the participants. So you tie one fly 12 times, send it away and then get one of your flies and 11 others back.

The photos below are the flies I received.



Fish and Game Council Elections

Southland Fish & Game elections were held this month. Only eight of the sitting councillors stood for re-election and all eight were re-elected and will be joined by four new councillors.

Sitting councillors who stood and were re-elected were Graeme Watson (chairman), Chris Owen (NZ Council representative), Paul Stenning, Michael Hartstonge, Dave Harris, Corey Carston, Ken Cochrane and Bevan McNaughton. They will be joined by returning councillor Lindsay Withington, David MacGregor, Craig Horrell (Te Anau) and Lyndon Norman (Gore).

The new council will have its first meeting in November and will then meet every two months.

The councillors that stood down were Fred Inder (Te Anau), Ray Waghorn, Russell Graham and Chris Frisby.

October Lodge Weekend by Dave

I was a bit late arriving at the Lodge due to other activities and was a bit surprised to find that Chris was not there and had not been there. He turned up eventually having visited the farmer before coming to the Lodge. It sounds like he had some useful discussions with the farmer.

On Saturday morning Joel joined us and we headed off looking for fishable water. Weather conditions were perfect and would stay that way all day. The river we planned to fish was high but clear so we set up and headed on our way. There was too much water to be able to spot fish in most of the pools but Chris & Joel soon had fish in the net. I spotted one in shallow water and it took first cast but didn't stay attached. We spotted a few more fish up to lunch time (and landed a few) but after lunch we only saw a few fish and these were sitting on the bottom in deep water. We could see another car parked on the road and suspected that we were fishing behind someone else. With this in mind we headed back to the car and were surprised to see another car at the access and even more surprised to see a "gone upstream" notice on his dash. Either he didn't check our dash or was happy to follow us up.



Saturday of the Lodge Weekend. Lots of fast water.

From here we had a look at a couple of small streams but didn't find any fish in fishable locations. Those that were spotted were either sitting on the bottom or moving on. From here it was back to Mossburn for Joel to head home and Chris and I to head to the Railway Hotel to meet up with Simon and Jacob and have dinner.

I am not sure where Simon and Jacob headed on Sunday but Chris and I headed back to the same river as Saturday but a bit further down. Unfortunately one or more tributaries must have been a bit coloured as the water was nowhere near as clear as Saturday. Weather conditions were also a lot worse although the forecast rain had not arrived. We spotted a few fish and fished a lot of likely looking areas blind. We had plenty of hook-ups but neither of us were able to keep many of the fish on but we did land some. Relatively early in the afternoon the rain arrived so we headed back down, fishing a few pools on the way. Back to the Lodge to pack up and then home.

It was a good weekend but it is a pity a few more members don't come on these trips. Going fishing with different people is a great way to learn a few new things, especially if you are a beginner.



Saturday of the Lodge Weekend. Perfect weather conditions and beautiful scenery.

Coming Events

(MM=Monthly Meeting, CM = Committee Meeting)

3 rd & 4 th Nov	Trip	Lodge Trip - Contact Dave 027 201 6722
11 th Nov	Trip	November Day Trip - Meet at Fish & Game 7:00am
20 th Nov	Trip	Shift Workers / Retirees mid-week trip – Dave Harris 027 201 6722
27 th Nov	Meeting	Monthly Meeting - Fish & Game 7:30pm
4 th Dec	Meeting	Executive Meeting & Fly Tying
9 th Dec	Trip	Club Trip , Catlins – Meet at Fish & Game 7:00am
18 th Dec	Trip	Mid-week Trip – Dave Harris 027 201 6722
13 th Jan	Trip	Club Day Trip , meet at Fish & Game – 7am
15 th Jan	Trip	On the River, Tuesday straight after work, Coal Pit Rd
22 rd Jan	Trip	Mid-week trip – Dave Harris 027 201 6722

Club Contacts

- Address **Southland Fly Fishing Club, PO Box 1689, Invercargill, New Zealand**
- Website www.southlandflyfishingclub.org.nz
- President Dave Harris, 30 Baxter Street Invercargill (03 215 6068) dcharris@southnet.co.nz
- Secretary Chris McDonald, 334 Racecourse Road, Invercargill (03 217 3733)
mcdonald.ccnd@kinect.co.nz
- Editor Vacant - Sent articles to Dave Harris dcharris@southnet.co.nz
Items for publication must be submitted to the editor, prior to the 10th of the month
- Librarian Simon Budd
- Lodge Custodian Dave Murphy, 35 Brown Road, Invercargill dmurphy@southnet.co.nz (03 230 4698)
or (0276752324)

Club items for sale

Metal Badges \$15 ea.



Cloth Patches \$12 ea.



Club Meetings

The club meets at 7:30pm on the last Tuesday of each month (except December) at the Fish & Game building, 17 Eye St, West Invercargill, Invercargill 9810. [The February meeting is on the river.](#)

Executive Committee meets on the first Tuesday of the month following the general meeting, except for Dec/Jan, includes fly tying, so come along and bring your gear if you want help with a fly—all members welcome.

Club Resources

The club has an extensive library of Books and Videos, contact the Librarian

A blow up Rubber Boat and a set of five Radio's, which can be borrowed by club members, contact Chris McDonald.

Club Sponsors



Disclaimer:

The opinions or views expressed in this newsletter, are those of the respective authors, and not necessarily those of the Editor or the Southland Fly Fishing Club. The Editor takes no responsibility for the factual content of this publication.