

Fish & Game and
Ellesmere/
Te Waihora

Gamebird monitoring

Dabbling duck survey



Te Waihora
catchment covered in
Rakaia to
Waimakariri count

Ellesmere currently
not surveyed due to
technical difficulties



As part of dabbling duck survey also record number of irrigation ponds, natural ponds, and streams (dry/wet) and farming types (e.g. percentage in dairy. Forestry)



Black Swan/ Paradise Shelduck

- Spend two days flying over every lake and pond in North Canterbury (incl high country lakes and farm ponds)



Shoveler Duck

- Visit established sites. E.g. Hart's Creek, Halswell mouth and Kaituna lagoon
- Completed on foot one day a year which is set nationally



Gamebird Harvest Survey

Through the hunting season (May – July)
120 hunters are surveyed each fortnight.

Trout population monitoring



Photo Steve Nolan

Spawning Surveys



**Brown trout spawning in the
Lake Ellesmere (Te Waihora)
tributaries, and some
surrounding catchments**

Prepared for Environment Canterbury

AEL Report No. 31

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Marlynne Good (Environment Agency, Wales)

Final Report
December 2006



A trout redd in the Hei Hei tributary of the Lee River

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**Mark Taylor report (AEL)
2006**

**Total redd count of 480
c.w. 1284 over
comparable reaches in
1980's.**

National Angler Survey

- Survey 10% of fishing licence holders (since 80's).
- Includes Ellesmere/Te Waihora streams.
- Paints a picture of decline in terms of angler days in the catchment

Cawthron Study (cumulative effects on brown trout)

- Three year nationwide study covering 50 sites, including reaches of the Selwyn and Hororata
- Electric fish for juvenile trout in spring then repeat in March to see how much they have grown. Compare with what you would expect based on temperature
- Compare with habitat quality, e.g. % cover fine sediment/ periphyton growth.

**Other work in the
catchment**

Salvages



Maimai Agreement

- Agreement between Ngai Tahu, DOC and F&G
- 5 days annually removing derelict maimias



Maimai Agreement

- F & G pay 50% of the cost of a hunting licence for each registered maimai on the lake
- Money goes to worthwhile lake projects e.g. removing car bodies, tyres, rubbish. Creation of access tracks
- Latest project: \$30,000 towards tidying up mouth of the Irwell. Get rid of problem weeds, plant natives and create campground.

Access information and advocacy



Setting regulations and ranging



RMA Advocacy