

**2009
Woodhill Fallow Deer
Hunting Ballot
Application Forms**



(Hunters John Dower, Michael Bowden, Scott Tindale 2008)

**PUBLISHED BY THE
WOODHILL FALLOW MANAGEMENT COUNCIL INC.**

Chairman's Report 2008

This is my first chairman's report since taking over the reins from our previous long serving Chairman Dave Chisholm. I would like to take this opportunity to publicly thank Dave for his efforts as Chairman over the past nine years. I would also like to thank the Council and volunteers for their contribution over the year as well. As with any volunteer organisation it has taken a big commitment from a small group of people to ensure you the hunters get a smooth and seamless ballot hunt. This year has been a busy one for the committee and has certainly made me appreciate the amount of work Dave has had to put in.

It is a difficult task to assess herd numbers and maintain it at a sustainable level each year, hence the importance of filing an accurate record of sightings in your kill returns. There is always a number of deer harvested off the surrounding farmland and by illegal hunting within the forest (despite our best efforts). In respect to this it is always an inexact science trying to maintain a stable herd size and yet give the hunter the best opportunity each year to shoot a trophy buck. This year, probably due to a number of bucks being shot on farms in the spring and summer and no doubt poaching activities within the forest buck numbers were well down on previous years. On a brighter note however overall animal sightings by hunters remain consistent with previous years.

To balance the population we still need to harvest a number of does each year. This year we issued over 250 individual doe permits for a total of sixty-five does shot. I would like to raise two observations made by the patrol members. The first is that it appears some hunters try to cover their block boundaries by lunchtime and by doing so walk right past plenty of opportunities. Secondly there are numerous shots fired on some occasions without a result. The likely cause of this is hunters spooking the deer by stalking too fast and taking a running shot or a lack of practice at the range or on small game. My advise is to "Slow down and make every shot a good one".

I would like to thank Hancock Forest Management Ltd, the current forest managers, for our access agreement and also for being very supportive in issuing trespass notices to unwanted motorcyclists and vehicles caught within the forest and also for pursuing the prosecution in court of poachers. Hancock's have appointed a new security contractor with expertise in covert surveillance to aid protection of the herd and also forestry contractor's equipment. We look forward to some more prosecutions.

Probably the most significant event to take place before the next hunting season will be the completion of the deer fence around the Lake Otatoa Reserve. The remaining pine trees have been felled and a fence line track has been bulldozed. We are hopeful that fencing can begin in the near future. This is an important milestone in the history of the WFMC because it tells the various agencies such as DOC and the ARC that we are committed to protecting the future of fallow deer in Woodhill Forest and that the WFMC is the only responsible organisation for the management of these deer.

All hunters who have hunted in the ballot can take a pat on the back because it is your contribution that has made this project possible.

Another significant event is that the Auckland Regional Council (ARC) has made a recommendation to have the Woodhill fallow deer herd recognised as the only deer herd in the Auckland region. However at this stage only they and DOC are included in as managers of the herd in their Pest Management Strategy.

My final plea is that if you want your children to enjoy the privilege to hunt big game in this country and protect this right for future generations then please take the time to submit your views on any discussion documents and make submissions when they are called for by DOC and the Regional Councils otherwise you will be the last generation to enjoy this pastime.

Good luck for the 2009 ballot!

Garth Johnson

Chairman

Completing your application

- ~ Always write details in plain legible English, if application unreadable it will be rejected before ballot.
- ~ Ensure your mailing address is correct, if it changes let us know. If changes are not notified it may not be possible to contact you.
- ~ If successful in ballot (i.e. Have received postal notification) complete and return form by due date. If returned form not received by due date block will be reallocated.
- ~ If successful in ballot and you can't make it let us know immediately so that we can allocate date to another hunter.



Deer in sight (photo: R. Rush)

2009 WOODHILL FALLOW DEER BALLOT

DETAILS OF APPLICANT

Last Name.....

First Name.....

Address.....

.....

Postal Address if different.....

.....

City..... **Email**.....

Phone..... **Mobile**.....

Firearms License no.....

Is this your first ever ballot application for Woodhill? Yes/No.....

I agree to ABIDE BY THE CONDITIONS SET OUT BY THE W.F.M.C and accept full responsibility for my companions while in Woodhill Forest

Signature of Primary Applicant

Please circle if you would like to receive a copy of the 2010 booklet by mail Yes / No or you can get it off the website

Ballot Application Fee - \$20.00 Cheque only, do not send cash (successful applicants fee will be a further \$30.00)

Post completed application with payment to:

W.F.M.C P.O.Box 110, Kumeu 0841, Auckland

APPLICATIONS CLOSE : 3rd April
BALLOT DRAWN: 21st April
BALLOT HUNTING STARTS 6th June (Saturday)

(If successful you can nominate up to two hunting companions. Successful applicants will be notified by post, results on website within two weeks of being drawn)

Regardless of the weather we never cancel a hunt

2008 Hunting Results

The number of deer taken at Woodhill Forest during the 2008 balloted hunting season was:

Bucks	14
Does	65
Pigs	12
Total Harvested	91

This includes the deer taken during the "Take a Kid Hunting Day".

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Graf Brothers Donation

A donation was recently made by the W.F.M.C to the Graf Brothers towards their Documentary DVD 'Poisoning Paradise – Ecocide in NZ'

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Prize Draw

The following names were drawn from the kill returns received; they have collectively won new hunting gear to the value of \$360.00 from Hunting and Fishing Westgate

Congratulations to : K.Gulliver -\$120 Voucher
P Geenty -\$120 Voucher
J Gaukrodger -\$120 Voucher

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Special Thanks

The Woodhill Fallow Management Council would like to thank the following again for their continued support:

Mr. Ian Amoire for his veterinary services, and putting up with us all hours of the night, year in year out.

Hancock Forest Management Limited for accommodating the Woodhill ballot within an operational forest.

Patrols Report

From all accounts this season's weekend patrols have gone well. Most of the hunters followed the criteria set out by the WFMC and this makes it easier for everyone. One thing to remember if you arrive at your parking area in more than one vehicle please leave a copy of your permit on all dashboards. We, the patrol people, check all car park's two or three times a day and generally keep an eye on the vehicles. If we come across a vehicle with no permit displayed it could mean someone has entered the hunting blocks illegally or could be checking out your vehicles. It makes life easier for the patrol people if all vehicles can be accounted for.

Motorbikes continue to be a problem during the hunting season and also 4x4s. The forest owners have tightened up on security recently and hopefully this will lesson the problem in 2009.

One patrol vehicle was stopped by a hunter on Inland Road who reported two 4x4s had just driven through his block and headed south along the road. The patrol then followed and on reaching the Wilson Road gate found not two 4x4s but seven stopped in line. Who knows what may have happened to the gate. They were escorted out of the forest and all details taken. All received trespass notices. Two groups of poachers were apprehended on days when permit holders were hunting. Both groups were dealt with by the police.

Many happy hunters were given a lift back to their vehicles with their deer saving them, in some cases, a six or seven kilometre walk sometimes in the dark. Make sure you are on one of the main roads by dark and that way you have a better chance of being picked up.

Another thing is water. There is no drinkable water in the hunting blocks. Always carry water. It is not uncommon to find a very dehydrated hunter in Woodhill and being in that condition certainly does not help your chances of being successful.

Brian Witton

Council Member



Corey Belfield and his doe. Corey's dad hunts on crutches and put in a great effort to help Corey to get his first deer.

Woodhill is a great place to hunt and these photos show the extra length some hunters go to. Well done!

Gary Snooks and his Doe shot with Bow and Arrow. Gary is wearing the required Hi-Viz vest although it doesn't show up in this black and white photo. As deer only see in shades of black and white it's clear that the Hi-Viz vest is no disadvantage.



Special WoodHill Moments

Hunter Safety: A timely reminder

The following rules are easily recognisable to Hunters who take advantage of the hunting opportunities the Woodhill Fallow herd provides through the W.F.M.C hunting ballot.

After all, every hunter has had to apply for a firearms license and learn the seven basic rules of firearms safety.

Rule 1: Treat every firearm as loaded

Rule 2: Always point firearms in a safe direction

Rule 3: Load a firearm only when ready to fire

Rule 4: Identify your target beyond all doubt

Rule 5: Check your firing zone

Rule 6: Store firearms and ammunition safely

Rule 7: Avoid alcohol and drugs when handling firearms

Previously the following actions have been observed and reported by the patrols:

1. Hunters failing to correctly identify their target beyond all doubt.

The council has had to deal with a number of hunters who failed to comply with their permits and shot the incorrect animal.

2. Always point firearms in a safe direction

Please don't use a rifle mounted telescopic sight to

- A. Check out your hunting companions
- B. Check out the patrols driving the roads
- C. Check out the hunters on adjacent blocks

A small pair of binoculars doesn't add too much weight to your daypack and will increase your chances of success.

3. Load a firearm only when ready to fire.

When approached by a patrol, or anyone else, all hunters should empty the breech and leave the bolt or action open. While the patrols will assist you in returning to your car, hopefully after a successful hunt, or stop and provide advice if needed, it is not unusual to have to ask hunters to unload their rifles before entering the patrol vehicle.

Sobering thought for the 2009 season.

(Yes you can try this at home)

Take a 1-pound lead ball (500g to you young fella's) in your right hand. Rest your left hand palm down on the kitchen sink and drop the ball onto the back of your hand from a distance of 1 foot (approx 30cm). After trying this and while being driven to the doctor consider this. You have just experienced the equivalent of 1 fpe (foot pound of energy) to the back of your hand.

A typical 222cal bullet has over 1000 fpe at the muzzle and a 270 cal bullet has over 2600fpe.

(PS. Suggest you don't try this just before your balloted days hunting)

The W.F.M.C. Balloted hunting has an impeccable safety record.

This is as much due to you the hunter as to the efforts of the committee.

Let's keep it that way.



Hindsight (photo R. Rush)



A Classic buck (photo A. Corban)

RULES FOR WOODHILL BALLOT

- ~ Hi Viz blaze orange vest must be worn on top at all times, regardless of what else is being worn.
- ~ No smoking in Forest
- ~ Replacement of hunter on permit, only on acceptance (payment) date.
- ~ All hunters to sign indemnity clause.
- ~ One hunt per hunter each year.
- ~ Firearms license must be current and carried while hunting
- ~ Vehicles to have current W.O.F. and registration when entering forest
- ~ No camping in forest or access roads.
- ~ No shotguns, rimfire firearms or rifle suppressors
- ~ Successful applicants notified by mail.
- ~ Thirty-dollar fee applies
- ~ Permits must be displayed on dashboard of vehicles

WEB PAGE

Our web site is www.fallowdeer.co.nz for convenience you can download your own booklet or application forms.

2009 Woodhill Ballot Hunt Application form Outlets

Hunting&Fishing Westgate

Auckland 09 8333019
mikehuntfish@xtra.co.nz

Auckland N.Z.D.A.

7 Target Street, Point Chevalier, Auckland

North Auckland N.Z.D.A.

Mike Power 09 443 5500

Thames Valley N.Z.D.A.

Maureen Coleman 07 884 9622

Waikato N.Z.D.A

Mark Sargent, 131 Delaware Rd, Hamilton
07 849 7626 sarge@xtra.co.nz

Serious Shooters

Great North Road, Penrose, Auckland
09 579 3006 ssshooter@ihug.co.nz

Richard Waaklens

Whangarei 09 4347231

**Don't forget our website, you can
download your own copy
www.fallowdeer.co.nz**



(On walkabout photos R. Rush)

Hunter Contributions



(Paul Koppens and his eight point Buck photo : R. Tindale)

I wish to extend a warm “ thanks” for all your hard work in organizing yet another great hunt for my two companions, Russell, Eli and myself.

Russell and I have been hunting buddies for a number if years but Eli is fairly new to Hunting. This was Eli’s first hunt at Woodhill and he was over the moon when I invited him to be part of our day.

We had a great days hunting and the weather was kind to us. We saw 15 deer so it was in my mind another fantastic day although the number of bullets we carried in were the same as what was carried out.

Laurie Irving

To the members of the W.F.M.C and Marshalls at Woodhill, my hunting companions and I would like to thank you very much and give you big thumbs up for providing access to such a great asset at Woodhill, cheers

Geoff Cook

Just a quick note to say thanks for the hunt on 12th July (block three) we saw plenty of animals over the day and got two kills. I also got some good close up photos of animals which happened to be on the block "look at me only list" We talked to other hunters from three blocks next to ours and they had seen minimal numbers of animals. One party were talking about bloody poachers and had only seen three deer all day, we were on the next door block and saw approximately forty. Sure poaching might and does happen but if you take your time and use your eyes more than your legs there are plenty of animals.

Roger Fergenson

All three brothers had an excellent hunt with many miles walked between us. Does of varying sizes, with quite a few large animals evident and quite a few smaller does with them, which possibly may have been very large fawns.

Duncan Fleming

We saw quite a number of animals and two bucks, but unfortunately in both sightings of bucks we were unable to get a clean shot because does were in the way. We did not have a doe permit so finished the day empty handed. Nevertheless we enjoyed the hunt and wish to express our gratitude for the opportunity and work you and your committee does to provide that opportunity. Many thanks

Terry Gibson

Mark, Chris and I wish to thank the committee for a great day at Woodhill. Your organization is excellent and benefits many hunters.

Trevor Dobbin

TAKE A KID HUNTING REPORT

This took place on Saturday 20th September, which was the final day for hunting under the lease arrangement between WFMC and Hancocks.

Earlier in the week the committee had divided the standard blocks in half and marked them with tapes to allow the maximum number of Kids to take part. As a result we were able to draw 20 lucky young hunters to experience the thrill of hunting this resource located a short drive away from downtown Auckland.

With the Blocks assessed and marked, the successful balloters notified and the weather forecast looking good for the day all that was left was to arrange the other 1001 things necessary to make the day as successful as past years.

The committee would like to take this opportunity to welcome Mike Shepherd, Owner and Manager of Hunting & Fishing Westgate on board as our Principal sponsor for TAKH and special thanks as he stepped up at short notice to provide products that made the 'Goodie' bags the envy of us adults!!! Any shortfall was made up for out of the WFMC funds, putting your ballot fees towards a good cause.

The day started with a welcome by our chairman Garth Johnson and an outline of the activities planned. This was followed by various committee members giving talks on such topics as the History of the Woodhill Fallow herd. Hunting tips in general and specific to Woodhill, Hunting ethics and the Seven Rules of Firearms Safety.

A number of deer heads were on display to increase the excitement level and looked impressive.

Special thanks to Rick for once again 'Baring All' and describing how he survived being the victim of a hunting 'Accident'

Following the firearms safety lecture all the successful balloters sat a firearms test based on the seven rules of Firearms Safety and while the papers were being marked the draw for blocks was made and the sponsor's products were handed out.

This was followed by the traditional venison BBQ lunch before the young hunters were escorted to their allocated blocks by the committee members and provided with tips on the area they were going to hunt. Although all the young hunters saw deer and several shots were fired just one deer was taken.

Feedback from the hunters and guardians was positive and judging by the smiles and comments made once again the day was a success despite many opportunities to take deer were missed.

A big thanks to Hancocks Forrest Management, the Sponsors and the Committee members and Helpers who once again gave generously of their time to ensure the day was a success.

A Corban

Council Member



Kids at the Southhead Hall with sponsors' kits (photo: A. Corban)

2009 WOODHILL "TAKE A KID HUNTING" BALLOT

DETAILS OF PARENT or GUARDIAN

Last Name..... First Name.....

Address.....

.....

Postal Address if different.....

City.....Email.....

Phone.....Mobile.....

Firearms License No.....

"In the event of being selected in the ballot, I agree to ABIDE BY THE CONDITIONS SET OUT BY THE W.F.M.C and I accept full responsibility for my child while in Woodhill Forest"

Signature of Parent or Guardian

DETAILS OF CHILD

Last Name.....First Name.....

Address.....

City.....Phone.....Age.....

Firearms License No (if applicable.....

CONDITIONS

~Only One child 12–18 years old, able to handle a firearm per Parent or Guardian

~Parent or Guardian must have current firearms license

~One deer only may be taken (can be Buck or Doe of any age)

~Parent or Guardian that have been successful in main ballot are not excluded

~Introduction to hunting and Free Hi-Viz Vest for each child

~Once a child has been successful in TAKH ballot they cannot apply again

~Post completed application to: W.F.M.C P.O.Box 110, Kumeu 0841, Auckland

~ APPLICATIONS CLOSE 1st JULY 2009

~ HUNT ON SATURDAY 19TH SEPTEMBER STARTING 10AM

~(Successful applicants will be notified by post and the results posted on website within two weeks of being drawn.

For further information contact Brian Witton 09 817 6855 or Dave Chisholm 09 4207058)



BBQ at Take A Kid Hunting day (photos A. Corban)

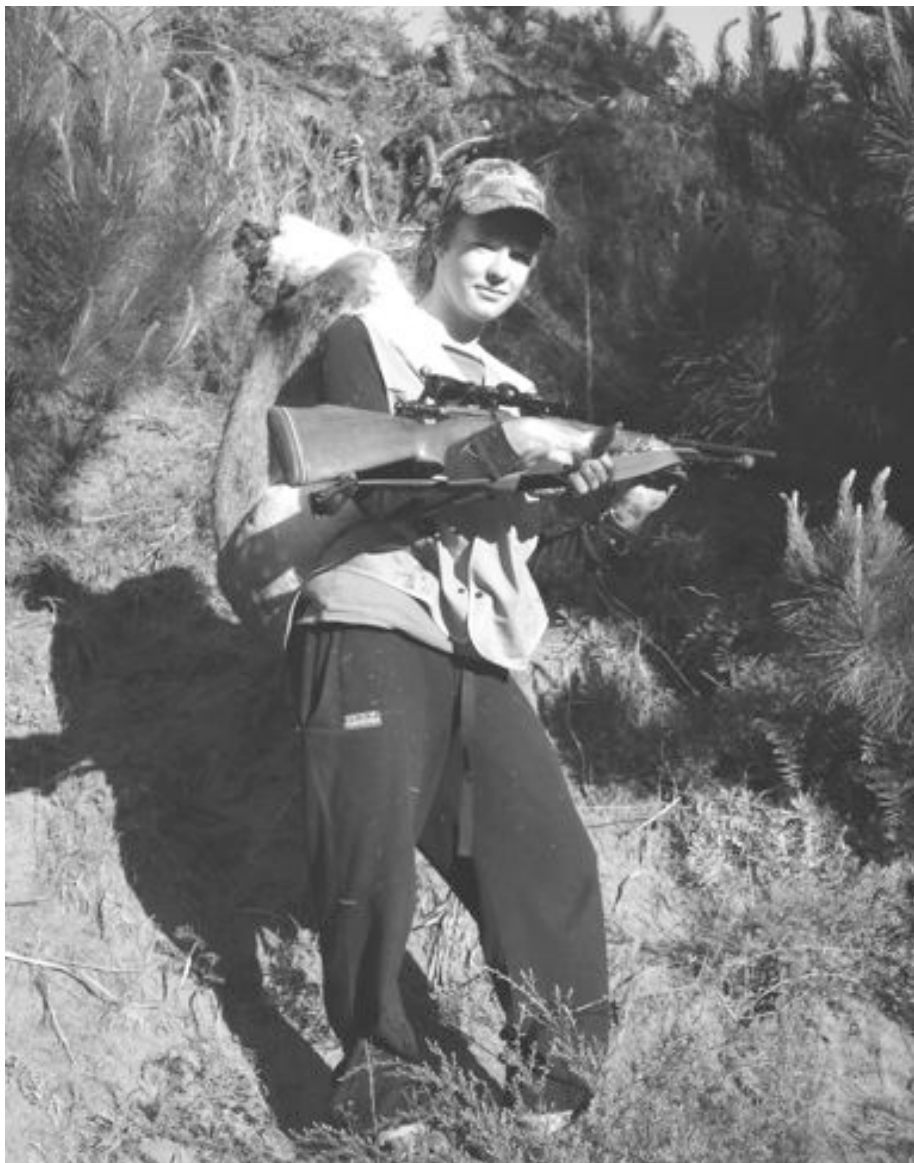
TAKE A KID HUNTING CONTRIBUTIONS

Thank you for the opportunity to take my son Ryan hunting, we both thoroughly enjoyed the day. Thanks to you all for experience, will definitely be in the ballot for next year

Steve Kose

Thank you for the opportunity, it was a great day and very well organized. Please keep up the great work.

Steve Arthur



(Scott Wallis and Doe photo R.Tindale)

Scott Wallis was the successful hunter on the day, taking a doe. Many other kids had shots at deer but unfortunately were unsuccessful

New Zealand Deerstalkers Association

Open invitation to all Woodhill ballot applicants and their companions to join and enjoy the benefits of belonging to N.Z.D.A i.e. meetings, party hunts, range shooting, firearms safety, hunter training etc.

Contact the following branches for details:

Auckland	John Shepherd	09 818 3964
North Auckland	Mike Power	09 443 5500
South Auckland	Martin Robertson	09 2359893
Bay of Plenty	Baden Prentice	07 5793109
Rotorua	Alec Mc Iver	07 3474380
Thames Valley	Maureen Coleman	07 8849622
Waikato	Keith Matthews	07 824 1705
Whangarei	Alan Webster	09 4360181
NZDA National Office Wellington		04 801 7367 Email deerstalkers @ paradise.net .nz

PLACES TO STAY NEAR WOODHILL FOREST

Black Pete's Bar and Grill	09 420 8765
Aquatic Park	09 420 8998
Mineral Park Motel	09 420 8856
Rimu Motor Lodge	09 420 8521

MISSION STATEMENT

To manage the Fallow deer herd and the environment within the Woodhill Forest in perpetuity, in consultation with leaseholders, landowners and hunting groups, and to provide public hunting through a balloted hunting season.

You've got a doe permit and you see this deer...



Would you shoot it?



No, it's a weaner buck and a future trophy (check for pizzle)

IDENTIFY YOUR TARGET!

(photos: R. Rush)