

**2015**  
**Woodhill Fallow Deer Hunting Ballot Booklet**



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

# 2014 Chairman's Report

Our 27<sup>th</sup> season and first under new forest ownership of Nag Maunga Whakahii o Kapara was much like many before. In all it was another successful year and it was very pleasing to see the usual number of happy hunters throughout the season. This is the nearest legal hunting open to all, that is all with a successful ballot within the Auckland region and to many still remains a treasure to the hunting fraternity. We are very fortunate that the new owners have allowed us to continue to hold the balloted hunting in the forest.

We are also very pleased to be able to confirm the ballot for the 2015 season and will continue to work with Nga Maunga Whakahii o Kaipara to hopefully secure hunting for years to come. All hunters need to be conscious that Woodhill Forest is now privately owned and our ability to offer the ballot is purely at the discretion of the owners. It is important the all hunters continue to be respectful of this and adhere to all rules when hunting in the forest if successful in obtaining a ballot.

The number of bucks and does shot and the average number of sightings of deer seen by the hunters has been consistent over recent years so the herd remains stable.

I would like to thank the committee for the huge amount of voluntary work they do to facilitate the ballot. I know speaking for myself and I am sure I speak for other Committee members when I say we all do this to put back into hunting something to help the hunting community, young and old alike. We are also always on the lookout for prospective committee members to help with patrols and the running of the WFMC. So if you think you have what it takes please get in touch with us.

For the 2015 in addition to the ballot fee there will be a \$60.00 fee for all successful ballots, that is a \$60 fee per permitted block hunt. This is a fee per block and not per hunter so if there are three hunters in your group then this is \$60 total. (averages at \$20 per hunter). This fee will be used to raise funds to fence areas of significance in the forest. Last year there was no fee but in past years there have also been these fees which were also used to fence off areas of significance.

Again I would like to thank Nga Maunga Whakahii o Kaipara for allowing the hunting to continue into 2015 and ask all hunters to continue to respect the significance of this land to the owners and also to the hunters that have enjoyed the use of the forest.

Good luck with the ballot and safe hunting.

**Ross Tindale**

Chairman

**If you have been successful in the ballot it is your responsibility as the principal permit holder to make sure that you and your companions have;**

**Read the rules**

- **Have a map of the block**
- **Are wearing a blaze orange hunting vest**
- **Have a firearms licence on their person while hunting**

## Cover Photo

Michael Venn's Buck from Block Nine



## Ngā Maunga Whakahii o Kaipara

Ko te tino o Kaipara Deer Stalkers committee “Ko te tino o Kaipara”

*A traditional aphorism [whakatauki] used to describe “the great food bowl of Kaipara”. This going back more than nine centuries of Ngāti Whātua ancestors who lived by hunting, gathering and harvesting food from the harbour, forests, rivers, ocean and soil of Kaipara.*

September 9th 2011 the long awaited signing of the Deed of Settlement between Ngāti Whātua and the Crown was enacted, appropriately, on the shores of the Kaipara Harbour at the historical site of Aotea / Shelly Beach. Quantum monies received by Ngāti Whātua in the settlement, \$22.1 million, was used to purchase and transfer to Ngāti Whātua ownership Crown owned land of 12,500 hectare Woodhill Forest, Kaipara College land, Kaukapakapa, Tauhoa, Parakai, Waimauku and Woodhill primary school lands Parakai Recreation Reserve is under co-management with Auckland Council, as with some DOC estate lands, under a Conservation Charter with Ngāti Whātua. July 11th 2013 the Kaipara Claims Settlement Act was passed into legislation

# **Poaching in Woodhill Forest**

**Persons caught illegally hunting in the forest  
will be prosecuted, penalties include;**

**Criminal Conviction**

**Loss of Firearms License**

**Financial costs**

**If you are thinking of poaching be aware that  
it's not worth the risk !!!**

**Bert Howlett Memorial trophy for Largest Head 2014**

THE NEW ZEALAND DEERSTALKERS' ASSOCIATION INC.  
OFFICIAL RECORDING SYSTEM FOR  
**FALLOW DEER HEADS**  
(DOUGLAS SCORE)

OWNER	Michael Venn			
KILLED BY	" "			
LOCALITY & DATE	Wood Hill Forest 9.2.14			
NUMBER OF POINTS				
	STEEL TAPE MEASUREMENT OF		SHORTER MEASUREMENT DOUBLED	
	LEFT	RIGHT	SCORE	FACTORS
LENGTH	22 <sup>5</sup> / <sub>8</sub>	22 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>8</sub>	44 <sup>8</sup> / <sub>8</sub>	144 <sup>4</sup> / <sub>8</sub>
SPREAD		21 <sup>5</sup> / <sub>8</sub>		21 <sup>5</sup> / <sub>8</sub>
SPAN			18 <sup>4</sup> / <sub>8</sub>	18 <sup>4</sup> / <sub>8</sub>
BEAM	3 <sup>4</sup> / <sub>8</sub>	3 <sup>4</sup> / <sub>8</sub>	7	
CROWN	6 <sup>5</sup> / <sub>8</sub>	6 <sup>4</sup> / <sub>8</sub>	13	20
POINTS BEHIND	4 <sup>4</sup> / <sub>8</sub>	3 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>8</sub>	6 <sup>2</sup> / <sub>8</sub>	
TRIZ	5 <sup>4</sup> / <sub>8</sub>	5 <sup>4</sup> / <sub>8</sub>	11	
GUARD	5 <sup>2</sup> / <sub>8</sub>	6 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>8</sub>	10 <sup>4</sup> / <sub>8</sub>	27 <sup>4</sup> / <sub>8</sub>
REMAINING PALM POINTS BY NUMBER	4	6	8	8
PALM Length Without Points	10 <sup>2</sup> / <sub>8</sub>	11 <sup>4</sup> / <sub>8</sub>	21 <sup>6</sup> / <sub>8</sub>	
With Without Points	4	4 <sup>5</sup> / <sub>8</sub>	8	
With With Points	5 <sup>4</sup> / <sub>8</sub>	6 <sup>2</sup> / <sub>8</sub>	11	40 <sup>4</sup> / <sub>8</sub>
				181 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>8</sub>
TOTAL SCORE			181 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>8</sub>	

For details of measuring see THE DOUGLAS SCORE Handbook

m/Donald skull is capped.

**Michael Venn – 181 1/8 Douglas Score**  
**Front Cover Photo**

Winner (Hunting and Fishing Voucher \$120.00)



## **FREE HEAD MOUNT FOR BIGGEST BUCK OFFER**

A free head mount is available from Tasman Taxidermy for the largest buck shot. In fact the company is so committed to helping with the Woodhill Hunting they are also willing to head skin any trophies taken during season.

Two conditions must be met:

- All permit conditions must be complied with.
- Buck must be sighted by WFMC Patrol on the day.



Examples of recent mounts



## **2014 Hunting Results**

The number of deer taken at Woodhill Forest during the 2014 hunting season:

Bucks	25
Does	61
Pigs	11
Total Harvested	97

## **LUCKY KILL RETURN**

Justin Dodds wins \$120.00 Hunting and Fishing voucher

## **BEST PHOTO**

Jackson Middlestone \$120.00 Hunting and Fishing Voucher

## **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.

## **WEB PAGE**

Our web site is [www.fallowdeer.co.nz](http://www.fallowdeer.co.nz) for your convenience you can download your own booklet or application forms.

## **BOW HUNTERS**

Bow hunters are welcome to apply for a ballot but the land owners have requested that all applicants have a firearms licence ; this is to ensure:

- The applicant is the same as the photo
- The Applicant has not been trespassed from the forest
- The Applicant has not had his/her firearms license revoked.



## COMPLETING YOUR APPLICATION

- ~ Always write details in plain legible English, if your application is 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 you are successful in ballot (i.e. Have received postal notification) complete and return form by due date. If the returned form is not received by due date block will be reallocated.
- ~ If you are successful in ballot and you can't make it let us know immediately so that we can allocate date to another hunter.
- ~ **You must sign acceptance of rules and conditions on the ballot application otherwise application is not complete and WILL NOT be accepted.!!!**

What you can do to make the administration of your hunting permit easier and smoother.

All correspondence should be by the primary permit holder, unless sickness, or overseas travel restrict their ability to do so.

If you have a problem, you think I can sort out, the sooner you contact me the better.

All phone messages/ calls should state the date of your hunt and allocated block and your name, then what calls about. I always return calls where possible. Ensure your phone numbers are correct on your return and application forms.

If you don't leave a detailed message I can't prepare an answer for you, which wastes time.

Doe permits, write on left of name as stated, as when loading data on to computer its easiest when all returns are the same to read. You wouldn't want me to miss the fact you wanted a Doe permit.

Postal address, please ensure you put your post code on all correspondence with us.

Ten % of returns, that's 25 out of 250 are incorrectly filled out, please take the time to read information sent to you before you start filling in the return. Double check your return to ensure you have covered every requirement. You only have to check one return, I have to check 250!!



**Guns**  
**Ammo**  
**Clothing**  
**Packs**

**Navigation**  
**Sleeping Bags**  
**Boots and Gaitors**  
**Bivy's and Fly's**

***For all your hunting and fishing supplies***

**Just call Mike and the team on (09) 833 3019**

**Westgate Hunting & Fishing**

7 Cabernet Cres, Westgate      Email [mikeshuntfish@xtra.co.nz](mailto:mikeshuntfish@xtra.co.nz)

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### **Patrols Report 2014**

2014 was a landmark year for the WFMC with the land going from public to private ownership. However with the cooperation of the new owner's weekend patrols carried on pretty much as before.

Looking after hunter vehicles in the car parks is part of the job, so if you party arrives in more than one vehicle please leave a copy of your permit on each dashboard. That way the patrol people know that the vehicle belong's to legitimate hunters.

If you see any vehicles in the forest try and get their rego numbers and give them to patrol people and they will be forwarded to the forest management who will take the appropriate action. We do our best to keep illegal activity out of the hunting blocks but we can't be everywhere at once.

During the course of a weekend lots of hunters are driven back to the car park or to different part of their block. If you are picked up for any reason whatsoever make sure you unload your rifle when approaching the patrol vehicle. Safety is our number one priority.

It was also pleasing to see most hunters abiding by the rule of plain as opposed to camo HI VIS orange vests. In the pine forest they really stand out .You must put your vest on before leaving the carpark and keep it on until you are back at your vehicle. Any hunters found in the forest not wearing the appropriate vest will be ordered out and their permit will be revoked immediately. Stick to the condition of your permit and it makes it easier for the patrol people. Remember they are volunteers.

## **Special Thanks**

The Woodhill Fallow Management Council would like to thank **Nga Maunga Whakahii O Kaipara** for accommodating the Woodhill ballot within an operational forest for 2014 season.

### **Hunter Contributions from 2014**

Thank you once again for the opportunity to hunt at Woodhill . We had a great day, even though we didn't manage to sight any fallow. It was Sharon's very first hunt and Block one was a good varied block to show her some hunting pointers. We didn't sight any pigs but there was plenty of pig rooting, about 7-10 days old. Thanks you to the WFMV for your terrific work, greatly appreciated.

**Carol Usher**

Taking another opportunity to thank you and the committee for the pleasure that a well organized day gave Paul and I. Do keep in mind that Paula and I are willing to assist if any use as rangers.

**Keith Duncan**

I would just like to thank WPMC for the opportunity to hunt in the Woodhill Forest. Although we were unsuccessful on this occasion it was great to go hunting with my son. It's a great scheme you run and it was wonderful to just be "Out There doing it" on a beautiful day.

**Garry Rosenberg**

I would like to make and added mention of thanks to the new owners of the land, The people of Nga Maunga Whakahii o Kaipara for working with the WPMC committee in good faith and allowing this wonderful opportunity to continue. The fantastic work the WPMC committee has done over the years is such an asset for the hunting fraternity and your ongoing support of this is most appreciated as well thank you very much.

**Maureen Coleman**

While returning our report just wanted to say thank you for the opportunity to hunt a block at Woodhill. We didn't get a result as in a buck but great day and thanks for your work in making the opportunity possible, well organized and much appreciated.

**Bill Mercer**

An excellent well run event, Thank you to all the involved in the running and execution on the day.

**Don Forbes**

## **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.

**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.**

### **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.
- ~ Permits must be displayed on dashboard of vehicles

**Woodhill Ballot Hunt Application form go to website.**

## **Top Ten Reasons Why You Missed Out On a Ballot at Woodhill**

Every year we get people writing in and telling us they have never won a ballot at Woodhill in the last ten years. Statistically if you and two of your mates each put in a ballot the odds of having a hunt are around 1 in 3 or a 33% chance each year.

However each year people exclude themselves from the ballot because of various reasons. Here is a list of the top 10.

1. You have been trespassed in Woodhill Forest or any other forest in New Zealand managed by Hancock Forest Management (HFM). We submit a list of all successful ballot winners to HFM which is checked against their database.
2. You were the primary ballot holder for a hunt the previous year and you did not submit a Sighting/Kill return by the 1 October - read the rules
3. Your ballot was successful and the ballot acceptance advice was sent to the address on the ballot application but was returned because you have shifted leaving no forwarding address.
4. Your ballot was drawn however your writing was so illegible that despite being checked by several scrutineers we could not decipher your address. All on line applications can be typed.
5. You have deposited your ballot fee into our account by direct credit but have not sent in the ballot form. This accounts for a number each year.
6. You put down your Drivers Licence number instead of your Firearms Licence number.
7. You don't have a firearms licence or you provide an incorrect firearms licence number
8. You have not signed your application. This one is a big one; you are signing the application form to tell the WFMC that you have read and understand our rules and agree to abide by them. If you can't do this we don't want you on one of our hunts.
9. On a previous hunt at Woodhill you or one of your companions has broken one or more of the Rules of the WFMC. There is always the few who spoil it for the many. This is generally hunting without a blaze orange vest, hunting outside your block, shooting an animal you don't have a permit to shoot or shooting from the road.
10. Your ballot gets drawn, you are sent your ballot acceptance advice but you fail to sign it and return it by the due date.

There are a few others like bounced cheques, insufficient postage notification and so on.

In most cases we will try and contact the applicant by phone or email but again some applicants don't leave valid phone numbers or don't respond to any messages that were left.

Read the application form thoroughly, read the rules, remember to fill out every requirement and sign the ballot application form. Please remember we are a small team of volunteers and not some big corporation, try and make our job easy.

## **TAKE A KID HUNTING REPORT 2014**

The 9<sup>th</sup> TAKH day took place on Saturday 20<sup>st</sup> September, which is the last day of the 2014 WFMC hunting season under the current lease arrangement with the new owners of Nga Maunga Whakahii o Kaipara. A working relationship between NMWOK and WFMC has been established which has allowed balloted hunting and the TAKH day to continue in the same format as with previous lease company.

Chairman Ross Tindale welcomed everyone and outlined the day's activities. The committee now runs the TAKH day using an evolved format which runs with clockwork precision. This is mainly due to the committee's voluntary input where each member has a designated task and exercise's it to the full.

Alec Corban gave the talk covering all aspects of the 7 rules of firearm safety including a graphic presentation of what 1 foot/pound of pressure really means.

Participants sat the NZ Police Firearms License test, the results of which established the order of block selection. Hunter Safety was again emphasized by the talk presented by Rick Linton; a Hunting accident survivor. Brian Witton and Mark Nobile delivered talks on hunting techniques, animal behavior, genetics and herd dynamics.

The Hall was suitably decorated with a number of record book trophies across a wide spectrum of NZ's game animals which included the three best fallow bucks from the Kaipara herd. A big thanks to those hunters who kindly lent their trophies for the day.

The usual lunch of tasty venison steak and sausages was prepared and dished up by Mike Ross and his helpers before the participants were ferried out to their blocks for the afternoon hunt.

The young hunters were lucky in that frontal squally weather pattern of the morning abated somewhat for the afternoon hunt although it was a tad windy. Most of the parties encountered animals but as it just at the end of the season most deer are fairly wary so often there is no time to effect a humane shot. In saying that, a few shots were fired and two lucky hunters scored a deer each.

Of all the groups that had gone through the TAKH day this group was the most informed and knowledgeable and that 15 of 20 got all the questions right in the firearms test is a testament to this.

The WFMC would like to take this opportunity to thank Mike and Delwyn Shepherd of Westgate Hunting and Fishing for their generous sponsorship which was gratefully received by the committee and the recipients.

A further thanks must go to Nga Maunga Whakahii o Kaiapara along with all the WFMC committee members and helpers who once again gave freely of their time and knowledge to ensure the days continuing success.

Mark Nobile ,TAKH Coordinator



## TAKE A KID HUNTING PARTICIPANT COMMENT

To the WPMC Committee, Thank you so much for the Take a Kid Hunting day. The presentation were very informative and the bag of goodies was fantastic .Lunch was also great (I love Venison).While I didn't get to shoot a deer it was great to see eight in total, It was truly a unique and once in a lifetime experience. Thanks again for the fantastic day.

**Brianna Marston**

### **TAKH; various years**



## **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**

**North Auckland**

**South Auckland**

**Bay of Plenty**

**Rotorua**

**Thames Valley**

**Waikato**

**Whangarei**

**NZDA National Office  
Wellington**

**Email [deerstalkers @ paradise.net .nz](mailto:deerstalkers@paradise.net.nz)**

### **PLACES TO STAY NEAR WOODHILL FOREST**

**Aquatic Park                                  09 420 8998**

**Mineral Park Motel                          09 420 8856**

**Don't forget our website, you can  
download your own copy  
[www.fallowdeer.co.nz](http://www.fallowdeer.co.nz)**

**You have 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!**

Photo: Brian Witton