



ROTORUA ANGLERS ASSOCIATION

July 2026

The Presidents Pen.

The Annual General Meeting date is soon to be agreed by your committee. Please consider submitting nominations and possibly standing for the various roles that enable our club to work so well. This will be the first AGM under our new Constitution. It would be great to see some new faces on the committee so that we can ensure that the club's legacy continues in to the future. Please give this some thought and when the nomination forms become available via e-mail.

It is also timely to once again to thank our many volunteers who work behind the scenes to make the club nights and events happen the way they do. As I have often said, "we punch well above our weight" for a club of our size. I have nothing but praise for the many people who give of their time so freely. The club's legacy will endure if we continue this tradition.

Our next "Kids Fish Out" is fast approaching on August 2nd. This a little over 5 weeks away.

Please let a committee member or Brendan know if you are able to help. We are happy to accept volunteers from outside the club. We are hoping we will have all volunteers for the day register prior to Friday July 24th.

COMING EVENTS

July 3: Club night

July 6: Fly tying at the club rooms

July 10: Club night

July 17 Club night

July 24 Club night

July 31 Pot luck dinner

PATRON. Larry Ware 021645544

PRESIDENT: Dave Hutchison 0273146853

SECRETARY: Dave Hutchison 0273146853

TREASURER: Ian Fear 0274742772

NEWS LETTER: Gavin Corbett 0212263978

EDITORIAL: Send To. corbettgavin@gmail.com

FACEBOOK.: www.facebook/rotoruaanglers

WEB PAGE: www.rotoruaanglers.org.nz

WEIGHT MATTERS

A.I Fisher

There are three main ways to add weight to your leader, and each requires careful consideration.

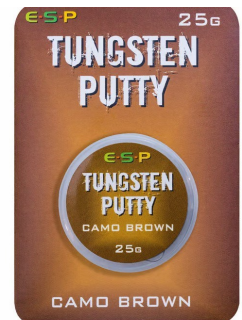
1. Split Shot

The classic and most common choice is Split shot. Small round metal sinkers that you crimp onto your leader. They come in various weights, are inexpensive, and are relatively easy to add or subtract according to the depth you are fishing. However, take care when attaching them as crushing hard metal onto thin tippet can weaken your line. Use the removable type of split shot that allows the split to open or close w with gentle pressure from your forceps. To prevent sliding, attach the shot near a knot or above a thicker section of leader.



2. Tungsten Putty.

A modern favourite is tungsten putty, a soft, reusable material you mold directly onto your leader. It allows for easy adjustments simply by adding or subtracting the putty to achieve the desired weight. It won't damage your tippet, it's denser than lead, non-toxic, and easily shaped into a streamlined form that helps avoid snags. To use it effectively, knead the putty to warm it, then roll it in a long thin cylinder onto your leader, ideally above a knot for grip. The advantage of tungsten putty is subtlety. It comes in earth tones and can be blended seamlessly into your leader.



3. Weighted Flies

Instead of adding weight to your leader, you can build the weight into your fly. Tungsten bead head nymphs, or flies that have lead or copper wire as a component are examples of weighted flies. Fishing a heavy "point fly" with a lighter dropper above is a well-tested and efficient way of nymph fishing. This set up has the advantage of simplicity There is no extra hardware to snag or slide, and strike detection is increased because you're directly connected to the weighted fly.



Weighted Leaders'

A weighted leader in fly fishing helps your flies, nymphs, or streamers get down into the water column quickly. These leaders range from a slow to a fast sinking, rate typically coming in lengths between 5 and 12 feet.

How they work: They feature a loop-to-loop connection that attaches directly to your floating fly line, turning over heavy wet flies and streamers with ease .

Sink Rates: They are rated by sink-rate (inches per second, or IPS). For example, an intermediate leader sinks at roughly 1.5 IPS, while an extra-fast sinker can drop at 5 to 7 IPS.'

Tippet

You will still need to add a length of tippet to your weighted leader. The weighted leader will get your fly quickly down to depth, but a length of tippet tied to the leader will give your fly more natural movement

Lake Rerewhakaaitu- 8th June. Grey Nomads and Friends.

Marie Hutchinson

Birthday boys bash. What would be your ultimate birthday wish?

David requested a day of fishing with friends, including his special someone, and a picnic lunch, of course.

That's exactly how we celebrated another year around the sun.

Lake Rerewhakaaitu's , Guy Roe Reserve, was the perfect setting, the over-cast skies, grey background hues and the bleak wind at our backs only adding to our excitement. Feeling invigorated, we turned our attention to the task at hand, our fishing adventure.

First cast with my trusted hare and copper pheasant tail nymph, and I carefully land my flash of red, a rainbow trout with a yellow tag. A tagged fish provides



important information to Fish and Game, and puts the angler in the draw for the opportunity to win a fishing licence.

The boys arrived with a combined one hundred years of fishing experience, and stories to share . Camera starts rolling, and the boys begin casting their lines.

The threatening grey skies didn't dampen our enthusiasm

Time flew by and the light faded, prompting the boys to pack up but I fished on, determined to end the day on a high note.

Thanks to the lads for the camaraderie, laughter, witty quips and shared lunch, making this birthday boys bash, one to remember.

OUT THERE DOING IT



Top Left. Maree was first to net a trout

Top Right. Neal with a handsome Taupo brown

Mid Left. David and Gavin planning tactics

Mid Right Geoff caught this beauty at the boat ramp, Lake Okaraka

Bottom Left. Walking backward and beaching your catch is easy when the lake level is high,

PUT THESE EVENTS IN YOUR DIARY

Kid's Fish Out

August 2nd

September 6th

October 11th

November 1st

Pot Luck Dinner: July 31st



RED FIN PERCH - AN UNDERATED FRESHWATER CATCH

A.I. Fisher

Freshwater perch (red fin perch) are widespread throughout New Zealand and are found in still or slow-flowing lakes or reservoirs. Perch are prized for their firm white flesh and have been nicknamed fresh water terakihi. Freshwater perch are highly predatory and aggressive and are relatively easy to catch using light tackle.

Rod & Reel: A light to ultra-light spin rod (2-4 kg line) is perfect to maximize the fun, as most perch range from 1 to 2 kg.

Lures: Perch are strictly carnivorous and highly visual hunters. Small soft baits (particularly in red or bright colours), small spinners such as Mepps or Zed spinners, and small diving lures like Rapalas are effective.

Bait Fishing: They are also easily caught using live baits, worms, or small dead baits with a simple float setup.

Finding the Fish: Prospect around underwater structures such as submerged tree roots, jetty piers, steep banks, and the edges of raupo (reed) beds where they hide in ambush.

Waikato and Auckland: Lakes like Lake Puketirini near Huntly, Lake Pupuke in Auckland, and Hamilton Lake are popular and highly accessible.

A word of caution: Perch have extremely sharp fins and need to be handled with care. There are two less obvious fins near the gills which many an angler has discovered with some discomfort.



Brendan is delighted with his first Red Fin

EASY AS TROUT ROE

Trout roe has a particularly mild flavour which may win over many a sceptic. Like any accompaniment, you can always choose to add less, or more! Your yield is likely more than you'll need, but the good news is that you can freeze the rest for the next time you wish to impress your friends. For this reason it is recommended to use very small glass bottles, like spice bottles.

Ingredients

- About 280-300g fresh trout roe
- 1 ½ cups water
- 80g pure sea salt (non-iodised)
- 10ml wine vinegar
- 30ml sunflower oil or similar light oil



Method

- Before you start, make sure that all of your equipment is very clean. Use non-reactive bowls and utensils at every stage of the curing and storing process to ensure the taste is kept clean. Try to avoid using metal bowls and utensils – instead use glass for storage and wooden spoons for stirring and serving
- It is not a bad idea to use surgical/food gloves when processing roe.
- Have small sterilised glass jars and lids at hand to store the roe as soon as it is cured
- Place a cake cooling rack over a glass or porcelain bowl and gently rub the egg roe off the membrane
- Give the roe a quick rinse in a sieve and check it is clean and free of any 'bits and pieces'
- Dissolve the salt in the water and pour over the roe
- Leave **for a 2-3 minutes** (the cure is very quick), then strain well
- Pat with a fresh paper towel to make it a little dryer
- Mix in the oil and vinegar
- Spoon into small glass jars.
- The roe will keep for 6-10 days in the fridge, or can be frozen for a season

Serving Suggestions

Classic blinis: Top warm, buttered blinis with a dollop of cream cheese, a spoonful of trout roe and freshly chopped dill

Ultimate toast: Smear smashed avocado or cream cheese onto toasted rye or sourdough bread and crown with a teaspoon of trout roe

Hash brown upgrade: Top the hash brown with a spoon full of sour cream, trout roe and chopped chives.



CARING FOR YOUR GEAR OVER THE WINTER MONTHS

As the days shorten and winter settles in, many fly fishers reluctantly hang up their rods and turn their attention to warmer pursuits. However, before stashing your gear away for the season, a little care and maintenance can ensure everything is ready to go when spring arrives.

Start with your fly rod. Wipe each section clean with a damp cloth to remove dirt, grit, and moisture. Pay particular attention to the ferrules, as accumulated debris can cause wear over time. Once dry, store the rod in its protective tube in a cool, dry place.

Fly lines deserve similar attention. A thorough cleaning removes grime that can shorten their lifespan and affect casting performance. After cleaning, allow the line to dry completely before winding it loosely onto the reel. Check for cracks or worn sections that may need replacing before next season.



Reels should be rinsed gently with fresh water, especially if they have been used in brackish or saltwater environments. Once dry, apply a light lubricant according to the manufacturer's recommendations. Back off the drag to relieve pressure on internal components during storage.

Winter is also the perfect time to sort through fly boxes. Retire rusted hooks, repair damaged flies, and replenish favourite patterns. Organising tackle now saves valuable fishing time later.

Now is the time to find that annoying leak in your waders. First, make sure your waders are completely clean and dry, before turning them inside out. Next, spray the suspect area with rubbing alcohol. A small plastic spray bottle is perfect for this. Pin holes and abrasion spots will significantly darken and become very obvious. Mark the spots with a piece of duct tape or a clothing marker. Wait for the alcohol to dry and rub liberally with [Aquaseal](#), working the glue into the fabric with your fingers, or, on larger issues, use a [Gore-Tex patch](#) and [Aquaseal](#).



Waders, boots, and clothing should be completely clean and dry before storage. Damp gear tucked away for months can develop mould, unpleasant odours, and can result in premature wear.

A few hours spent caring for your equipment at season's end will reward you with reliable gear and fewer surprises when the first promising spring hatch appears. Like any good investment, fly fishing equipment lasts longest when treated with respect—even when it's not being used.

REVISED REGULATIONS FOR LAKE OTAMANGAKAU

Department of Conservation

Regulation changes aimed at improving trout quality and increasing fishing opportunities will come into force before the Taupō fishing season opening on July 1.

The most notable change is an increase to the daily bag limit, rising from six to eight trout, as part of efforts to better manage fish numbers and sustain a healthy balance with their primary food source, smelt.

Department of Conservation Taupō operations manager, Dave Conley, said in a media release that the region's spawning streams are "hyper-productive", with high numbers of juvenile fish entering the fishery each year. "This means harvest is an essential tool to keep numbers in check and maintain a healthy trout population," Conley said. He said regulation changes are guided by a comprehensive monitoring programme, alongside feedback from anglers. "We also listen carefully to the angling community, and a number of changes this year reflect this."

A key update will affect Lake Ōtamangakau, where the traditional February closure will be replaced by a more flexible approach. Closures will now be determined based on weather conditions, particularly heat risks that can impact trout health. Other changes include simplifying regulations to make them easier for anglers to understand, with updates to rules around soft baits. Fishing access will also be expanded, with fly-only restrictions relaxed at the Otaketake and Waitetoko stream mouths to encourage greater use of those areas.

The Department of Conservation manages the Taupō Fishing District as a wild trout fishery, attracting thousands of anglers annually.



Lake Otamangakau



You don't have to have a boat to fish the Big O



A happy angler with a stunning fish from the "Big O"