

Access

Gate opening hours are posted on our website www.ecan.govt.nz/waimakpark. Licenced game bird hunters can obtain a special access key. This permits limited vehicle access into areas where normal public motor vehicle use is restricted.

For more information or if you would like to obtain a key, contact Environment Canterbury Customer Services ph (03) 353 9007 or 0800 324 636 (0800 EC INFO).

Waimakariri River Regional Park Game Bird Hunting Advisory Group

A game bird hunting advisory group has been established to advocate on behalf of recreational game bird hunters and to assist Environment Canterbury in the management and development of the park.

For more information or if you would like to join this group, contact Environment Canterbury Customer Services ph (03) 353 9007 or 0800 324 636 (0800 EC INFO).

Pheasant Release Project

With the recent increase to a 2 day pheasant season, Environment Canterbury and Fish & Game NZ (Nth Canterbury) initiated a pheasant release programme within the Waimakariri Regional Park during 2009. To date, 300 birds have been released.

If you wish to assist with this project, please contact the Park Ranger Team on 03 323 5342.



Hunting Rules

- Only game bird hunting is permitted within the Waimakariri River Regional Park including the riverbed.
- The hunting of small game such as rabbits and possums by the general public is prohibited.
- Game bird hunting must only occur in designated areas (see map).
- Only shotguns may be used.
- A valid hunting licence must be held.
- Fish & Game Regulations and Game Bird Hunting Code of Practice must be adhered to.

Check the notice board at the park entrance for up-to-date information or www.ecan.govt.nz/waimakpark



Waimakariri River Regional Park - Hunting Areas & Access

Introduction

Hunters have been using the Waimakariri Riverbed and berm for over 150 years. There are documented accounts by early European hunters of plentiful waterfowl on the Waimakariri before 1850 and, as early as 1874, the Canterbury Rabbit Club (whose objective was “the preservation of rabbits or game of any kind on the islands known as McLeans on the Waimakariri”) held weekly shooting days.

Today, people are attracted to the park for its semi-wilderness nature and distinctive character, to enjoy the outdoors, to engage with nature and to make use of the many recreation and leisure opportunities it provides.

However, as the number of visitors increases, we need to manage the park carefully to make sure that all users are catered for without conflict of interest or damage to the environment and essential land and river control infrastructure.

Environment Canterbury recognises game bird hunting as a legitimate form of recreation and along with Fish & Game NZ (North Canterbury Region) is working to ensure continued hunter access.

Target shooting with all types of firearm is prohibited within public access areas. However, a number of hunting and shooting clubs lease land within the Park at McLeans Island, offering a range of firearms experiences for their members and in some cases non-members.

Useful links for further information:

www.nzha.co.nz *A
www.nzdacanterbury.org *B
www.chchpistolclub.org.nz *C
www.nzclytarget.org.nz *D
www.police.govt.nz

Game bird hunting conditions

The following conditions apply to game bird hunting at the Waimakariri River Regional Park and have been developed in conjunction with Fish & Game NZ - North Canterbury Branch.

Open

Northbank - Upstream of the Eyre Diversion

Southbank - Upstream of Thompsons Road

Restricted

Kaipoi Island - Poynter Nature Reserve, Monopoli's Pond - restricted hours Dawn to 9am

Templars Island - restricted hours Dawn to Noon

Northbank (Kaipoi confluence to Kairaki) - restricted hours Dawn to Noon

Styx Rivermouth & saltmarsh - restricted hours Dawn to Noon, 4pm to Dusk

Prohibited

Kaipoi Island - Wrights Cut, Days Run Trailbike Area to Harrs Road

Dixons Bay - between groyne 38 and 39

Groyne 0

Kainga Beach

McLeans Island - between Harewood Crossbank and Weedons Ross Road

The Willows

Gate locations

Night gate locations

New gates are added from time to time, check our website for up to date locations www.ecan.govt.nz/waimakpark

