

## ROAR & CHRISTMAS CLOSURE PERIODS FOR WILD ANIMAL RECOVERY OPERATIONS 2009 - 2014

NORTH ISLAND ROAR CLOSURE PERIODS	NORTH ISLAND CLOSURE DATES (inclusive)	No. of DAYS CLOSED
Roar 2010 - 2014	15 March to 30 April	47 days

NORTH ISLAND CHRISTMAS CLOSURE PERIODS	NORTH ISLAND CLOSURE DATES (inclusive)	No. of DAYS CLOSED
Christmas / New year 2010 - 2014	22 December to 15 January	25 days

**Note:** The closure periods are for public conservation land identified as “permitted” – marked as green on the WARO map.

SOUTH ISLAND ROAR CLOSURE PERIODS	SOUTH ISLAND CLOSURE DATES (inclusive)	PLUS THESE 4 EASTER DAYS, WHEN EASTER FALLS OUTSIDE OF THE PERIOD 23 MARCH TO 9 APRIL	No. of DAYS CLOSED
Roar 2010	23 March to 9 April		16 days
Roar 2011	23 March to 9 April	22 to 25 April	20 days
Roar 2012	23 March to 9 April		16 days
Roar 2013	23 March to 9 April		16 days
Roar 2014	23 March to 9 April	18 to 21 April	20 days

SOUTH ISLAND CHRISTMAS CLOSURE PERIODS	SOUTH ISLAND CLOSURE DATES (Inclusive)	No. of DAYS CLOSED
CHRISTMAS / NEW YEAR 2010 - 2014	22 December to 5 January	15 days

**Note:** The closure periods are for public conservation land identified as “permitted” – marked as green on the WARO map

<b>TABLE 1: KEY CONSIDERATIONS IN SETTING ROAR &amp; CHRISTMAS CLOSURES DATES</b>		
<b>OPERATORS / PROCESSORS</b>	<b>HUNTING GUIDES</b>	<b>RECREATIONAL HUNTERS</b>
All stakeholders agree with the dept's concept of; <i>"Consistency around the Roar and Christmas closure periods was beneficial to all stakeholders"</i> .	All stakeholders agree with the dept's concept of; <i>"Consistency around the Roar and Christmas closures periods was beneficial to all stakeholders"</i> .	All stakeholders agree with the dept's concept of; <i>"Consistency around the Roar and Christmas closure periods was beneficial to all stakeholders"</i> .
The permit duration is 5 years. The decision should be considered as a "start point" for the implementation of the concept to achieve consistency.	The permit duration is 5 years. The decision should be considered as a "start point" for the implementation of the concept to achieve consistency.	The permit duration is 5 years. The decision should be considered as a "start point" for the implementation of the concept to achieve consistency.
Fundamental changes to the feral deer exporting industry which the dept needs to recognise if this business is to have a long term future; "boom & bust days" are gone.	The "roar" is a fundamental element in the guided hunting business and critical to its viability. This is still essentially a recreational hunter activity.	The roar is a fundamental element of the recreational hunter calendar. Reducing interference from WARO activity during the roar is important.
Need to reduce administrative burden & additional regulation; they already have NZFSA & CAA compliance obligations, now changes to the WARO permit.	Mindful of the feedback from hunting guides (table 3) and the impact this decision may have on their tourism business on public conservation land.	Recreational hunters have access to all public conservation land through out the year with little to no restrictions, no compliance or permit costs.
The existing permit has up to 5 separate roar closure dates within one conservancy. The 2004 permit is administratively difficult to interpret.		8.7 million hectares was considered in the land offer, of that 2.5 million hectares have been excluded from all WARO activity (as of 15/09/09).
Mindful of the direct costs to business and staff within the processing industry when setting closure dates. The cost is measurable and they industry is prepared to substantiate the data.		The new 2009-14 WARO permit further supports ring fencing of the "crown jewels" for recreational hunting in New Zealand. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Whitetail deer on Stewart Island &amp; Dart Valley.</li> <li>➤ Wapiti in Fiordland National Park.</li> <li>➤ Fallow deer – South Island RHA's.</li> <li>➤ Sika deer – North Island RHA's.</li> <li>➤ Chamois – controlled through 1-off permits.</li> <li>➤ Tahr under the Himalayan Tahr Control Plan.</li> <li>➤ 8 official RHA's through out New Zealand (excludes all WARO activity)</li> <li>➤ Additional Recreational Hunting Zones (excludes all WARO Activity) through CMS's, Management plans, and local agreements e.g. Whirinaki FP.</li> </ul>
Cumulative effect; conservancies are making their own decisions isolation while the commercial deer industry are operating across multiple conservancies on a daily basis. The cumulative effect across conservancies can lead to an accidental reduction in "concerted effort" on pcl.		

<b>TABLE 2: STAKEHOLDER FEEDBACK ON ROAR &amp; CHRISTMAS PROPOSED CLOSURES DATES</b>		
<b>OPERATORS / PROCESSORS</b>	<b>HUNTING GUIDES</b>	<b>RECREATIONAL HUNTERS</b>
All stakeholders agreed with the dept's concept of; <i>"Consistency around the Roar and Christmas period was beneficial to all stakeholders"</i> . There are differences between stakeholders about duration, regional differences, and perceived impact upon others.	All stakeholders agreed with the dept's concept of; <i>"Consistency around the Roar and Christmas period was beneficial to all stakeholders"</i> . There are differences between stakeholders about duration, regional differences, and perceived impact upon others.	All stakeholders agreed with the dept's concept of; <i>"Consistency around the Roar and Christmas period was beneficial to all stakeholders"</i> . There are differences between stakeholders about duration, regional differences, and perceived impact upon others.
Processors collectively agree with the concept in order to reduce conflict with recreational hunters but not at the expense of threatening commercial viability and the direct cost of feral chain closure at Roar and Christmas closure periods.	Easter focus: total 10 days: resistance to the concept unless the dept can guarantee that the Roar closure would not impact on heli-hunting as the March/April access time is critical for business viability.	Overall agree with the concept but believe the dates require regional variation to account for when the deer actually roar (earlier in the South compared with the North)
North Island processors – NI Roar closure period 6 week roar shut down is too long for business. Affects the viability of North Island feral deer business based on requirement of continuity of supply, quality of animals (compared to winter), and difficulty in creating forward contracts / hedging /stock on hand. Conclusion: dates based around Easter holidays, 2 week either side, 4 weeks maximum may be acceptable.	Christmas: disagreed with Christmas shutdown as this would not defend the fawn drop in late November. The closure period should be 6 weeks starting on the 20 November to protect fawns (ethical issue)	Would like consideration given to allow hunting blocks time to quieten down from WARO activity before the roar starts (2 weeks). Believe there is a need for longer closure periods as the roar is a fundamental part of the rec hunter calendar.
North Island processors – NI Christmas closure period Cumulative effect of both the long roar and Christmas periods in conjunction with the land offer affecting the viability of North Island feral deer industry. No regard given to continuity of supply, quality of animals (compared to winter), and difficulty creating in forward contracts / hedging /stock on hand. Conclusion: Unacceptable; same dates as Sth Island Christmas period if the 6 week roar closure remains.	The roar in the South Island is focused around red deer and not chamois & tahr. They believe that there is sufficient geographic separation between their activity and that of recreational hunters.	Preferred option was all of New Zealand to be closed from the 15 March to 30 April for the Roar if the dept was trying to achieve consistency nationally.
North Island operators - North Island dates Directly concerned about the viability of the processors and cumulative effect of the long closures of both the roar & Christmas periods in conjunction with the land offer. While they have other work (e.g. shifting rec hunters -		Prefer that all of New Zealand was closed from the 20 Dec to 30 January for the Christmas period, if the Dept was trying to achieve consistency nationally.

<p>majority of rec hunter movements are focused around the Easter period not specifically when the animals may be roaring.), need to think long term. If the processors fail then this would have direct impact on viability of operators continuing to function.  Conclusion: Concerns remain with processor viability as this will have direct impact on the operators own commercial viability.</p>		
<p>South Island processors - South Island dates  While they consider the proposed Christmas dates as acceptable, the proposed roar dates in conjunction with the land offer is unacceptable and directly threatens the viability of the business.  Current closures already create impacts with continuity of product supply, forward contracts, staff management. They can if required provide substantive data, information, and costs to support these claims.  Conclusion: Yes; consistency for closure. Length of closure period is the point of contention, i.e. not to the degree it will affect business viability. Recommended that a week either side of Easter would be acceptable.</p>		<p>Raised the issue that consideration should be given to the impact(s) that WARO activity may have on the recreational hunting of other species particularly tahr and chamois</p>
<p>South Island operators – South Island dates  Agree with the concept to reduce conflict with recreational hunters but not at the expense of threatening commercial viability.  Support South Island processor position.  Operators able to provide evidence that majority of rec hunter movements are focused around the Easter period not specifically when the animals may be roaring.</p>		