

MINUTES OF THE WEST COAST FISH AND GAME COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 10TH APRIL 2018 AT THE BRIDGE CLUB ROOMS, WESTPORT AT 6:55PM.

Meeting commenced at 6:55 pm with a welcome to members.

PRESENT: Andy Harris (Chair), Rob Roney, David Heine, Owen Smith and Dean Phibbs.

In attendance: Dean Kelly (Manager), Kim McPherson (Office Administrator & Minute Taker)

APOLOGIES:

Motion proposed: **That the apologies from Jan Derks, Mark Smith, Bruce Erickson be accepted.**

Proposer: D Phibbs Second: R Roney Outcome: Carried

AGENDA

The Council agreed on the pre-circulated agenda

PUBLIC FORUM

No individuals requested an opportunity to speak.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

No conflicts of interest were noted.

ACCUMULATIVE ACTIONS LIST

No changes were required to the spreadsheet

MINUTES

Motion proposed: **That the Minutes of the February 2018 meeting be approved as a true and accurate record of that meeting.**

Proposer: R Roney Second: A Harris Outcome: Carried

CORRESPONDENCE:

Marketing Analysis – NZ Council

The council considered the Marketing Analysis report prepared by Steve Doughty and circulated for comment by the NZ Council.

It was the councils view that;

The West Coast Council disagrees with the comments made by Martin Taylor that the only way to increase revenue is by increased participation or sponsorship/donations. Other options to increase revenue are available but are not considered, such as; fish out ponds, branded merchandising, cost savings, philanthropic trusts to name a few.

The West Coasts Backcountry fisheries are struggling under increased pressure from non-resident visitor anglers to the extent that NZ resident anglers are not using these fisheries. Fish and Game West Coast believes that current public awareness initiatives such as the

magazine and website focus too heavily on stereotypical middle-aged males fly fishing in scenic back country fisheries. This resource cannot handle the current levels of participation, let alone more.

There is a specific case where the West Coast Council would support increased participation. This would be a NZ resident focused drive to increase angling and, to a greater degree, hunting. Increased participation should be focused on robust fisheries and gamebird populations such as lake fisheries, lower reaches of rivers and even rural spring creeks. We also hold the view that recent immigrants are an untargeted group that can be encouraged to participate in ethical angling. Gamebird hunting in our region is now at a low level that exposes us to the risk of becoming unacceptable to the public. We have a great gamebird resource which would benefit from increased participation.

If a role was established focusing on increased participation from NZ residents, and another aspect of the role was to research and establish alternative revenue streams, then Fish and Game West Coast would support this application

Salmon Committee

Motion proposed: **That Bruce Erickson be appointed the West Coast Region representative to the NZC Salmon Committee.**

Proposer: R Roney Secunder: D Phibbs Outcome: Carried

FINANCIAL REPORT.

Motion proposed: **That the Financial report be received.**

Proposer: D Phibbs Secunder: R Roney Outcome: Carried

OPERATIONAL REPORT

Motion proposed: **That the Operational report be received.**

Proposer: D Heine Secunder: O Smith Outcome: Carried

The use of aeri ally applied pesticides on fodder crops was discussed. The Manager has raised the issue with the EPA and consulted with the gamebird research committee.

Motion proposed: **That the Paradise Shelduck Moul t Survey 2018 report be accepted.**

Proposer: D Heine Secunder: O Smith Outcome: Carried

Motion proposed: **That the Lake Ianthe Gillnetting 2018 report be accepted, and that Lee Crosswell be thanked for the quality of the report.**

Proposer: D Phibbs Secunder: R Roney Outcome: Carried

HEALTH AND SAFETY REPORT

Motion proposed: **That the Health and Safety report be received.**

Proposer: D Phibbs Seconder: R Roney Outcome: Carried

2018/19 DRAFT BUDGET

Agreed to take \$8k from dedicated reserve if Mitre 10 don't sponsor this coming financial year.
Agreed to staff member contestable funding bid.

Motion proposed: **The West Coast Fish and Game council support the contestable funding bid for an additional staff member and use of dedicated/historical reserves for fisheries enhancement and backcountry research.**

Proposer: D Phibbs Seconder: R Roney Outcome: Carried

NZ COUNCIL REPORT

A verbal report was provided by Andy Harris.

Motion proposed: **That the NZ Council report be received.**

Proposer: A Harris Seconder: R Roney Outcome: Carried

FISH AND GAME ELECTIONS

The Council discussed a paper from Andy Harris regarding council elections. There was consensus that the current council was an appropriately representative group of gamebird hunters and anglers.

AGENDA ITEM

Meeting closed at 8:54 pm.

Chair..... Date.....