

MINUTES OF THE WEST COAST FISH AND GAME COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 5TH MAY VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS AT 7:00 P.M.

Meeting commenced at 7:00 pm with a welcome to members.

PRESENT: Andy Harris (Chair), Rob Roney, Jan Derks, Mark Smith, Dean Phibbs, Owen Smith.

In attendance: Tim Shaw (DoC), Dean Kelly (Manager), Glen Newton (Officer).

APOLOGIES:

Motion proposed: **That the apology from Dave Heine be accepted.**

Proposer: D Phibbs Secunder: M Smith Outcome: Carried

AGENDA

The council agreed on the pre-circulated agenda.

PUBLIC FORUM

No members of the public were present

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

No conflicts of interest were declared

MINUTES

Motion proposed: **That the Minutes of the February West Coast Fish and Game Council meeting be amended to incorporate the changes requested from Jan Derks and be approved as a true and accurate record.**

Proposer: J Derks Secunder: M Smith Outcome: Carried

CORRESPONDENCE:

National Sea Run Salmon Committee Minutes

Rob Roney provided an update of the issues being addressed by the committee. Mr Roney provided feedback to councillors on questions relating to fish screening, herbicide use and enforcement of fish screen policy.

Motion proposed: **That the minutes and verbal report from the National Sea Run Salmon Committee be received.**

Proposer: J Derks Secunder: M Smith Outcome: Carried

FINANCIAL REPORT.

The Manager presented the pre-circulated Balance Sheet and Profit and Loss as at the end of March. Mr Kelly noted that it would be appropriate to talk about the effects of COVID-19 and it was agreed to cover that under the budget and workplan agenda item.

Motion proposed: **That the Financial Report be received as a true and accurate record as at the end of March.**

Proposer: J Derks Secunder: D Phibbs Outcome: Carried

OPERATIONAL REPORT

The Manager presented the pre-circulated operational report until the end of March and informed the council that the bulk of the work program had been completed before lockdown measures affected field operations. The Manager also provided a verbal update of staff procedures for subsequently working under COVID-19 restrictions. Questions regarding compliance under various levels were addressed and the council were informed of the processes followed for crop predation and junior hunting outside of the regular season.

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

Proposer: D Phibbs Secunder: J Derks Outcome: Carried

HEALTH AND SAFETY REPORT

The Manager presented the Health and Safety report and noted that there was one near miss in the period not two as reported. The Manager also provided an update of procedures for staff working under COVID-19 restrictions. Mark Smith and Dean Phibbs noted that they were pleased with the proposal to review Health and Safety in the West Coast region

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

Proposer: R Roney Secunder: M Smith Outcome: Carried

PARADISE SHELDUCK MOULT SURVEYS

Glen Newton presented the Paradise Shelduck Moulting Survey Report. Dean Phibbs initiated a discussion regarding the opportunities afforded by increased Paradise Shelduck numbers regarding opportunities for hunters.

Motion proposed: **That Glen Newton be thanked for the Paradise Shelduck Moulting Survey report, it be received, and the recommendations adopted.**

Proposer: J Derks Secunder: D Phibbs Outcome: Carried

DRIFT DIVE SURVEY REPORT

Glen Newton presented the Drift Dive Survey Report. Mark Smith asked about the poor fish numbers observed in the Karamea River. Glen clarified that only one site, downstream of the Crow confluence was down. Rob Roney noted that the Mawheraiti River appears to be improving regarding abundance of sportfish and Glen confirmed this stating that this was likely due to good recruitment and stability in the catchment during spawning.

Motion proposed: **That the Drift Dive Survey Report be received, and the recommendations adopted.**

Proposer: R Roney Secunder: J Derks Outcome: Carried

BUDGET AND WORKPLAN

The Manager presented the Budget and Workplan provided to the NZ Council as at the end of March and sought ratification of the draft plan and budget from Council. The Manager and Andy Harris as the NZ Council appointee provided an update of the impact of COVID-19 on regional finances. Mr Kelly informed the council that this draft is likely to be amended and will seek further input from the council once procedures for 2021 budgeting have been put in place by the NZ Council.

Motion proposed: That the West Coast Fish and Game Council approve the pre-circulated 2020/21 draft budget and workplan provided to the NZ Council at the end of March.

Proposer: J Derks Secunder: R Roney Outcome: Carried

GAMEBIRD SEASON REGULATION CHANGES

Andy Harris provided an update on the changes requested by the NZ Council to the season regulations. Mr Harris sought ratification of the West Coast stance provided to the NZ Council.

Motion proposed: That the West Coast Fish and Game council ratify the stance provided to the NZ Council by the Chair regarding changes to the gamebird season, the West Coast Council stance having been arrived at following consultation via email between members.

Proposer: J Derks Secunder: R Roney Outcome: Carried

2021 SPORTSFISH LICENCE FEE RECOMMENDATION

Andy Harris sought council support for no change to the existing licence fee for 2021.

Motion proposed: That the West Coast Fish and Game Council support no change to the 2021 licence free from the current 2020 fee.

Proposer: R Roney Secunder: J Derks Outcome: Carried

NZ COUNCIL REPORT

Andy Harris updated the Council on the following NZ Council issues;

- Chair appointment
- Fish and Game NZ Strategic Review

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

Proposer: A Harris Secunder: J Derks Outcome: Carried

MEETING SUMMARY

The Manager committed to providing a draft summary to the Chair for approval and subsequent publication to the Web Site.

Meeting closed at 8:45pm.

Chair P. B. Davis Date 11/6/20