

Meeting of the  
**New Zealand Fish and Game Council**  
CQ Comfort and Quality Hotel, Wellington  
Friday 18 to Sunday 20 July 2014  
*Commencing at 10.30 am*

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## INTRODUCTION

### **Present** (in geographical appointee order)

Chris Lynch, Colin Sherrard, Lindsay Lyons (Chair), Graeme Jobey, Alan Flynn, Andrew Morris, Paul Dixon-Didier, Jean Willis, Chris Goom, Matthew Hall, Dan Rae and Paul Stenning.

### **In Attendance**

Dr Rick McGovern-Wilson (D-G Conservation's representative) (Friday & Saturday), Bryce Johnson (Chief Executive), Robert Sowman (Policy & Planning Manager), Alison Lyall (Finance & Administration Manager) (Friday & Saturday).

Other attendees over the three days were:

- Graeme Coleman Horizons Research (arrived 12.25 pm and left 2.00 pm Friday)
- Hon Nick Smith Minister of Conservation accompanied by Paul Jansen (arrived 2.55 pm and left 4.05 pm Friday)
- Sir Geoffrey Palmer and Elana Geddis (arrive 9.55 am and left 11.10 am Saturday)
- David Haynes, President Federation Freshwater Anglers (present for the start of the meeting Friday and left at 4.10 pm)
- Phil Teal (Manager, Wellington F&G) (present for discussion with the Minister on Friday)
- Rod Cullinane (General Manager, North Canterbury F&G) (arrived at the start of the meeting on Saturday and left at 4.30 pm).

Jean Willis and Matthew Hall were delayed due to rescheduled flight times.

## **1. Welcome**

The Chairman welcomed everyone and extended particular greetings to Graeme Jobey, Chris Goom, Dan Rae and Rick McGovern-Wilson who were attending for the first time. David Haynes (Federation of Freshwater Anglers) was also welcomed at the start of the meeting. The Chairman asked each councillor and staff to introduce themselves so that everyone could identify each other and where they were from. He then outlined the order of the day.

Resolved (Matthew Hall)

**That a letter of acknowledgement and thanks be sent to the NZ Council's three departing councillors - Aaron Wakeford, Peter Robinson and Dave Witherow - for their respective years of input.**

## **2 Apologies**

Hamish Carnachan (Communications Manager). Apologises also for lateness from Matthew Hall (arrived 12.15 pm Friday) and Jean Willis (arrived 2.20pm Friday)

Resolved (Paul Dixon-Didier/Chris Lynch)

**That the apologies from Hamish Carnachan be accepted and late arrival due to flight delays of Jean and Matthew were also noted.**

## **3 Identification of other Urgent Business**

David Haynes President, Federation of Freshwater Anglers to address the meeting at 2.00 pm on Friday.

The Chairman raised the possibility of introducing an 'environmental scan' at future meetings for councillors to raise points on current issues or perceptions of recent development announced in the media and which were not covered in later agenda items. Discussion would be limited to 30 minutes and it would become a regular agenda item. Agreed.

## **4 Annual Agenda/Conflicts of Interest Register**

New items were added from discussion arising at the last meeting to do with reviewing performance of the Council and CEO. These additions were accepted and the revised Annual Agenda approved.

## **5 Minutes of the NZ Council Meeting held in Wellington 24 May 2014.**

No discussion occurred on the minutes of the last meeting.

Resolved (Chris Lynch/Paul Stenning)

**That the minutes be a true and correct record of the 24 May 2014 meeting.**

## **6 Matters arising from the Meeting Minutes**

Item 20 on the National Office review regarding the resolution on an independent review of the National Office was raised for clarification. An earlier resolution on the review required the completion of other actions before this review was to take place. The question arising is whether correct governance policy has been followed and the notice of a new resolution to replace the earlier one was made in advance of the meeting. It

was agreed the later resolution does not replace the earlier one. The outstanding review of the CEO performance (in two parts – uncompleted past performance reviews and setting future KPIs) is still to be completed and will occur independently of any National Office review. It was confirmed that in future ratification of CEO Committee resolutions and minutes will be put to the full NZ Council. The full Council will also need to sign off on future KPIs.

Resolved (Andrew Morris/Chris Goom)

**That the CEO Committee be comprised of the Chairman, Paul Dixon-Didier and Chris Lynch**

## **7 Confirmation of notes of the Telephone Conference held on 18 June 2014**

The telephone conference link of 18 June was to discuss feedback from regions on the NZ Council's recommended 2014/15 licence fees. These notes and decisions taken in a telephone conference required formal acceptance in a public meeting of the Council.

Resolved (Chris Lynch/Alan)

**That the notes of the Telephone Conference of 18 June 2014 be a true and correct record.**

## **8 Review of Accumulated Action from previous meetings**

No items were raised for discussion.

## **9 National Licence Sales Report**

A national licence sales report covering the period 1 September 2013 to 30 June 2014 was discussed. It was agreed it would help NZ Council's understanding of licence sale trends if the highs and lows occurring within individual regions could be explained.

Resolved (Chris Lynch/Chris Goom)

**The regions be asked to advise on reasons behind increases and declines in licence sales and that the NZ Council office include these in this report to future meetings.**

## **10 RM/Legal Update Report**

An update was provided for those RM legal projects where there has been action since the last report. Discussion focused on the Tukituki Catchment (Ruataniwha) with a Fish and Game appeal lodged with the High Court.

Concern was raised by Councillor Lynch about adequate budgeting for legal expenditure and he called for assurance that sufficient reserves are in place to cover the finances required in any one year. The issue of allocating sufficient funds for legal expenses is something that is dependent on funds available through the budget setting process. However, it was agreed a financial spreadsheet should accompany the legal update – refer the resolution below.

The meeting was adjourned at 12.30 pm for lunch and reconvened for a presentation by Graeme Coleman of Horizons Research (see item 11 in minutes below) before returning to the item on RM Legal at 4.30 pm. In the discussion that followed it was acknowledged the process in managing RM cases and where the Council goes in managing the legal fund is still to be agreed.

Resolved (Andrew Morris/Dan Rae)

**That the NZ Council support the future cost of up to \$180,000 for Ruataniwha potential High Court appeal expenditure.**

As noted above, it was requested that a summary finance spreadsheet be included with the RM Legal update.

Resolved (Chris Lynch/Matthew Hall)

**That NZ Council office provides for the next meeting a two monthly updated spreadsheet indicating legal funding cost control for the current and subsequent 3 years, outlined as follows:**

- **Reserve available for legal**
- **Income available for legal**
- **Approved expenditure**
- **Over/under expenditure**
- **Predicted additional costs**

NZ Council is to seek further clarity from Central South Island on its intention to make a funding application to appeal the Canterbury Land & Water Regional Plan once negotiation outcomes between the parties are known. Meanwhile there is an expectation that costs of these negotiations will be reimbursed from the RM Legal fund.

Resolved (Chris Lynch/Paul Dixon-Didier)

**That the July RM Legal update report be received.**

The Meeting reconvened at 1.00pm Friday with a presentation by Graeme Coleman.

## **11 Horizons Research Survey findings and follow-up**

Graeme Coleman provided a PowerPoint presentation of findings on NZers perceptions about the environment, farming impacts, DoC advocacy, Regional Council conflicts of interest and support for a Parliamentary Commission for the Future. It was agreed that a copy of the presentation be made available to regions to view and discuss.

Feedback from a small number of rural communities and related organisations following the release of the survey's findings indicated some negative kickback. However it was also noted that these responses included no objective rebuttal of the findings. This was reflected in several letters received by the Chairman.

Graeme Coleman left at 2.00pm. Discussion continued on the subject until 2.20 pm.

It was agreed the CEO revise the public awareness descriptive text in the Business Plan taking into account the Horizon Research survey findings.

## **12 Address by the President, Federation Freshwater Anglers**

The Council then heard from David Haynes, President Federation Freshwater Anglers who described the Federation's background, membership and recent submissions on the Ruataniwha, Waimakariri and Motueka river issues. The focus on protecting rivers and trout fishing meant the Federation generates media releases on a regular basis. Other interests where the Federation is making public statements include the National Policy Statement, exclusive access and the Walking Access Commission and the General Election.

## **13 Meeting with the Minister of Conservation**

The Hon Nick Smith arrived 3.00pm Friday to speak with the NZ Council. The Minister provided an introductory commentary reminding the Council of its privileged position with a statutory monopoly. He spoke of the need to retain conservation values while being economically successful, his recognition of the need for modernisation of Fish and Game's legislation and the wish to advance new licence categories which had created a "bow wave of bureaucracy". The Minister reiterated that he did not accept the need to raise licence fees beyond the level of inflation. His commentary was followed by a free and frank discussion. The Minister left at 4.00pm.

It was agreed the Chairman write to thank the Minister for speaking to the Council and to extend an invitation to meet on a more regular basis.

The Council returned to the RM Legal item (recorded above) to complete its discussion before continuing with the rest of the agenda.

## **14 CEO Committee Update**

The Chairman outlined the intent of the newly formed CEO Committee to meet with the CEO Sunday afternoon following this meeting.

The new committee has already been discussing how to review the CEO performance. Paul Dixon-Didier took the Council through a draft performance matrix based on a number of key objectives and indicators. The invitation was made for Council to comment on the document after Paul circulated it for Councillor only consideration.

The Friday session closed at 6.05 pm.

The Saturday session began at 8.30 am

## **15 RMA & Agriculture – video from F&G Staff Conference**

Presentations of video coverage by three speakers at the recent F&G staff conference in Rotorua were shown to the Council. The speakers spoke on sustainable agriculture but from different perspectives. Alison Dewes spoke on farming to environmental limits, Barrie Ridler on the economics of large scale irrigation and Tony Rhodes on allocating natural resources and economics.

## **16 Role of Coordination**

Sir Geoffrey Palmer and Elana Geddis arrived at 10.00am. Sir Geoffrey spoke to his legal opinion on the role of coordination by the NZ Fish and Game Council. He then went on to discuss the recent National Policy Statement for freshwater management.

Sir Geoffrey and Elana left 11.10am. It was agreed the Chairman write to Sir Geoffrey on how helpful the Council had found the written opinion and this presentation and that the Council would like to invite him to participate at the meeting of regional Chairman and managers in November and provide a similar "informal" address on this subject.

It was agreed the circulation of this Palmer opinion must be accompanied by an explanation of the context behind the information (for NZC to more fully understand its functions). Initially it should be provided to regions for information but with the intention that it provides a point for discussion at the meeting of council chairmen and managers later in the year.

Resolved (Paul Stenning/Dan Rae)

**That the Sir Geoffrey Palmer opinion on the NZ Council role in coordination and audit be circulated to the regions with a covering letter setting out the context and purpose of that opinion.**

## **17 National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management**

There was an agreement in principle to seek an opinion on the legality of the National Policy Statement (NPS) and how significant it is in achieving the requirements of the Resource Management Act. The Chief Executive is to ask for a quote on the cost of such an opinion on what the problems of the NPS are for Fish & Game's statutory functions before further consideration of action is taken. Once the quote is obtained the Chief Executive should then seek the Exceptional Funding support of regional managers.

Resolved (Chris Lynch/Andrew Morris)

**That the Chief Executive be authorised to obtain a substantial opinion on the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management matter subject to agreement under the exceptional funding policy with regional managers to a cost capped at \$25,000.**

## 18 Scoping of National Office Review

The Chairman circulated a paper on the Council's request for a scoping paper on reviewing the National Office. Council was reminded of the resolution passed at its May meeting and that this provides the direction to be taken. It was agreed that the points contained in the Chairman's paper would be incorporated into the original resolution. Once a scoping paper is established, three independent parties are to be approached, including Price Waterhouse Cooper, to determine technical capabilities and cost for such a review.

Resolved (Andrew Morris/Colin Sherrard)

**That the paper tabled by the Chairman be received.**

## 19 Meeting with Council Chairmen and Managers – for discussion

The Council reaffirmed its intention to hold the forum and agreed to the need to include Sir Geoffrey Palmer and discussion of his opinion on the NZ Council's coordination role and audit function as an important item for this forum. Other suggestions included RMA challenges and management of mallard populations.

It was agreed the meeting be held at the time of the November 2014 NZ Council meeting. It would involve regional Chairman and managers flying into Wellington on Friday afternoon (21 November), the day of the NZ Council meeting, joining the Council for dinner that evening, having the meeting on Saturday 22 November and departing that afternoon.

The Chairman is to write a letter inviting participants to the event. The NZ Council Office will organise travel, accommodation and other logistics.

## 20 Operational Report

**Project 1110:** A discussion on making grey teal a game bird species resulted in agreement that the Chairman write to the Minister requesting his agreement for Fish and Game to spend licence holder funding to enable it to present him with a robust proposal based on population monitoring for why grey teal should become a game bird.

**Project 1210:** The suggestion by the Chief Executive that Fish and Game should have a presence in the Balance Farm Environment Award was discussed. There was support for achieving something specific for Fish and Game to contribute towards in the awards and the Chief Executive should go and meet with the Balance Farm Environment Award Trust to discuss options and report back to Council.

Discussion on the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management and the extent to which it would protect life supporting capacity and ecosystem health was of concern to Fish and Game.

Resolved (Matthew Hall/Chris Goom)

**That the NZ Council is concerned at the absence of macro invertebrate community index (MCI) or a similar monitoring matrix based on desirable species in the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management and that the Council write to the Minister expressing this concern.**

**Project 1270:** The NZ Council supports and seeks a regular update on how the process is going on the Matrix of Good Management.

**Project 1320:** The importance of the Walking Access Commission was considered with agreement it was not being used enough by Fish and Game. This should become an item for the NZ Council to pursue in its Business Plan.

**Project 1420:** Correction is needed to reference of the Slee's dairy operation when the correct name is Slee – large-scale dairy farmers Mark and Devon Slee won the Supreme Award at the Balance Farm Environment Awards.

Matthew Hall, as the appointee from Central South Island, considered the criticism in print of that region on complaints received about the Council to be unfair and out of line and as a Councillor he is unsatisfied. The criticism is challenged and deserving of being proven. The statement that CSI policy prevented a fishing competition in the hydro canals is also factually incorrect.

It was agreed the Chief Executive investigates the allegations by talking to Central South Island and the Communications Managers and report back to the Council.

The Chairman explained his admiration and pride in Fish and Game staff after attending the recent staff conference in Rotorua. The conference was very well organised and the organisers (notably Maurice Rodway and Carmel Veitch) deserve thanks for their supreme efforts.

Resolved (Chris Goom/Chris Lynch)

**The NZ Council extend its admiration and thanks to all Fish & Game staff for the quality and enthusiasm shown at the recent staff conference in Rotorua.**

**That special acknowledgement be extended to Maurice Rodway and Carmel Veitch in organising and hosting the 2014 staff conference.**

Resolved (Chris Lynch/Andrew Morris)

**That the Operational Report for July 2014 be received.**

## **21 How to read Financial Reports**

The Finance and Administration Manager distributed a guide to reading the bi-monthly financial reports. Councillors were invited to provide feedback or raise points for further clarification. Any queries should be raised with, and noted by, the NZ Council Office and reported at the following meeting.

## **22 NZ Council Bi-Monthly Financial Report**

It was noted that where there is any special clarification required to assist fuller understanding this should be explained as a footnote in the report such as in this agenda's report where levies are paid quarterly and hence at 75% with the budget report being for 83% of the year.

It was identified and acknowledged that line item 1720 on page 55 is missing in the report.

Assurance was sought that staff holidays are on track and up-to-date. The CEO confirmed this to be the case.

Resolved (Chris Lynch/Paul Stenning)

**That the NZ Council financial report to 30 June 2014 be accepted.**

## **23 National Finance Report**

It was noted Auckland/Waikato expenditure to date is 90% at 83% of the year. The question of what has occurred is to be referred to Auckland/Waikato for comment.

Resolved (Paul Stenning/Andrew Morris):

**That the National Financial Report to 30 June 2014 be received**

## **24 Specific Proposals for Capital Expenditure**

There were no proposals for capital expenditure to be considered at this meeting.

Resolved (Chris Goom/Graeme Jobey)

**That the Specific Proposals for Capital Expenditure report be received.**

## **25 Youth Programme Funding**

Rod Cullinane, General Manager, North Canterbury Fish and Game Council spoke to this item, providing background on how North Canterbury had run a pilot programme and were now recommending it be rolled out and shared with other regions nationally. Rod explained the funding application process undertaken and provided further explanation on a number of questions. These included questions about the location of the facilitator, whether the position would be advertised, term of engagement, the role of sponsorship, role of trustees, capability to roll-out across the country, longer term costs for regions, following due process, support by managers.

Resolved (Paul Stenning/Chris Lynch)

**That the NZ Council resolution of May 2014 not to support Youth Programme Funding be rescinded.**

**That the recommendation of managers for \$30,000 be approved for the Youth Programme to operate in the 2014/15 financial year with approval for North Canterbury to apply the equivalent amount for this programme from its reserves.**

Jean Willis, Matthew Hall, Graeme Jobey and Dan Rae wished their names be recorded as opposing the resolution.

## **26 Review Financial Management of F&GNZ**

Matthew Hall tabled an amended version of his previous paper on a review of the organisations financial management that he had previously circulated by email. It was proposed that following the discussion at this meeting the paper should be circulated under a covering letter to councils inviting responses to the proposed questions and any other points they wish to raise.

The covering letter would be sent out by Matthew as the convenor of the Finance Working Committee.

Resolved (Paul Dixon-Didier/Paul Stenning)

**That Matthew Hall as convenor of the Financial Review Committee, prepare terms of reference and the covering letter to accompany the Financial Review questionnaire to councils, for collation and consideration by the committee.**

**That on consideration of council responses, the Financial Review Committee brings forward recommendations for standard operating procedures relating to financial management recording and reporting to the NZ Council, for consideration as national policy.**

## 27 2014/15 NZ Council Business Plan

The 2014/15 draft Business Plan was circulated to the NZ Council separately at the time of the May agenda papers. There have been no further additions or amendments to this version of the plan. Technically, operational work/business plans cannot be finalised until the new financial year licence fees are approved by the Minister of Conservation. This had still not occurred at the time of this meeting.

Resolved (Andrew Morris/Colin Sherrard)

### That the NZ Council

1. Note that the Business Plan has two sets of projects and budgets – NZ Council and National.
2. Agree the draft Business Plan circulated in May for interim-approval be confirmed as a final plan.
3. Agree that once the 2014/15 licence fees have been approved by the Minister, this plan be circulated to councillors for inclusion into the NZ Council blue meeting folder.

## 28 Cultural Health Assessment relevance to F&G values

It was accepted that to take the paper on cultural health assessment to the next stage, it should be considered by both regional managers and the Resource Management Group. There was general support for a Fish and Game cultural health assessment to be developed covering sports fish and game bird species and habitats. It was proposed this might simply be achieved by adding the ability to support waterfowl to the existing matrix.

Resolved (Matthew Hall/Andrew Morris)

1. That the paper be received.
2. That the regional managers and Resource Management Group be invited to consider the merit of the paper on Cultural Health Assessment and provide comment to the NZ Council for its further consideration.

The Saturday session ended at 5.30 pm

The Sunday session began with a public excluded, councillor only, session at 8.30 am

## 29 Councillor Only Session

### RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC

*Section 48, Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987.*

Time: 8.35 am.

Resolved (Paul Dixon-Didier/Andrew Morris)

**That the public (including staff) be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, namely item 1.3. Councillor only session to discuss employment and governance matters.**

The general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter and the specific grounds under Section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

GENERAL SUBJECT OF EACH MATTER TO BE CONSIDERED	REASON FOR PASSING THIS RESOLUTION IN RELATION TO EACH MATTER	GROUND(S) UNDER SECTION 48(1) FOR THE PASSING OF THIS RESOLUTION
Information provided in confidence	Good reason to withhold exists under section 9 of the Official Information Act 1982	Section 48(1)(a)(ii)

This resolution is made in reliance on Section 48(1)(a) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interest or interests protected by Section 9 of the Official Information Act 1982 which would be prejudiced by the holding of the whole or relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public are as follows:

ITEM	REASON UNDER THE OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT 1982	SECTION	PLAIN ENGLISH REASON	WHEN REPORT CAN BE RELEASED
	Maintain legal professional privilege	Sec 9(2)(h)	To enable the Council to discuss legal advice.	Once the matter is completed and the legal advisor agrees to its release.

Note

Section 48(4) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 provides as follows:

“(4) Every resolution to exclude the public shall be put at a time when the meeting is open to the public, and the text of that resolution (or copies thereof):

- (a) Shall be available to any member of the public who is present; and
- (b) Shall form part of the minutes of the Council.”

Time: 10.07 am.

**Resolved** (Paul Dixon-Didier/Colin Sherrard)

**That the open meeting of the New Zealand Fish and Game Council resumes.**

The Sunday public included session began at 10.10am

### **30 Access**

Councillor Jean Willis made a request for legal access easement rights for anglers and hunters. There was comment from others that this would be counter-productive and that these are difficult to introduce and don't have the durability of legal protection. For many regions, it is normal F&G field staff practice to look for access opportunity. Closure of paper roads was raised as an area of concern.

It was accepted that Fish and Game needed to up its game generally on access, given the potentially limited life of the Walking Access Act / Commission, due for review in 2008. It was noted that Fish & Game needed to get on with identifying all the fishable water and huntable areas that were not currently openly accessible and bring this to the attention of the Commission, and also advocate Fish & Game's strong support for the Walking Access Act and the work of the Commission. It was noted that this is likely to become a performance objective for the CEO.

### **31 Introduction of new Fishing Licence Categories**

This item had already been discussed earlier in the meeting with the Minister and during the Operational Report. Hence there was little further discussion resulting. At the time of this meeting there has still been no written reply from the Minister of Conservation on the Council's submission to introduce new fishing licence categories. Oral confirmation had been received from the Department of Conservation officials that while most of the proposed categories would not present any difficulties, they would be advising the Minister that the Dual Licence Category in particular could not be introduced under current wording of the Fish and Game licensing legislation. The need to treat the new categories as a package to have confidence in the financial implications means partial introduction is not supported. Hence the recommendation to NZ Council to defer the introduction until further work can be undertaken with the Department of Conservation to overcome its concerns.

Resolved (Dan Raw/Andrew Morris)

**That the NZ Council:**

- 1. Agree to defer the introduction of new categories until 2015 to allow for necessary legislative changes to be completed.**
- 2. Note that such deferral would mean that rather than introduce new categories in a two-phase process as proposed to F&G regions, that all categories be introduced at the same time.**
- 3. Note separate recommendations on the non-resident fishing licence are contained under a separate item on the July agenda.**

### **32 Non-Resident Fishing Licence**

A non-resident fishing licence for Fish and Game regions had been approved by the Minister of Conservation in 2012. The introduction of this licence had been delayed to coincide with the release of the other new fishing licence categories. However, with the deferral to 2015 of these other categories it was recommended that the introduction of the non-resident fishing licence proceed with the 2014 season.

Resolved (Andrew Morris/Chris Goom)

**That the NZ Council:**

- 1. Agree to the introduction of a non-resident (adult and junior) sports fishing licence for the 2014/15 fishing season.**
- 2. Agree that the fee for a non-resident sports fishing licence be set at 1.3 times the adult whole season fishing licence.**
- 3. Agree that eligibility for all other categories of sports fishing licences, apart from 24 Hour fishing licences, be restricted to New Zealand resident anglers only.**
- 4. Agree that the 0.3 portion of the non-resident fishing licence fee be ring-fenced specifically for the improvement of back country fisheries management.**
- 5. Agree that for the purposes of fisheries management a back country fishery is taken to mean any New Zealand freshwater (river and or lake) that provide some truly spectacular angling experiences, are popular with non-resident anglers and are inherently sensitive and need careful management.**

### **33 Lead Shot Exception for Sub Gauges**

Consultation with regions on the proposal to phase out the lead shot exemption for sub gauge shotguns resulted in 7:5 favouring no change. It was recognised that this is a highly politicised subject and as such needs to be dealt with cautiously. It was noted that there have been no further studies on ingestion rates in NZ waterfowl since the lead shot ban was introduced. The current mallard research programme will provide insight into some of the questions raised. However it was agreed it is important that up-to-date NZ evidence be compiled to support any future decisions. The suggestion was made that a timeframe be introduced for when the decision is to be reviewed.

Resolved (Dan Rae/Chris Goom)

**That the NZ Council agree the status quo be retained (that shotguns of a calibre less than 12 gauge or black powder be exempt from the mandatory use of non-toxic shot in waterfowl hunting within 200 metres of open water)**

Graeme Jobey and Paul Stenning asked for their name to be recorded against this resolution.

Resolved (Graeme Jobey/Colin Sherrard)

**Agree the consideration of a further NZ Council review of this policy be deferred until 2017.**

Resolved (Alan Flynn/Chris Goom)

**Agree that over the next three years Fish & Game New Zealand will conduct research to determine the extent of lead ingestion in game bird waterfowl.**

### 34 Adoption of National Policy on Prosecutions

This represents the final phase of a process of consultation and refinement of policy on prosecutions before the NZ Council confirms them as national policy. Otago Fish and Game Council proposed some minor changes but overall there had been no opposing views to the draft policy.

Resolved (Colin Sherrard/Paul Dixon Didier)

**That the NZ Council:**

1. **Agree to amend the proposed Prosecution Policy as suggested by Otago Fish and Game Council's amendments 1 to 5.**
2. **Agree to amend the proposed prosecution policy to accommodate Otago Fish and Game Council's concerns in its amendment 6 but not to the point of requiring a solicitor's opinion to show a high likelihood of success and to include an assessment of the implication of a prospective decision nationally.**
3. **Agree, that subject to amendments 1 & 2 above, the policy become National Policy on Prosecutions.**
4. **Agree to circulate to Fish and Game councils the reparation policy promoted by Maurice Rodway for endorsement with the aim of it being adopted as national policy.**

### 35 Bequests, Donations & Gifts

Councillor Matthew Hall spoke to a paper he circulated on looking to expand ways of extending funding opportunity along the lines adopted by the Department of Conservation. Matthew made the suggestion that it be the subject of further discussion at a future meeting. He undertook to provide a further paper to expand on the idea and to facilitate this discussion. He also agreed that the earlier papers on the subject be distributed to Councillors as background information.

Resolved (Chris Goom/Andrew Morris)

**That Councillor Hall's paper on Bequests, Donations and Gifts be received.**

### 36 Specific letters to Chairman considered

A number of letters were considered. Some had been included for the one-day May meeting but time had not permitted their consideration at that time. It was agreed that drafts be prepared by Office staff and referred to the Chairman and CEO Committee for final acceptance and sign off. Comments made on each of these letters were as follows:

- i. **Fishing Guide Licence.** That the letter be received. A brief be prepared on what is Fish and Game's currently position and to share this paper with all regions.
- ii. **Sub gauges exemption.** That the letter be received. That the resolutions of the July meeting be conveyed.
- iii. **Dealing with press and dairy.** That the letter be received. That a reply to drafted for the Chairman to reply.
- iv. **Loss made by NZ Council.** That the letter be received. Explain decisions taken in the July meeting to get regions to report accurately on spending to date. Information on reserves from individual regions should be raised with those regions. Information on spending and ongoing legal projects are detailed in the NZ Council Minutes and Operational Report distributed to all F&G councils.
- v. **Dirty Dairying.** That the letter be received. Similar to dealing with press and dairy above.
- vi. **Steel shot.** That the letter be received. Similar to dealing with sub gauges above. To be invited to the September NZC meeting.
- vii. **Dairy intensification.** That the letter be received. Similar reply to dealing with press above.
- viii. **Angler etiquette.** That the letter be received. That particular items be noted to be followed up.
- ix. **Demise of wildfowl.** That the letter be received. Convey resolutions from the July meeting.
- x. **Press coverage on dairying.** That the letter be received. Similar to reply on press and dairy above.

### 37 Other Business

Paul Dixon-Didier advised the meeting that he too was giving thought to (Matthew Hall's) Review of Financial Management of F&GNZ and intends presenting a discussion paper to Council at the September meeting which would include ideas about centralising both the National Budget and Historical Reserves systems.

There were no other items discussed.

### Closing Remarks

The Chairman thanked councillors for what he saw as a cohesive team approach taken over the last three days and his belief it has been one of the best meetings he has attended as a NZ councillor.

There being no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 12.45 pm Sunday 20 July 2014.

Confirmed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/2014