**FISH & GAME NZ – WEST COAST REGION**

**MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 11 FEBRUARY 2014**

**AT HOKITIKA AT 7PM**

Meeting commenced at 7.00pm with a welcome to members.

**PRESENT:** Jan Derks, Rob Roney, Mark Smith, Bruce Erickson, Andy Harris (Chairman), Jean Willis,

*In attendance:* Dean Kelly (Manager), Leanne Johnson (Office Administrator), Tim Shaw (DOC), Sean Climo (Ngai Tahu)

**APOLOGIES:**  Dean Phibbs

Resolved: (R Roney/M Smith), carried

**That the apologies be received.**

**CONFLICT OF INTEREST REGISTER:**

No conflicts of interest were noted.

**MINUTES:**

Resolved: (J Derks/B Erickson), carried

**That the Minutes of the December 2013 meeting, as circulated, be approved as a true and correct record of that meeting.**

**MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:**

Mr Derks congratulated and thanked Mr Smith for the work in preparing the Sportfish Enhancement Strategy.

Mr Roney enquired about the access issue at the Crooked River. Mr Kelly provided an update and stated that the Grey District Council is unlikely to enforce its requirement for the landowner to remove the gate. Mr Kelly committed to following up on the issue.

# CORRESPONDENCE: (as per pre-circulated schedule):

Mr Harris called for questions on the inwards correspondence schedule.

*Resolved: (J Willis/B Erickson), carried*

***That the inwards correspondence be received.***

Prosecution Policy Paper - NZC:

Mr Kelly stated that the policy is already in use in the West Coast Region and is working well.

*Resolved: (R Roney/J Derks), carried*

***That the West Coast Fish and Game Council******adopt the National Prosecutions Policy.***

Sub-gauge transition paper - NZC:

Mr Willis stated that the West Coast Region should support the transition to non-toxic shot for sub gauges due to environmental issues. Mr Harris stated that there is not a lot of information in circulation on non-toxic shot and that Fish and Game should not be having exemptions. Mr Roney stated that there was no need for any exemptions.

*Resolved: (J Derks/R Roney), carried*

***That the West Coast Fish and Game Council write to the New Zealand Council reiterating its support for a transition to non-toxic shot for sub gauge shotguns without the exemptions listed. The timeframes proposed appear reasonable and practical.***

Licence Categories Paper - NZC:

Mr Willis supported the concept, but is disappointed about the delay of the non-residents licence. Mr Willis stated that he is of the opinion that licence income can be vastly increased with the ideas outlined in the paper. Mr Roney queried the reference to an introduction of a combined DoC licence with Mr Kelly stating that this is merely an idea put forward by DoC and it has not progressed. Mr Kelly proposed the idea of supporting Mr Willis’s stance regarding the introduction of a non-resident licence through this process.

*Resolved: (J Derks/M Smith), carried with the recommendations – no. 7 page 2*

***That the West Coast Region supports the introduction of new licence categories proposed by the NZ Council. In addition Fish and Game West Coast expects the resolution of the NZ Council in May 2012 to introduce a non-residents licence to be implemented for the 2014 season.***

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

Mr Kelly provided an overview of the new format and acknowledged the help provided by Mr Phibbs. Mr Harris and Mr Derks requested that a total annual budget figure be provided in addition to the period budget. Mr Kelly explained that this was most likely not possible within the accounting program but would be possible by an export to excel and a custom report being produced. Mr Kelly committed to investigating and providing feedback for the next meeting.

*Resolved: (J Derks/A Harris), carried.*

**That the Financial Report be received as a true and accurate record of the current financial position of Fish and Game West Coast.**

# MANAGERS REPORT

Mr Kelly presented the pre-circulated bimonthly operational report. Expanding on;

* A question from Mr Willis regarding a resource consent application at Garden Creek. Mr Kelly is to email response after consulting with Mr Adams.
* Mr Kelly thanked everyone who helped out on the day at the junior ‘fish-out’ day.
* Compliance effort at Mapourika in the evenings would be useful with most of the tourists fishing in the early evening. Mr Roney offered some time ranging in the area and Mr Shaw offered to ask DOC about their Bach availability.
* Mr Shaw enquired about irrigation resource consents coming through F&G.
* Mr Kelly provided an overview of legal and scientific advice provided in relation to a proposal for a hydro electric power station on the Inangahua River. A general discussion ensued.

Resolved: (J Derks/B Erickson), carried

**That the Managers Operational Report be received.**

Mr Kelly presented Mr Adams’s Lake Ianthe Trout Survey Report with staff recommendations. Mr Roney stated that he believes it has declined over a period of 20-30 years. Mr Kelly reminded the council to take account of the issues when the new fishing regulations are set, as there may be a case for reducing the bag limit or introduce size restrictions.

Resolved: (R Roney/M Smith), carried

**That the Lake Ianthe Trout Survey Report be received**.

**NZ COUNCIL**

No report.

# GENERAL BUSINESS

At 8:28pm the council meeting moved into a publicly excluded session to protect the privacy of an individual. The business was in relation to the Managers Performance Appraisal.

At 8:44pm the public meeting resumed.

Meeting closed at 8.45pm.

Chairman……………………………………… Date…………………….