

## CENTRAL SOUTH ISLAND FISH AND GAME COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting of Central South Island Fish and Game Council held in the Boardroom, 32 Richard Pearse Drive, Temuka, on Thursday 18 August 2016 at 7:00 pm.

Present: J Cruden P McLauchlan  
B Growcott K Payne (from 7:10 pm)  
M Hall G Rooney (Chairman)  
D Isbister W Spry

In Attendance:

Staff: J Graybill (Chief Executive), B Dolan, J Couper, A Christensen, M Webb, H Stevens and R Adams.

DoC: D Winterburn

### 16-035 APOLOGIES:

L Koevoet, B Whipp, J Henry, and S Gerard.

### 16-036 COUNCILLOR INTEREST REGISTER:

Chairman queried if Councillors had any new interests to add to the register. None were forthcoming.

### 16-037 NOTIFIED GENERAL BUSINESS:

- None.

### 16-038 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES – 23 June 2016

Resolved (Isbister/Hall)

16-029

**THAT THE MINUTES OF MEETING OF 23 JUNE 2016 BE ACCEPTED AS A TRUE AND CORRECT RECORD.**

### 16-039 BUDGET AND FINANCE:

039.1 Financial Reports & Expense Listing

Resolved (Spry/McLauchlan)

16-030

**THAT COUNCIL RECEIVES THE FINANCIAL REPORTS AND RATIFIES THE EXPENSE LISTINGS FOR JUNE AND JULY 2016 IN THE GST INCLUSIVE AMOUNTS OF \$88,516.95 AND \$85,092.68, RESPECTIVELY.**

### 16-040 DOC LIAISON:

040.1 D Winterburn updated Council on various works undertaken by DoC including:

- Tenure review process currently being undertaken for Glenfalloch Station.
- Waitaki River works being undertaken to develop predator-free islands to encourage blackfronted tern use.



040.2 Ministerial Received

D Winterburn advised CSI Council that they had received notice of a ministerial on the decision of CSI Fish and Game to not pursue the issue of a diversion of Deep Creek. He advised that the matter is with the Minister so is unaware what the Minister's response will be.

He stated that DoC's position is this diversion took place prior to the area being designated PCL (public conservation land). Now that it is PCL and from a natural biodiversity point of view, DoC would have no interest in changing it back. He advised that if Fish and Game, or a third party, decided they wanted to divert it back then DoC's baseline requirement would be that any party obtain the appropriate consents and seek iwi approval.

Council queried who the person was that wrote to the Minister? D Winterburn advised that he was aware that it was a CSI Councillor.

Council expressed its concern as the actions of this Councillor is clearly outside the bounds of collective responsibility. Responding to Council's request for clarification Chief Executive advised that the issue of collective responsibility was made very clear when he made the presentation on Governance at the 29<sup>th</sup> October 2015 CSI Council meeting. He reminded Council that as part of that governance presentation it stated that if a decision is made by Council it is to be supported by all Councillors under collective responsibility and if a Councillor can't abide by this they should consider resigning.

Council advised D Winterburn that CSI Council was very clear in its decision making on the issue and clarified that the Ngai Tahu representative on this Council, J Henry, advised Council at its December 2015 meeting that Ngai Tahu would oppose the consent stating that Deep Creek is forming its own natural course so needed to be left to do its thing. Council also made D Winterburn aware that John Hayes, one of this country's top fisheries scientists, advised that he believed Deep Creek was dynamic and under natural processes and would heal itself.

D Winterburn thanked Council stating he was now clear that the final decision of CSI Fish and Game Council is to not pursue the issue of Deep Creek any further.

**16-041 OPERATIONS AND STAFF REPORTS:**

041.1 Activity Reports & Operations Reports (8.1)

Staff responded to general queries from Councillors related to topics reported in their activities and operations reports. Topics included navigational safety by-laws, Ashburton Stockwater update, Hakataramea river works, Alexandrina cycle track, and potential for Wainono permitting system for hunting on Fish and Game land.

041.2 Hakataramea River Works

Chief Executive updated Council on the progress of the Hakataramea river works issue. M Hall distributed pictures of the area of concern for Council information.

041.3 Waitaki Salmon Fishery Projects (8.2)

Chairman thanked M Webb for the update and noted it was good to see things are progressing.



041.4 Crop Predation

B Growcott expressed concern that if a permit to disturb was issued and the permit holders were not successful that it could open things up for illegal activity. Staff responded that the permits are issued to fit within Council policy and if offending was apparent staff would take appropriate action.

**16-042 CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT:**

042.1 Fish and Game National Policy on Reparation (9.1)

Council reviewed the draft National Policy on Reparation provided by the NZ Council. It was brought to Council's attention that additions were made to Schedule 1 and 2 to include provisions for "fishing outside of area named on Local Area licence."

**Resolved (Growcott/Spry)**

**16-131**

**THAT CSI COUNCIL ADOPT THE NATIONAL POLICY ON REPARATION INCLUDING AMENDED SCHEDULE 1 AND SCHEDULE 2 FOR IMPLEMENTATION IN THE CSIFG REGION.**

In addition Council agreed that the "Reparation Offer Letter" be amended to explain to the alleged offender that reparation funds would be placed in a specific reserve for habitat restoration projects.

042.2 Meeting with ECan Commissioners

Chief Executive advised that an approach had been made recently by ECan by Commissioners for a face-to-face meeting between ECan Commissioners and CSI Councillors. The stated purpose is in recognition that consultation between our two Councils has been very infrequent. The Commissioner's office have suggested the date of 21 September (Wednesday) at 10:30 am at the ECan office in Timaru.

**Resolved (Growcott/Isbister)**

**16-132**

- a) **THAT THE CSI COUNCIL ACCEPT THE INVITATION OF THE ECAN COMMISSIONERS TO MEET ON 21 SEPTEMBER AT 10:30 AM IN TIMARU,**
- b) **THAT COUNCILLORS INDICATE THEIR AVAILABILITY TO MEET ON THAT DATE, AND**
- c) **THAT COUNCIL DECIDE THE TOPICS THAT THEY WISH DISCUSSED TO BE ADVISED TO ECAN COMMISSIONERS AND TO RECEIVE ECAN'S LIST OF TOPICS.**

042.3 Ban of Use of Lead Shot (9.3)

Council considered a request from the NZ Council to review a letter from the Minister of Conservation asking that the review of the sub-gauge exemption for the use of lead shot be brought forward. It was noted that this issue has come before the CSI Council on several previous occasions. Council has always been strongly of the view that the sub-gauge exemption for the use of lead shot be removed. Council resolved:.



**THAT THE CSI COUNCIL CONFIRMS IT'S PREVIOUS DECISION THAT ALL SUB-GAUGE EXEMPTIONS FOR THE USE OF LEAD SHOT BE REMOVED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.**

042.4 Functions for SOP Treatments (9.4)

Council considered the paper provided by NZ Council on Functions for SOP Treatments in which it requested that regional Fish and Game Councils list their top 5 priorities of regional Fish and Game functions that lend themselves to initial SOP treatment.

Council considered that it was difficult to be too specific in listing individual SoP's. General functions that lend themselves to SoP treatment included health and safety processes; common and consistent methods to assess and monitor fish and game populations; and common and consistent process for budgeting, financial management and financial reporting. It was acknowledged that work was already underway across Fish and Game on these topics.

042.5 Preparation of RM Strategy (9.5)

Council reviewed the Draft RM Strategy as requested by NZ Council. Chief Executive explained that this draft Strategy results from an earlier resolution taken by the New Zealand Council that an RM Strategy be developed for adoption by the NZ Council at its September 2016 meeting. He advised that Managers took the initiative and appointed a working party driven by Phil Teal, Wellington Region Manager. With the primary effort of Corina Jordan, Wellington Fish and Game, the draft strategy was developed. He further advised that a memo to NZ Fish and Game Council explains the purpose, objectives, and outcomes sought from the Strategy but what is yet to be developed are the tactics and the actions to be taken under the Strategy.

1. **THAT CSI COUNCIL RECOMMENDS ADOPTION OF THE RM STRATEGY BY THE NZ COUNCIL AT ITS SEPTEMBER 2016 MEETING.**
2. **THAT THE CSI COUNCIL LOOKS FORWARD TO RECEIVING DRAFT "TACTICS" AND "ACTIONS" FROM THE NZ COUNCIL AND PARTICIPAING IN DISCUSSION LEADING TO THEIR APPROVAL.**

042.6 Decisions Taken Potentially Impinging on Other Councils (9.6)

Council considered a paper prepared by Andrew Morris (NZ Councillor from the Wellington Region) on actions taken by one Council having the potential to impinge on another Council by setting a precedent that may preclude any alternative action. It was noted that this has already been exercised by the CSI Council on regulations with cross-boundary implications in past years. Therefore CSI supported the view and felt it was good to reach common outcomes where possible.



**THAT CSI COUNCIL SUPPORTS THAT INDIVIDUAL FISH AND GAME COUNCILS BE ENCOURAGED TO CONSULT BEFORE FINALISING A POSITION ON MATTERS THAT MAY SET A PRECEDENT THAT PRECLUDES AN ALTERNATIVE ACTION BY ANOTHER COUNCIL.**

042.7 Hunting and Harvest Ethics (9.7)

Council considered the NZ Council paper on Hunting and Harvest Ethics. It was noted that hunter ethics is a matter of behaviour and good practice and that the current Game Hunting Regulation Guide has a section on Code of Conduct where hunting and harvest ethics are sufficiently covered so didn't consider that it needed to be made a national policy.

**THAT CSI COUNCIL ENCOURAGES GOOD HUNTING AND HARVEST ETHICS.**

042.8 Angling Ethics – Catch and Release (9.8)

Council considered a paper from NZ Council on whether Fish and Game should develop a policy on the ethics of catch and release fishing. It was pointed out that the Code of Conduct contained in the 2016/17 Sportsfishing Regulations Guide on page 4 has a new addition that states "*While catch and release fishing is widely promoted by some as a conservation minded approach to angling it remains the anglers choice. However the catching of large numbers of fish in a day can impact on individual fish and also on the angling experience for others. Fish and Game advocate hooking and landing a limited number of fish per day.*"

Council felt that the Code of Conduct covered this adequately and suggested that the Code of Conduct contained in the regulation guides should also be put on the Fish and Game website under its own heading to bring better attention to it.

Like hunter ethics it was noted that angler ethics is a matter of behaviour and good practice and may be revised from time to time and therefore doesn't lend itself to be made national policy.

It was further noted that Fish and Game should encourage more 'education' on how to 'release' fish without injury.

042.9 Land Occupier Licence to Fish and Hunt (9.9)

Council considered a paper on requiring land occupiers to be licenced to fish and hunt on their property. The licence would be free of charge. Council noted this has been discussed before and recognised the benefits of being able to communicate with landowners and provide them with information and regulations as well as monitor their harvest and use of the resource. Therefore, whilst Council was supportive of the principle, it was not currently in the legislation.



**THAT CSI COUNCIL SUPPORTS THE PRINCIPLE OF LAND OCCUPIERS HAVING A FREE LICENCE IF THE LEGISLATIVE BACKING COULD BE FOUND.**

**16-043: NZ COUNCIL MATTERS:**

M Hall provided a report on NZC meeting held in Wellington in August. Topics included: Ministers approval of licence fee, lack of implementation of the One Plan Nutrient rules, new standing orders for NZ Council, FGC audits, NZFFA proposal on economic value of trout, Ngaruroro WCO accepted by Minister for the Environment, and DoC putting energy into Walking Access NZ. Jay Graybill was thanked for his attendance and input at the July NZC meeting.

Congratulations to Natalie Rooney

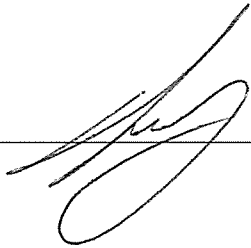
M Hall and the CSI Council and staff extended their congratulations to Natalie Rooney on her success at winning the silver medal at the 2016 Olympic Games for clay target shooting noting it made us all feel proud. This was followed by a round of applause from Council.

G Rooney expressed his appreciation to Council for the acknowledgement. He added that Fish and Game have been a significant part of Natalie's sporting history advising that Natalie started her shooting whilst at school under the National Shooting Competition that Fish and Game NZ contribute \$6,000 to each year. He could not stress enough how positive and important NZF&G's involvement is in this event as it is encouraging young adults into the sport.

Meeting closed: 9:45 pm.

Next Council Meeting – 20 October 2016 – 7 pm.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_



Date \_\_\_\_\_

20/10/16