

CONFIRMED MINUTES

NORTH CANTERBURY FISH AND GAME COUNCIL MEETING

At the **North Canterbury Fish and Game Council Meeting** on **22 Sep 2022** these minutes were **confirmed as presented**.

Name:	NORTH CANTERBURY FISH AND GAME COUNCIL
Date:	Thursday, 21 July 2022
Time:	6:54 pm to 9:33 pm
Location:	ZOOM MEETING, ZOOM MEETING
Board Members:	ALAN STRONG (Chair), DAVE BARRON, DAVE COLL, GRAEME NAHKIES, RICHARD O'KEEFE, KEN LLOYD, NIALL COSTER, PHILLIP MUSSON, TREVOR ISITT
Attendees:	DEBBIE AMBLER, RASMUS GABRIELSSON
Apologies:	CHRIS BRANKIN

1. Opening Meeting

1.1 Welcome by Chairman

1.2 Karakia

1.3 Action List

Due Date	Action Title	Owner
21 Jul 2022	Access Issues at Lower Selwyn River Status: In Progress	ALAN STRONG
1 Dec 2022	Timing for the 2023 Summer Duck Hunting Season Status: In Progress	RASMUS GABRIELSSON
28 Feb 2023	Development of an Educational and Promotional Strategy for Gamebird Status: On Hold	RASMUS GABRIELSSON

1.4 Interests Register

G Nahkies active interests were updated.

1.5 Rakaia River Fishing Promotions Fishing Competition

This event is considered to be more of a celebration rather than a harvest focused event. The Competition in its current format is not expected to negatively impact wild sea run salmon spawning escapement due to the introduction in the 20/21 season of the sea run salmon management and season bag limit system.



Rakaia River Fishing Promotions Fishing Competition

That the Rakaia River Fishing Promotions fishing competition 23-25 February 2023 be approved.

Cr K Lloyd oppose.

Decision Date: 21 Jul 2022
Mover: TREVOR ISITT
Seconder: DAVE BARRON
Outcome: Approved

1.6 Minutes Confirmed Via On Line Voting

NCFG - Governance Sprint 4 Jul 2022, the minutes were confirmed as presented.

NORTH CANTERBURY FISH AND GAME COUNCIL MEETING 19 May 2022, the minutes were confirmed as presented.

2. FOR DECISION

2.1 Capital Investment and Site Maintenance

A health and safety issue was identified regarding access to the NCFG offices. NZC has approved the use of Regional Reserves to complete an access sign and site works to make entry safer from the motorway.

R Gabrielsson to provide a further update via email on his return to work.

3. STAFF REPORTS

3.1 Mai Mai Report 2022



Mai Mai Report 2022

That the Mai Mai Report 2022 be accepted and NCFG's contribution of \$7,260.33 be transferred to the Joint Management Fund.

Decision Date: 21 Jul 2022

3.2 Fish Screen Working Group Update

3.3 RMA Update

CPW Monitoring Proposal

NCFG need to keep pressuring regulators and companies involved in the CPW Monitoring Programme to provide better timelines for reporting/action. Need to consider other options if the Programme continues to lag.

Rakaia River WCO Compliance Issue

NCFG concerned at the loss of momentum with this issue given the slow progress from ECan. The hold up with internal funding for legal aid approval has also impacted the progress. Cr Coll to raise this issue at the next NZC Council meeting. Cr Barron offered to discuss issues with R Gabrielsson to help form a strategy to re-engage with ECan.

3.4 Salmon Spawning Count and Salmon Harvest Update

Council was updated on interim outcomes from salmon monitoring and analysis of spawning escapement and angler harvest rates for this year. The effects of the current rain events, the timing of the monitoring flights and the model used to count fish during the spawning season was discussed.

A specialist workshop with CSIFG will be held in September 2022 to understand challenges and pitfalls from this season to allow improvement on processes for the season bag limit card regime for the 22/23 fishing season.

3.5 Approval of Staff Reports

Council congratulated staff on the quality of the Reports provided.



Approval of Staff Reports

That the following Staff Reports be accepted;

1. Te Waihora Mai Mai Management Report
2. Fish Screen Working Group Update
3. RMA Update
4. Update on Rakaia River WCO Compliance Issues
5. Sea Run Salmon Spawning Counts and Sea Run Salmon Harvest Survey Interim Update

Decision Date: 21 Jul 2022
Mover: TREVOR ISITT
Seconder: DAVE BARRON
Outcome: Approved

4. STANDARD REPORTS

4.1 Chairman's Report

NCFG will use the Report NZC is currently producing regarding remuneration bands and generic job descriptions as a reference document when negotiating such with staff.

Cr Strong to ask NZC for a timeframe for when this Report is due.

4.2 CEO Report

Due to illness of CEO, this Report will be emailed to Council in the forth coming week.

4.3 Finance Report

June 2022 Finance Report

Asset replacement upgrades and disposals have been handled within the 21/22 financial budget and because of this NCFG are in a good position to transfer funds into next year's ARF budget.

A meeting with the Strategic Finance Committee, NZC Accountant, R Gabriellson and D Ambler to discuss how best to handle the deficit in projected licence sales against budget this year will be held prior to the end of the financial year (30 August 2022). The deficit effects the levy NCFG pay to NZC and may impact on Regional Reserves if they are to be used to cover licence income shortfall.

Wage Subsidy

As it has been shown that NCFG, in accordance with government guidelines, applied for and was granted the wage subsidy in August 2021. This subsidy will be retained by NCFG.

4.4 Health and Safety Report

4.5 Compliance Report

4.6 MFE Project Report

Council noted this Report was very good and informative.

4.7 NZC Report (Verbal)

Noted the new CEO for NZ Fish and Game Council starts on 1 August 2022 and future NZC meetings were notified. Cr Coll alerted Council that a subject he as the NCFG appointee to NZC would raise at their next meeting is what is the direction NZ Fish and Game's relationship with the farming industry is heading.

4.8 Updates from Sub-Committees of Council Verbal

Noted that the Terms of Reference for the IT Risk Assessment and Audit and Finance Committees were required to be tabled.

5. GENERAL BUSINESS

5.1 Lake Heron

As Lake Heron area was an important sea run salmon spawning and juvenile / sub-adult rearing site for the Rakaia River salmon fishery, it should become part of NCFG region through a boundary change. The benefits to salmon recovery and need for this adjustment in light of internal Fish & Game Regional Structure Review proposal indicating NC and CSI Fish & Game regions will not be amalgamated, as well as the process for how to approach such discussions and boundary adjustment was discussed.



Lake Heron

That Cr Strong compose and send a letter to CSIFG (copy NZC) outlining reason why Lake Heron should become part of the NC region through a boundary adjustment, and the benefits to sea run salmon recovery from changing regulations for Lake Heron to be consistent with salmon recovery goals for the Rakaia River.

Decision Date: 21 Jul 2022
Mover: NIALL COSTER
Seconder: DAVE COLL
Outcome: Approved

5.2 Fish and Game and the Dairy Industry

Concern was raised on NZC's relationship with the farming industry and the appointment of R McIntyre who has been appointed as Vice Chairman NZFG and who is also subsequently been elected Chair of the Dairy Industry arm of Federated Farmers. NCFG see this as a perceived conflict of interest.

It was noted that both parties would have to follow their respective organisation's Policies on how to manage a conflict of interest.



Fish and Game and the Diary Industry

That G Nahkies, Cr's Baron and O'Keefe (and any other councillor who would like to provide input) write a letter to NZC questioning the appointment of R McIntyre as Vice Chairman of NZC and asking if they see if there is a perceived conflict of interest; was the appropriate process followed; and how the appointment was made.

Decision Date: 21 Jul 2022
Mover: ALAN STRONG
Seconder: NIALL COSTER
Outcome: Approved

5.3 Access to the Lower Poulter River

Noted that both the Poulter and Esk rivers and Lake Letitia currently have vehicle and walking access issues (Esk and Letitia only). Vehicle access was now either restricted or prohibited (especially during lambing season) despite the legal provision for public access via unformed legal roads, despite these largely aligning with existing gravel roads and farm tracks. Walking access along the river hydro parcel or marginal strip (when present) was still allowed on both rivers. But due to its landlocked nature acceptable walking or vehicle access to public land and marginal strip at Lake Letitia and lower Esk River is not presently available. Concern was raised about the possibility for private capture of access to a public river and lake and their sport fishery resources by tourism and fishing guiding operations.

5.4 J Cumberpatch Letter Update

In relation to a tabled paper by J Cumberpatch at the 17 May Council meeting, it was reported that external advice had been received. A letter to J Cumberpatch would then be sent, including a copy of the advice received.

5.5 Proposed Amalgamation

After discussion with NMFG and WCFG held in Reefton, their positions have changed on a proposed amalgamation with NCFG and the regional structure review process has stalled. Currently there are three options on the table regarding the regional amalgamations;

1. remain with the status quo
2. continue with the Minister's recommendations, or use the
3. revised option proposed by the Hunt Report

The process is for the governance and regional structure review proposal to go out for public consultation then back to the Minister later in the year.

5.6 Board Pro

Process to understand the "Flying Minute" required to be clarified. The content of minutes to be reviewed before voting.

6. FOR INFORMATION

6.1 NGAI TAHU AND FISH & GAME HUI

6.2 Fish & Game Proposal for Pressure Sensitive Fisheries Management Regime

7. Close Meeting

7.1 Close the meeting

Next meeting: No date for the next meeting has been set.

Approved decisions made between meetings



Approval of Minutes from Council - 19 May 2022

That the Minutes of the Council meeting dated 19 May 2022 are accepted.

7 Supported: ALAN STRONG , DAVE BARRON , DAVE COLL , KEN LLOYD , NIALL COSTER , PHILLIP MUSSON , TREVOR ISITT

0 Opposed:

0 Abstained:

Decision Date: 21 Jul 2022

Outcome: Approved



Approval of Minutes from Public Excluded meeting - 19 May 2022

That the Minutes of the Public Excluded meeting held on 19 May 2022 be accepted.

6 Supported: ALAN STRONG , DAVE COLL , KEN LLOYD , NIALL COSTER , PHILLIP MUSSON , TREVOR ISITT

0 Opposed:

0 Abstained:

Decision Date: 21 Jul 2022

Outcome: Approved



Approval of Minutes from Governance Sprint - 4 July 2022

That the Minutes of the NCFG Governance Sprint held on 4 July 2022 be accepted.

5 Supported: ALAN STRONG , DAVE BARRON , DAVE COLL , KEN LLOYD , NIALL COSTER

2 Opposed:

RICHARD O'KEEFE, TREVOR ISITT

0 Abstained:

Decision Date: 21 Jul 2022

Outcome: Approved

Signature: _____

Date: _____