

One-hundred-and-twenty-fifth meeting of the  
**New Zealand Fish and Game Council**  
Christchurch/Timaru  
Friday 24 & Sunday 26 March 2017  
*Commencing 10.05 am*

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## **PRESENT**

### **NZ Councillors**

Lindsay Lyons (Chairperson), Noel Birchall, Colin Sherrard, Kevin Williams, Alan Flynn, Andrew Morris (Friday morning only), Paul Dixon-Didier, Andy Harris, John Cumberpatch, Matthew Hall, John Jillett and Paul Stenning.

### **In Attendance**

Bryce Johnson (Chief Executive), Don Rood (Communications Manager), Alison Lyall (Finance & Administration Manager), Robert Sowman (Policy & Planning Manager), Richard Cosgrove (South Island Communications Advisor).

### **Participants**

Friday morning:

Trevor Isitt (Chairperson North Canterbury Fish and Game Council), Peter Robinson (Youth Programme Manager North Canterbury Fish and Game Council), Dirk Barr (Hatchery/Compliance Manager North Canterbury Fish and Game Council) Friday morning only,  
Jay Graybill (Chief Executive Central South Island Fish and Game Council),

Sunday morning:

Gary Rooney (Chairperson Central South Island Fish and Game Council), Daniel Isbister (Central South Island Councillor), Jay Graybill (Chief Executive Central South Island Fish and Game Council), Bernadette Dolan (Administration Central South Island Fish and Game Council), Niall Watson (Chief Executive Otago Fish and Game Council). Roz Pearce, Peter Shutt, Tom O'Connor arrived 8.28 am. Brent Hamilton arrived 11.00 am.

## **INTRODUCTION**

### **1. Welcome**

Friday morning:

Chairperson Lindsay Lyons welcomed the NZ Council to this part of the meeting being held at the Commodore Hotel in Christchurch. Lindsay explained the Christchurch based part of the meeting would be limited to two hours and would start with a public excluded session to consider items 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 2.4 & 2.5. The meeting would then return to a public meeting with resolutions brought forward from the public excluded session and a presentation from North Canterbury Fish and Game Council to follow. The meeting will adjourn at 12.30 pm and recommence at 8.30 am on Sunday morning in Timaru.

Jay Graybill took the opportunity to welcome Councillors even though this part of the meeting is outside the Central South Island Fish and Game Council region. Jay indicated he would repeat his welcome and cover material relevant to the Central South Island in his introductory remarks on Sunday morning in Timaru.

Matthew Hall asked to speak to the Council at 1.00 pm. about plans for the field trip to follow Friday's meeting.

## **2. Apologies**

Apologies received for Bryce Johnson for his late start at the meeting due to vehicle problems.

Resolved: (Matthew Hall/John Cumberpatch)

**That the apology from Bryce Johnson for absence from the start of the Friday session of the March 2017 NZ Council meeting be accepted.**

## **3. Annual Agenda**

March annual items requiring NZ Council consideration are the initial draft Business Plan & Budget considerations and review of governance policies and standing orders. An item on the Business Plan is included as agenda item 3.13. Both governance policies and standing orders have recently been reviewed.

It was recognised by the Chairperson that a two day meeting is needed in May 2017 to deal with business.

Resolved: (Matthew Hall/Paul Dixon-Didier)

**That the May 2017 meeting be made a two day meeting. This is to be Friday and Saturday 19 & 20 May.**

It was recognised that although the Annual Agenda called for reviews of governance and standing orders, that both have only recently been reviewed. Hence the view was expressed that this needed to be acknowledged formally as the reason for not following the Annual Agenda.

Resolved: Matthew Hall/Noel Birchall

**Because the standing orders and governance policies have recently been reviewed, no review will be carried out this year.**

## **4. Identification of Other Urgent Business and Agreement on Agenda Order**

- Bring Licence sales, item 3.12, up to replace 3.4 the Environmental Scan in an agenda that may prove too much for the time available on Sunday morning.

## **5. Conflicts of Interest Register**

The conflict of interest register was made available with councillors asked to identify those topics to be discussed at this meeting where they perceive a potential conflict may arise and to record these during the meeting.

- No conflicts were recorded, although Matthew Hall did acknowledge his potential conflict in discussions to follow in the public excluded session of the meeting. However, the Council accepted that any perceived conflicts would be managed if necessary at the time and should the Council see a need to do so.

## **6. Public Excluded session of the meeting**

The public excluded session of the meeting was to be Councillors only without staff present. However, the Chairperson asked the Council to accept Robert Sowman's presence to record the minutes of this session.

Resolved: (Andrew Morris/Colin Sherrard)

**That Robert Sowman remains in the public excluded session part of the meeting as note taker**

10.15 am Resolved John Jillett/Andy Harris)

**To move into a Public Excluded session of the meeting**

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

**That the public and staff be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, to discuss:**

- a. Executive Committee report.**
- b. NZ Council audit function**
- c. NZ Council Chief Executive position**
- d. Councillor's self-appraisal review**
- e. Confirmation of minutes from public-excluded session 25 November 2016.**

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:

<b>GENERAL SUBJECT OF EACH MATTER TO BE CONSIDERED</b>	<b>REASON FOR PASSING THIS RESOLUTION IN RELATION TO EACH MATTER</b>	<b>GROUND(S) UNDER SECTION 48(1) FOR THE PASSING OF THIS RESOLUTION</b>
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:

<b>ITEM</b>	<b>REASON UNDER THE OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT 1982</b>	<b>SECTION</b>	<b>PLAIN ENGLISH REASON</b>	<b>WHEN REPORT CAN BE RELEASED</b>
	Protect the privacy of natural persons.	Sec. 9(2)(a)	Information provided identifies a particular person or can easily be connected with a particular person.	Once the person to whom the information relates consents to its disclosure.
	Protect information which is subject to an obligation of confidence ... where the making available of the information would be likely to prejudice the supply of similar information, or information from the same source, and it is in the public interest that such information should continue to be supplied	Sec 9(2)(ba)(i)	Disclosing the information would jeopardise the relationship with the supplier because the supplier may no longer trust the Council to hold its information in confidence.	Not unless there is a public interest in disclosure of the specific information.

**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.”

11.18 am Resolved (Andrew Morris/Kevin Williams)

**To move out of Public Excluded and back into a Public Session of the Meeting**

## **7. Resolutions brought forward from public-excluded session**

The following resolution resulting from discussion on the NZ Council audit function was agreed to be included in the public meeting minutes for this meeting.

Resolved: (Paul Dixon-Didier/Paul Stenning)

**That the NZ Council:**

- a. Agrees that the matter referred to the NZ Council by the Office of the Auditor General is more about perceived issues of governance and conflicts of interest than performance of activities of a Fish and Game Council.**
- b. Agrees therefore that the NZ Council function “to audit the activities of Fish and Game Councils” (s26C(1)(j) Conservation Act 1987) is not the appropriate process to investigate this matter.**
- c. Notes that in the first instance, the Office of the Auditor General is to visit the Central South Island Fish and Game Council to establish whether further investigation is warranted.**
- d. Agrees where further investigation is deemed warranted to support an independent investigation by the Office of the Auditor General or its nominated agent.**

## **8. Presentation by North Canterbury Fish and Game Council**

North Canterbury Fish and Game Council attendees to the meeting included the Chairperson Trevor Isitt, Peter Robinson & Dirk Barr. They were introduced to the Council by the NZ Council Chairperson and invited to make their presentation at 11.20 am Friday.

Trevor Isitt spoke, saying the North Canterbury hatchery is of immense value to the region. The value to be put on fish supplied is something the Council believes is secondary to the role it plays. With the declining environment and degraded waterways it would be very difficult to sustain the region's fisheries without the hatchery.

He went on to say, the success of the Council's youth programme attributes to the region's contribution to F&G's overall revenue. This and the hatchery play an important function for the region.

There was some discussion about what had been the concern expressed by Fish and Game managers at their recent February meeting about the Hatchery and what North Canterbury believed the case to be. In discussion about the costs attributable to the hatchery Trevor Isitt proposed that a further opinion of someone such as Matthew Hall could validate the North Canterbury Council's view that the figures were correct. Matthew agreed that if specifics can be supplied, he could look at the financial side of the hatchery.

Matthew Hall also suggested that an option was to look at trigger-points for the fishery, such as a salmon symposium where it would be possible to invite top speakers and look at where the salmon fishery has gone. It was accepted that ocean conditions play a critical role in the return of salmon and that not a lot was known about what happened when salmon were in the marine environment.

Lindsay Lyons thanked the North Canterbury attendees for showing the passion involved in Fish and Game.

The issues need to be considered at a future discussion, once further financial and scientific material is available.

North Canterbury then spoke about the need for use of reserves to complete its new headquarters. The project has fallen short financially and North Canterbury was asking at this meeting to use \$40-50,000 from non-dedicated reserves and a further \$30-40,000 from its ARF (Asset Replacement Reserve). It was pointed out that the use of ARF reserves was only valid if the building was specified as an asset in the accounts – this is usually restricted to replacement of vehicles etc.

Some concern was expressed about the NZ Council being asked to pass this resolution without having had the request made to them in an earlier paper or through the normal channels. The April meeting of managers would provide a better opportunity for transparency to deal with this through an exceptional funding application, which would be the normal process in securing such approvals. However, North Canterbury expressed the need for some urgency. It was proposed that North Canterbury should trigger this process by submitting an exceptional funding application and secure support of managers via email. The results of this process can then be provided to NZ Council, who in turn could agree to support the application via an email exchange.

Andrew Morris left the public session of the meeting at 11.50 am & returned at 12.03 am.  
North Canterbury attendees left the meeting at 12.30 pm.

## **9. Auditor's Business Issues Report**

A paper from the NZ Council auditor was provided at the meeting. This paper had been promised by the auditor in time to go out with normal agenda papers but had only arrived at the NZ Council office just prior to the meeting. It was accepted that the contents of the paper were provided to protect the interests of the auditor. The matter of staff taking leave is perhaps one area for the Council to note. It was agreed, the NZ Council has not been well served with these reports. The contract with the auditor needs timeframes included.

Resolved: (Paul Dixon-Didier/Matthew Hall)

**That the NZ Council 2015/16 Key Issues Memorandum dated 17 March 2017 be received.**

## **10. F&GNZ Financial Review Committee Update**

Matthew Hall spoke to his paper. He acknowledged a great deal of effort and credit goes to individual committee members for the achievements and progress made to date.

Bryce Johnson arrived at the meeting at this time, 12.45 pm.  
Matthew went through his paper page by page highlighting areas where the Committee had made recommendations and sought these to be agreed by the NZ Council as resolutions.

### **Children's programme**

Resolved: Matthew Hall/Andy Harris)

**That the New Zealand Fish and Game Council request information from regions relating to the programmes carried out, over a year, within their regions, that directly benefit children and youth.**

**This information to include an estimate of the internal costs (staff time, vehicle running etc) and the external costs. This information should be split out for each project. If available an estimate of the number of participants would add to the picture. The information when received should be collated and reported to Council before the end of 2017.**

## **Donations and Bequests Policy**

Resolved: (Alan Flynn/John Cumberpatch)

- 1. That the New Zealand Council request that time and resources be allocated to developing a draft marketing plan for donations and bequests.  
(This could be a strawman approach or a plan that hopefully is more definite – budget say - 20 hours in time)**
- 2. That without at all being limiting the recommendation is that the plan takes advantage of the annual licence fee opportunity, makes use of the website and newsletters and considers how arrangements could be put in place with some public charities?**
- 3. That in developing the plan there is communication with the regions (particularly on ideas for implementation)**
- 4. That in developing a plan consideration is given to separately accounting for donations and bequests.**
- 5. That the New Zealand Council completes the appropriate research to ensure that there are no issues with GST and Income tax.**
- 6. That there is a report back to Council by July 2017.**

## **Reserves**

Resolved: (Matthew Hall/Noel Birchall)

**That the appropriate notice is given to change the following National Budget policies. That Policies 2.7.6, 2.7.7, 2.7.8, 2.7.9, 2.7.10, 2.7.11, 2.7.12 (Based on 2003 numbering) are deleted and replaced with the following policies.**

- 2.7.6 All expenditure will need to be approved as part of the budget round including:**
- 1. expenditure to be funded from the bulk fund for the year, capital expenditure,**
  - 2. allocations to and from reserves and expenditure from reserves.**
- 2.7.7 An exclusion to the above rule is that replacement of assets funded from an asset replacement reserve will not require approval but the proposed replacement will be advised as part of the budget process.**
- 2.7.8 Three categories of reserve have been identified:**
- 1. Accumulated Funds,**
  - 2. Dedicated Reserves,**
  - 3. Restricted Reserves.**

**Equity is the total of all reserves.**

### **Note:**

**Accumulated funds (sometimes called general reserves) include:**

- All funds from prior years that have been allocated to accumulated funds,**
- Current profits or losses (income and capital) that have been allocated to accumulated funds, and**
- Any transactions that have been properly authorised. (An example could be an adjustment to a dedicated or restricted reserve or a reserve for building maintenance or where Council felt funds should be set aside from current profits to cover future expenditure).**

**Dedicated reserves include:**

- **Those reserves that have been resolved by Council for a dedicated purpose.**
  - **Asset Replacement,**
  - **Building reserve where created by Fish and Game,**
  - **Non-resident licence contribution,**
  - **Historic reserves where the total control and purpose rests with Fish and Game,**
  - **Legal Fund Reserve,**
  - **Research Fund Reserve.**
  - **Other dedicated reserves.**

**Restricted reserves include:**

- **Those reserves that are under Fish and Game's control where an external party sets a restricted purpose. (Could be a bequest or donation accepted by Fish and Game that has been tagged for a special purpose.)**
  - **Eg, Waikaremoana Fund where a special trust applies.**
  - **Dedicated by donor for wetland development etc.**
  - **Other restricted reserves.**

**2.7.9 All income (including interest from all reserves (with the exception of restricted reserves that specify otherwise) shall be brought into the budget.**

Note 1. As a result of these changes numbering of the remaining policies will need to be altered if there is to be consecutive numbering.

Note 2. This numbering change may be placed on hold because the intention is to review the remaining policies in 2.7.

**Budgeting Carmel Veitch's time**

Resolved: (Matthew Hall/John Jillett)

**That the New Zealand Council approve 124 hours of work to be completed by Carmel Veitch on the following matters:**

- 1. Policy on Non-Resident licence Contribution**
- 2. Procedures for Asset Replacement Fund**
- 3. Research on reserves**
- 4. Procedure for budgets and use of reserves**
- 5. on-going work on Financial reporting standards and variance reports and communicating with regions**

**Maximum cost \$7000 of Carmel's time.**

Friday's public meeting adjourned at 1.00 pm Friday 24<sup>th</sup> March.

Before, departing for lunch Matthew Hall described the field trip and what is to be seen on the way from Christchurch to Twizel.

Meeting reconvened 8.00 am at the

Benvenue Hotel in Timaru Sunday 26 March 2017.

## **11. Welcome to day two of the NZ Council meeting**

Andrew Morris was absent from the Sunday meeting. Otherwise, all NZ Councillors and staff present on Friday morning in Christchurch were present for this Timaru Sunday morning session of the meeting.

Sunday morning guests:

Gary Rooney, Roz Pearce, Peter Shutt, Daniel Isbister, Jay Graybill, Bernadette Dolan, Niall Watson. Tom O'Connor arrived 8.28 am. Brent Hamilton arrived 11.00 am.

Lindsay Lyons welcomed everyone to this part of the meeting being held at the Benvenue Hotel in Timaru. He recapped on the last couple of days describing them as an eye-opener for many of us. The fish exclusion barrier at the Rangitata Water Ltd property created by Rooney Construction illustrated the passion held by those involved in protecting the fish and game resource. Commentaries from Matthew and Jay en route made the journey even more special. The trip included a visit to the canals, Mt John's Earth & Sky facility with Graeme Murray and his enthusiasm, sockeye salmon at the Twizel Bridge - all memorable moments. The visit to Wainono Lagoon was also of great interest and the support for it was apparent in Gary Rooney's comments made on the edge of the lagoon.

## **12. Welcome from Central South Island Fish and Game Council**

The region's Chief Executive Jay Graybill in introducing the group from Central South Island, went back over some of the things he had spoken about over the last couple of days, including the figures on catch rates by weight and salmon runs in the CSI region. Jay provided commentary on a number of issues, involving angler usages from the National Anglers Survey and Deep Creek in the Rangitata catchment.

Gary Rooney, Chairperson of the Central South Island Fish and Game Council spoke to the NZ Council. He described the resource in the region and highlighted that parts of the region are drought prone and sitting on gravel means streams do dry up. An issue for the future is the use of pipes to distribute irrigation water which means leakage and seepage back into the aquifers will not happen as much. CSI is fortunate with the diversity that occurs in the region. However, this comes with conflicts and the challenge to find a middle ground for Fish and Game to negotiate. The role ECan has to play is a difficult one. Fish and Game has to be supportive and get alongside this regional body to get the outcomes it needs.

The fact that there are no salmon in the rivers is credited by some anglers as Fish and Game's fault. To try and get people to think about a salmon's life cycle is something Fish and Game needs to repeat over and over.

A company called Ecotech is taking plastic water bottles and creating granular carpet for cow races. Natalie Rooney is ranked number two in the world in target shooting. It is in part due to Fish and Game and the role it has played in secondary school target shooting that has led her to achieve so much.

Fish and Game needs to get off the blame gain and push the learning. Organisations like ECan need help in dealing with significant issues. CSI spend a lot of time achieving this.

Governance and natural justice should require CSI having a role to play in any of the complaints received. CSI did not know the detail of the complaints received by the OAG.

He asked that CSI needs NZ Council support to say the region is doing a good job.

The NZ Council Chairperson thanked Gary and Jay for their comments and hospitality over the last few days. He then moved to the agenda and commenced the business for the meeting.



### **13. Confirmation of Minutes from 25 & 27 November 2016 Meeting**

Nothing was identified in the minutes requiring further discussion.

Resolved: (Paul Stenning/Kevin Williams)

**That the minutes of the New Zealand Fish and Game Council meeting of 25 & 27 November 2016 be confirmed as a true and correct record.**

Paul Dixon-Didier abstained due to his absence from the last meeting.

### **14. Review of Accumulative Action List from Previous Meetings**

Points were clarified with discussion resulting on some items.

Agreed that tourism issues be discussed in a strategy session at the next meeting.

### **15. Health & Safety report**

There are some timeframes needed to be put on the landlord to have things fixed.

Insurance cover is something that needs further investigation to assess whether adequate cover is provided.

The whole area of risk management is something all councils should have covered. It involves data security, insurance et al. The subject warrants discussion with managers to establish a general position.

Resolved: (Matthew Hall/Paul Stenning)

**That the Health & Safety report for March 2017 be received.**

### **16. National Licence Sales & Licence Analysis**

A report on licence sales year-to-date (YTD) 1 September 2016 to 15 March 2017 and updates to the licence system were discussed. Analysis of licence sales provided commentary and graphs on switching & lapsing, performance of licence categories, backcountry fishery designations and immediate fee options.

Further work should be done on the type of species caught and sales. It is believed that poor salmon seasons correspond with poorer sales.

Resolved: (Kevin Williams/John Jillett)

- 1. That the March 2017 licence sales tables and licence system update be received for information.**
- 2. That licence categories and fee ratios remain unchanged for the 2017/18 financial year but that:**
- 3. Regional Fish and Game Councils be consulted on support for:**
  - a. Imposing a limit on the number of consecutive days that a day licence can be issued for, with the proposed limit being three-days and not renewable for a further five working days.**
  - b. Broadening the designated fishery areas in keeping with the back country definition as a useful management tool in the promotion of more whole season (including non-resident) licences.**
  - c. Permitting all named people to use the family licence i.e. primary, secondary and named children, as a fish alone licence.**
- 4. That ways to grow participation rates become part of a proposed marketing strategy**

Noel Birchall asked to record against the resolution, in particular point 2.

## **17. Operational Report**

The bi-monthly operational report was considered with questions raised mainly for information. Questions raised under various project headings were answered or the point queried was explained. Discussion occurred on the following projects:

### **Project 1110: Species Advocacy**

Ngai Tahu's customary approaches for optimising cultural and ecological resilience were identified as matters to be followed. Suggested that the Ngai Tahu discussion paper be provided to managers with their view brought back to the Council.

### **Project 1140: Commercial users of the Sports Fish & Game Resource**

It was agreed the Chief Executive should meet with the Director-General to move the Guide Licence proposal along and report back to the Council.

### **Project 1210: Habitat Advocacy General**

There was discussion over the proposed Resource Legislation Amendment Bill and the OECD report.

### **Project 1270: Advocacy Assistance**

Meeting legal requirements of future generations is being considered in an assessment of regional policy statements and regional plans. This will be reported back to the NZ Council once results are provided.

### **Project 1320: Access to the Resource**

Niall Watson (Chief Executive Otago Fish and Game Council) explained his Council's discussion with the Overseas Investment Office with the overseas purchase of Hunter Valley Station in its region. Sensitive lands provision has not been incorporated to a level acceptable to those concerned.

### **Project 1420: Public awareness and support**

A Hunter Safety report from the Mountain Safety Council is a conservative look at recreational firearm accidents. Official Police figures used tended to under-report firearm safety incidents reported by the ACC.

The NZ Council asked to recognise the amount of material coming through on social media and its appreciation of this material.

### **Project 1715: Governors' Forum**

It was agreed a Forum should be held in July 2018. Details for this to be finalised at the May 2017 meeting with an update of actions taken from the last Forum

Resolved: (John Cumberpatch/Kevin Williams)

**That the Operational Report for March 2017 be received.**

## **18. NZ Council 2016/17 Bi-Monthly Financial Report No. 2**

Report No 2 records the NZ Council being 50% through the year with expenditure at 42.2% of budget.

Resolved: (Matthew Hall/John Jillett)

**That the Financial Report No. 2 to 28 February 2017 be accepted.**

## **19. Fish & Game NZ Finance Report**

This item provides an update on expenditure by all thirteen Fish and Game Councils as at 28 February 2017 being 50% through the financial year.

This is the coordination of information from the regions, not something the National Office can control and requires constant requests to assemble this information in time for the agenda mailout.

Resolved: (Kevin Williams/Paul Stenning)

**That the National Finance Report to 28 February 2017 be received.**

## **20. RM/Legal Updates Report**

The RM/Legal updates report provides details on the project manager, approved sums and spending to date of RM legal projects from around the country. There were discussions and verbal updates provided on some cases.

The issue of completed projects and the need to monitor implementation of agreed conditions was re-requested.

Resolved: (John Jillett/Paul Dixon-Didier)

**That the March 2017 RM/legal update report be received.**

## **21. Legal Funding Applications**

Three legal cases have been submitted for NZ Council endorsement at this March meeting. They are:

- a. Healthy Rivers Auckland/Waikato.
- b. Plan Change 3 South Coastal Plan – Appeal CSI
- c. Resource Consent hearing – Rangitata Diversion Race Ltd CSI.

All regional managers have shown support for these applications. Detailed reports on the applications were provided as agenda papers.

Resolved: (Paul Stenning/Kevin Williams)

**That the application for Healthy Rivers by Auckland/Waikato Fish and Game Council be approved for funding from the National Legal Fund of legal costs of \$176,000 for 2016/17 and 2017/18 financial years (\$20,000 for 2016/17 & balance in 2017/18 year).**

**That the application for the Plan Change 3 by Central South Island Fish and Game Council be approved for funding from the National Legal Fund of legal costs of \$25,410 for the 2016/17 financial year.**

**That the application for the joint hearing for resource consent application of Rangitata Diversion Race Ltd by Central South Island Fish and Game Council be approved for funding from the National Legal Fund of legal costs of \$96,580 for the 2016/17 financial year.**

## **22. Research Programme Update**

An update was provided on research projects currently in progress. There was general debate on some projects but no issues were raised.

Resolved: (Noel Birchall/Colin Sherrard)

**That this March 2017 Research Programme update report be received.**

### **23. 2017/18 NZ Council Business Plan**

Proposed changes for the 2017/18 financial year were discussed.

It was agreed to add further items to those listed. These included:

- Provision for a salmon symposium to be held in September 2017. Matthew Hall to provide further details for the May meeting.
- Identify new project opportunities with coarse fishing in the Auckland/Waikato Fish and Game region. This to be undertaken in consultation with that Fish and Game Council.
- Include a relevant project on Access, given the Walking Access Act 2008 is up to review in 2018.

### **24. Correspondence**

A correspondence schedule of mail received during the period was received. No correspondence was tabled for NZ Council consideration.

### **25. Urgent General Business**

Chief Executive to circulate possible political party topics for Councillors information and comment.

### **Closing Remarks**

The Chairperson thanked Council and staff for their support. He made special thanks to Gary Rooney for the time he made available and to Jay Graybill and Matthew Hall for doing a great job as commentators over the last couple of days.

Frank Hamilton's son Brent attended the later part of the meeting. His father Frank is unwell, but had planned to attend. Best wishes and a speedy recovery were asked to be conveyed to Frank.

There being no further business, the Chairperson thanked Central South Island Fish and Game Council. All present were thanked for their attendance and contribution. The meeting was declared closed at 12.20 pm Sunday 26 March 2017.

Confirmed: .....

Date: ...../...../2017