

NORTH CANTERBURY FISH AND GAME COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council Meeting Held on Wednesday 20 June 2018 At 595 Johns Road, Harewood Commencing at 6.30 pm

1. Present:

Councillors: Trevor Isitt (Chair), Charles Smith, Peter Robinson, Chris Brankin, Ron Stuart, Phillip Musson, Alan Strong, Denis Kelliher, Bruce Kelly, Ken Lee, Craig Maylam, Malcolm Gilbert

Staff: Rod Cullinane, Debbie Ambler, Tony Hawker, Scott Pearson

In Attendance: Darryn Haffenden, Paul Hodgson

2. Apologies:

Councillors: Nil

Staff: Emily Arthur-Moore, Ryton Barr, Steve Terry, Dirk Barr

“That the apologies be accepted.”

Moved: Cr Stuart

Seconded: Cr Kelly

CARRIED

Cr Isitt welcomed D Heffenden to the meeting.

3. Notification of General Business

Nil.

4a. Minutes from Previous Meeting:

“That the minutes from 18 April 2018 be accepted”.

Moved: Cr Stuart

Seconded: Cr Kelly

CARRIED

Noted that Craig Maylam was in attendance at the 18 April 2018 meeting.

4b. Matters Arising

1. **Change to Gamebird Survey** - Discussion to be held over until August meeting.

2. **Wheelchair Platform** – Still waiting on a response from Ecan.

5. Health and Safety Update

Rangers completed safety briefings and safety analysis over the opening weekend of the Gamebird season.

6. Public Session

No matters were raised.

7. Meeting Business

7a ia Restoration of the Salmon Fishery – a Strategic Outline

Cr Isitt opened discussion by stating that the North Canterbury salmon fishery was in serious trouble and steps were required to minimise the effects. He commended S Terry on his report which outlined a three year strategy to return the salmon fishery back to a healthy sustainable one. Cr Isitt stated that the first step is to make some changes to the 18/19 Fishing Regulations to start the ball rolling.

Points raised in discussion were;

- that a recommendation (not a rule change) be made to stakeholders to lower the season limit to four salmon and have a one fish per day limit;
- consideration needed that should the daily bag limit be caught, will the rest of the day be catch and release or not;
- possibility of barbless hooks or hooks that have had the barb crushed be used;
- handling of fish when releasing required care;
- introduction of any changes needed to be managed carefully;
- possibly look at the type of tackle first rather than limit catch;
- education via video on how to handle fish if catch and release would be done and this was seen as a good avenue to educate the younger population on catch and release;
- size limit on jacks to increase as there are more returning to traps;
- that the Restoration of the Salmon Fishery report be sent to stakeholders immediately;
- that Coleridge salmon would not be included in the season limit;
- a show of hands was made as to the number of fish that would be the season limit.

The meeting agreed on the following;

That a recommendation only be made to stakeholders that there be a season limit of four salmon with a one fish per day bag limit, thereafter a barbless hook be used for catch and release only for the rest of the day.

“That North Canterbury Fish and Game adopt the report on Restoration of the Salmon Fishery – a Strategic Outline and release to the angling public.”

Moved: Cr Isitt

Carried

S Terry to amend report prior to release to include a one fish catch graph and the amendment to the Fishing Regulations. R Cosgrove to produce a video on Catch and Release and co-ordinate the release of the Report to stakeholders.

7a ib Draft Outline -Restoration of Trout, Habitat and Environment – Strategic Outline

The Draft was tabled for information and would be open for input. A report would be tabled at the October Council meeting in more detail.

7a ii Reserve Funding for NCGF&G Hatchery 2018/19 Financial Year

This subject be held over until August Council meeting.

7a ii Application to Hold a Fishing Competition

“That the application from the Rangiora RSA to hold fishing tournament on 15/16 March 2019. was granted.”

Moved: Cr Stuart

Seconded: Cr Lee

CARRIED

D Ambler to advise Rangiora RSA.

7a iii Lake Coleridge Chinook Salmon Spawning Survey Report

T Hawker advised that the current release programme was not working with nil returns being seen. He suggested the focus be on supplementing the harvest into the lake. By releasing 7gm fin clipped salmon into the Lake would mean financial savings in raising the fish. This was also seen as a good alternative to drying river beds in the lower reaches.

“That NCF&G Council agree to start releasing salmon directly into the Lake and continue to monitor key spawning streams.”

Moved: Cr Stuart

Seconded: Cr Lee

CARRIED

7a v Developing Revenue Through Increased Participation

This document was re-presented to Council for ratification.

“That the North Canterbury Fish and Game Council support in principal:

- 1. The decline in participation needs to be stopped and reversed;**
- 2. To establish an R3 program;**
- 3. Request a proposal for the next meeting setting out what a five-year R3 program entails and the cost.”.**

Moved: Cr Isitt

Seconded: Cr Kelliher

CARRIED

D Ambler to advise NZC.

8. Reports

8b Staff Report

Fish Screens Update – T Hawker advised on the Fish Screen meeting held with Ecan. A pilot monitoring program had started by checking 35 fish screens against NIWA guidelines. All but one was non-compliant and only half met consent conditions. Follow up monitoring on another 800 fish screens was a larger task than current Ecan staff levels could manage. The establishment of a template for fish screens in each category for auditing processes was required. P Hodgson reported that Ecan compliance had talked to the Claxby irrigator regarding his fish screen.

8e Fresh Waters Programme

Cr Isitt reported that Little Big Tree Company and Dux Dine are back on board with assisting in some sponsorship for another year with another potential company in line to sponsor Lake Lyndon fishing competition and the feed costs towards growing the fish for the event.

At this stage of the meeting, the rest of the Reports section was taken as read.

Cr Isitt advised that the meeting will now proceed into public excluded.

That the public and staff (other than may be necessary to assist and advise Council) be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting:

1. Letter from NZC in response to matters raised about Council and management decisions.

“To move into Public Excluded session of the meeting at 7.52pm”

Moved:Cr Isitt

Seconded: Cr Stuart

CARRIED

Section 48, Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987

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 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
Letter from NZC Raising Concerns About North Canterbury Fish and Game	Matter is confidential and relates to governance issues	S48(1)(d)

This resolution is made in reliance of 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
	Protection of private persons	S9(2)	Privacy	No intention to release

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.”

That the meeting move out of public excluded session at 8.27pm.”

Moved: Cr Isitt

Seconded: Cr Stuart

CARRIED

It was advised that this would be the last meeting of M Gilbert (Federated Farmers co-opted member to the Council). Cr Isitt thanked M Gilbert for his expertise and input over the years.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.30 pm.

Chairman: _____

Date: _____

Next Meeting:

15 August 2018

595 Johns Road, Harewood

6.30pm