

CONFIRMED MINUTES

NORTH CANTERBURY FISH AND GAME COUNCIL MEETING

At the **NORTH CANTERBURY FISH AND GAME COUNCIL MEETING** on **21 Jul 2022** these minutes were **confirmed as presented**.

Name:	NORTH CANTERBURY FISH AND GAME COUNCIL MEETING
Date:	Thursday, 19 May 2022
Time:	6:30 pm to 9:48 pm
Location:	NORTH CANTERBURY FISH AND GAME COUNCIL, 595 JOHNS ROAD, HAREWOOD, CHRISTCHURCH
Board Members:	CHRIS BRANKIN, DAVE BARRON, DAVE COLL, GRAEME NAHKIES, KEN LLOYD, NIAL COSTER, PHILLIP MUSSON, RICHARD O'KEEFE, TREVOR ISITT
Attendees:	ALAN STRONG, DEBBIE AMBLER, RASMUS GABRIELSSON
Guests:	J Cumberpatch, D Kirkness, M Patchett, L Burke, P Ball, M Agar, G Tarras, R Stuart, P Robinson
Notes:	C Brankin attended via Zoom. P Musson late

1. Opening Meeting

1.1 Welcome by Chairman

Cr Strong opened the meeting by stating that as the agenda was full, he asked that the public session speakers keep to 5 minutes when speaking.

1.2 Karakia

In the absence of C Brankin, G Nahkies gave the 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 Feb 2023	Timing for the 2023 Summer Duck Hunting Season Status: On Hold	RASMUS GABRIELSSON
28 Feb 2023	Development of an Educational and Promotional Strategy for Gamebird Status: On Hold	RASMUS GABRIELSSON

That the title Fish Screens and Hatchery Best Practice Policies be separated in title as they are different discussions.

All "Due Dates" be updated after each meeting.



Fish Screen Policy

This action has been separated from the heading Fish Screen and Hatchery Best Practice Policy as per Council request.

Due Date: 21 Jul 2022
Owner: RASMUS GABRIELSSON



Hatchery Best Practice Policy

This action has been separated from the heading Fish Screen and Hatchery Best Practice Policy as per Council request.

Due Date: 21 Jul 2022
Owner: RASMUS GABRIELSSON

1.4 Interests Register



Interests Register

Take CPW off G Nahkies as an Interest.

Due Date: 20 May 2022
Owner: DEBBIE AMBLER

1.5 Confirm Draft Minutes

Council Meeting 3 Feb 2022, the minutes were confirmed with the following changes:

That in item 4.6 the resolution should read "That the verbal High Country Water and Wildlife Project report be accepted. Cr's Isitt and O'Keefe abstained.

Item 4.6 - change resolution from "Cr's Isitt and O'Rourke" to "Cr's Isitt and O'Keefe abstained".

Item 5.1 - Fish in Irrigation Systems - R Gabrielsson stated this topic would be included the 2023 Operational Work Plan as discussed at the March 2022 Governance and Planning workshop.

Cr Isitt requested the subject of Irrigation Systems be put into General Business.

Cr O'Keefe requested the process for timely receipt of meeting minutes be put into General Business.



Minutes 3 February 2022

That the minutes for the Council meeting dated 3 February 2022 be accepted.

Decision Date: 19 May 2022
Mover: PHILLIP MUSSON
Seconder: RICHARD O'KEEFE
Outcome: Approved

2. FOR DECISION

2.1 Licence Fee Recommendation Including Sea Run Salmon Endorsement Cost

R Gabrielsson gave background on outcomes of the first year for the sea run salmon endorsement licence. He stated the introduction of the endorsement had greatly assisted with managing the salmon fishery and said he would like to see a trial period for a further three years having a review date at that time to measure outcomes and review the season bag limit regime.

However, R Gabrielson stated that the costs for producing the endorsement card was not sustainable for both the NCFG or CSI regions if they continue to pay for it (currently a three way share with NZC). The addition of the \$5.00 endorsement fee would go long way to paying for the production costs of endorsement cards and enable salmon monitoring for management of harvest and populations to continue.

Discussion took place on the timing for this increase, where possible further funding could come from and on the possibility of either region (CSI or NC) not agreeing to the \$5.00 increase when the other did.



Sea Run Salmon Endorsement Licence Fee \$5.00

That this Council approve the \$5.00 endorsement fee.

Cr's Strong, Lloyd, O'Keefe and Isitt AGAINST

Decision Date: 19 May 2022
Mover: PHILLIP MUSSON
Seconder: DAVE COLL
Outcome: Not Approved



Sea Run Salmon Endorsement Licence Fee \$5.00

That NCFG Council defer their preliminary decision not to approve the \$5.00 endorsement fee until consultation with CSI has been completed.

Decision Date: 19 May 2022
Mover: ALAN STRONG
Seconder: PHILLIP MUSSON
Outcome: Approved

R Gabrielson outlined the content of the annual consultation letter sent out by NZC to all Regional Councils for feedback on recommendations to approve licence fee increases.

Discussion focused on the late information received from NZC, and in particular the informal letter received by R Grubb (not dated or signed correctly) regarding the funding allocation for the Fish and Game review and the employment of a change review manager.



2022/23 Adult Licence Fee

That the 2022/23 adult whole season sports fish licence fee is set at \$145 and that the adult who season game licence is set at \$107 (inclusive of the \$5.00 fee for the Game Bird Habitat Stamp), with all proportional changes to remaining licence fees and categories.

Cr Isitt Against Cr Musson did not vote.

Decision Date: 19 May 2022
Mover: RICHARD O'KEEFE
Seconder: DAVE COLL
Outcome: Approved

R Gabrielson raised his concern about the lack of consultation with professional fishing guides and regional councils, and highlighted that the proposed 'pro rate' increases to the non-resident

day licence categories may have unintended consequences. He suggested this increase be delayed as the timing for large increases to non-resident licence fees after two seasons without any international tourists may risk negative feedback and rejection of other essential licence fee increases.



Non Resident Licence Fee

That the adult non-resident is increased to \$250.00 and that the fee for the remaining non-resident categories be increased on the same ratio.

Cr's Isitt, Musson, Coster were against the motion.

Decision Date: 19 May 2022
Mover: DAVE COLL
Seconder: RICHARD O'KEEFE
Outcome: Approved

R Gabriellsson commented that a payment from non-resident licence holders to pay \$50.00 to fish in designated waters needed to be carefully justified and along with any yet to be proposed framework on what rivers this would apply to.

It was suggested that the motion be supported but not designate any waterways in the NCFG region next season. Noted that the professional guides association would need to be consulted.



Designated Waterways

That the new licence category Designated Waters Licence is available as a free season endorsement to resident anglers and as a day licence to non-resident anglers at a fee of \$50.00 has merit but this option requires further investigation, so NCFG do not support the motion this year.

Decision Date: 19 May 2022
Mover: PHILLIP MUSSON
Seconder: KEN LLOYD
Outcome: Approved

CLARIFICATION OF COUNCIL DECISION:

NCFG Council did not support the Designated Water Licence proposal sent out by NZC for regional consultation.

The NCFG Council recognized the approach may had some merit, but agreed that more work on this topic and management tool should be done by staff in the Pressure Sensitive Fisheries working group before NZC again circulate a revised proposal for Regional Feedback. It was identified that a framework for establishing and pricing Designated Waters would be required, and that consultation about this approach with the professional fishing guides association would be useful.

2.2 Regulation Setting Policy

The framework document wording be changed from "should" to "shall" as follows;

- regulations are to ensure our species are harvested sustainably by our licence holders;
- regulations shall promote participation by our licence holdes
- regulations shall be consistent with the ethics of F&G NZ
- regulations shall be easily understood and clearly enforceable in Court
- regulations shall be legal, consistent with other related New Zealand legislation
- regulations shall ensure all statutory obligations are met
- regulations shall be consistent with other F&G regions where possible

- regulations should consider the opinion and impacts of other statutory agencies like DoC, MFE and LINZ

Cr Barron stated this was a good framework that could possibly be used throughout the country.



REGULATION SETTING

That NCFG implements the new Regulation's Setting Policy document dated 9 May 20 22 to be reviewed in 12 months time.

Decision Date: 19 May 2022
Mover: ALAN STRONG
Seconder: NIALL COSTER
Outcome: Approved



Regulations Setting Policy

That the Regulation's Setting Policy document dated 9 May 2022 to be reviewed in 12 months time.

Due Date: 19 May 2023
Owner: RASMUS GABRIELSSON

2.3 Sea Run Salmon Bag Limit

R Gabrielsson stated the salmon spawning count flights for 2022 were about half way completed, with good or better than average returns in all rivers except the Waimakariri River. However, because the Waimakariri River had a later run timing all survey flights were not due to be completed in late June. He stated that together with CSI both regions have agreed to use the last three years of salmon spawning escapement data, which includes using two full years and the best available estimate for the current years spawning number to guide decision making on any changes to the sea run salmon season bag limit. As outlined in the Adaptive Salmon Management regime agreed on between NC and CSI.



2022/23 Sea Run Season Bag Limit

That the combined sea run salmon season bag limit across Canterbury remain two for the 2022/23 season.

Decision Date: 19 May 2022
Mover: PHILLIP MUSSON
Seconder: RICHARD O'KEEFE
Outcome: Approved

3. FOR DISCUSSION

3.1 Rakaia Water Conservation Order

The Chair and CEO provided a brief update on the collaboration with EDS, and the aims and objectives of the Rakaia WCO work and legal/RMA Funding Application. Funding application approval and legal advice to be discussed in the Public Excluded session after this public meeting.

4. GENERAL BUSINESS

4.1 Presentation from the Water and Wildlife Habitat Trust

M Patchett, Chairman of the Water and Wildlife Habitat Trust gave a presentation on the Trust's involvement on the Otukaikino river system and offered NCFG the opportunity to assist with;

1. joining the healthy waterways and catchment partnership;
2. collaborate on healthy waterways advocacy and fundraising;
3. licence holders communications and awareness;
4. volunteers - riparian plantings at Christchurch City Council events,
5. annual redds survey;
6. fishing popularity survey and access planning
7. research on fingerling survival, spawning enhancement and sand wand use;
8. assist to purchase a portion of wetland on Shipley's property.

4.2 General Business

1. Sustainable Fish Out Ponds in Christchurch.

Cr Coster stated that with the intention of increasing the numbers of junior anglers as well as strengthening participation in sport fishing, NCFG locate and develop a sustainable pond in close proximity to Christchurch with the involvement of key stakeholders.



Increasing Numbers of Junior Anglers

Staff to include an investigation of possible options for a sustainable fish out pond(s) and ways to increase participation and licence sales in the 2022/23 OWP.

Due Date: 21 Jul 2022
Owner: RASMUS GABRIELSSON

2. Meeting Management.

Cr O'Keefe questioned the timing of receiving draft minutes. Discussion and process agreed that draft minutes put through a "Flying Minute" within 7 days of the Council meeting for editing by Councillors. That during the main fishing season a link to the latest minutes be put at the bottom of the weekly Ezine. R Gabrielsson explained that it was R Cosgrove R Cosgrove role to improve information flow clubs.

3. Council Updates.

Cr Isitt stated he felt disconnected from the day to day happenings with NCFG. The Chair proposed the CEO investigate if R. Cosgrove might be able to assist him with for example providing a small bullet point email to Council (between meetings) on staff projects carried out.

5. PUBLIC SESSION

5.1 Public Session

1. Salmon Smolt NZ Silverstream Salmon Hatchery Releases 2022

After reading his proposal, J Cumberpatch asked Council to consider the following recommendations listed below for the release of salmon smolt from the Silverstream hatchery to bolster numbers in the Waiamakiri River,

1. That NCFG Council acknowledge that the Salmon Smolt NZ (SSNZ) hatchery management is waiting the go ahead to supply significant numbers of juvenile [commercial origin] salmon for release at no cost, as part of their commitment to the local community.

2. That NCFG Council request the Director General of MPI to permit the release of juvenile [commercial origin] salmon [smolt] from the (SSNZ) Silverstream hatchery to resume as soon as possible to maintain and enhance a future for North Canterbury's most popular sport fishery.
3. That NCFG Council receive this report and include this presentation in the minutes of the meeting.
4. That NCFG Council respond to these recommendations at the July 2022 Council meeting.



Salmon Smolt NZ Silverstream Salmon Hatchery Releases 2022

1. That NCFG Council acknowledge that the Salmon Smolt NZ (SSNZ) hatchery management is waiting the go ahead to supply significant numbers of juvenile salmon suitable for release at no cost, as part of their commitment to the local community.
2. That NCFG Council request the Director General of MPI to permit the release of juvenile salmon from the (SSNZ) Silverstream hatchery to resume as soon as possible to maintain and enhance a future for North Canterbury's most popular sport fishery.
3. That NCFG Council receive this report and include this presentation in the minutes of the meeting.
4. That NCFG Council respond to these recommendations at the July 2022 Council meeting.

Due Date: 21 Jul 2022
Owner: ALAN STRONG

2. Angler Fishing Days

L Burke (President NZSAA) was concerned that the number of [salmon] angler days fishing were getting less. This was possibly due to the 2 bag season limit with anglers waiting for the salmon run on the Waimakariri river. He stated there had been only one fish verified on the Kaiapoi River with 118 verified at the mouth of the Waimakariri. He also raised concerns that salmon were being netted in the Kaipoi River system, and that licence holder numbers would drop if fish numbers kept falling.

6. STANDARD REPORTS

6.1 Chairman's Report

6.2 CEO Report

6.3 Finance Report

R Gabriellsson explained that a Work Rule Policy document was being prepared for consultation with staff, and envisioned to be finalized and enforced from 1 September 2022.

KL - asked about accrued leave, wondering if there a policy on taking it.

RG - the current leave policy will be replaced by the work rules policy document from 1 Sept onwards.

6.4 MFE Project Update Verbal

Reported that final negotiations on easements are in progress and now just waiting on signoff. It was advised that MFE intend to release a video around this project once legal confirmation was received.

6.5 Compliance Report

6.6 Health and Safety Report



Health and Safety Policy

That the Terms of Reference for the Health and Safety Policy be accepted.

Decision Date: 19 May 2022
Mover: PHILLIP MUSSON
Seconder: TREVOR ISITT
Outcome: Approved

6.7 NZC Report

Noted that the NZC Report was well written. Discussion on role Irrigation NZ has in relation to fish screens followed.

6.8 Updates from Sub-Committees of Council Verbal



Standard Reports for 19 May 2022 Meeting

That the following Reports be accepted.

1. Chairman's Report
2. CEO Report
3. Finance Reports for March and April 2022
4. MFE Project update
5. Complinance Report
6. Health and Safety Report
7. NZC Report
8. Verbal Updates for Sub-committees

Decision Date: 19 May 2022
Mover: NIALL COSTER
Seconder: DAVE COLL
Outcome: Approved

1. The CEO Executive Employment Committee Report be deferred to Public Excluded meeting.
2. No meeting held for the Audit Finance Committee as yet.
3. Cr Lloyd suggested that once the NCFG Health and Safety document is externally audited, that it could be rolled out to rest of F&G network.
4. IT / Risk Assessment - Policies and processes are being put in place for ensuring IT back ups and security prompted by this years IT security concerns. Training on the Office 365 system for staff is also to be held in June 2022.

Cr Strong and R Gabrielson acknowledged and thanked D Ambler for her assistance over 10 years of service with NCFG. R Gabrielson advised a voucher for accommodation/meal would be forthcoming.

7. Close Meeting

7.1 Close the meeting

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

Approved decisions made between meetings



New Flying Minute

To confirm In Committee Minutes from 17 March 2022 meeting.

7 Supported: ALAN STRONG , DAVE BARRON , DAVE COLL , KEN LLOYD , NIALL COSTER , RICHARD O'KEEFE , TREVOR ISITT

1 Opposed: PHILLIP MUSSON

0 Abstained:

Decision Date: 8 Apr 2022

Outcome: Approved



New Flying Minute

That the Minutes of the CEEC meeting held on the 26 April 2022, be accepted.

2 Supported: GRAEME NAHKIES , TREVOR ISITT

0 Opposed:

0 Abstained:

Decision Date: 16 May 2022

Outcome: Approved

Signature: _____

Date: _____