

**NORTHLAND FISH & GAME COUNCIL  
CONFIRMED MINUTES OF A MEETING  
HELD AT THE NORTHLAND FISH & GAME OFFICE  
NELL PLACE, WHANGAREI  
7.00 PM FRIDAY 10<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2021**

**PRESENT:**

**Chairman:** Phil Durham

**Councillors:** Darryl Reardon, Cameron Shanks, Mark Bell, Peter Allen,  
John Skeates (arrived late at 7.45pm to meeting)

**Staff:** Rudi Hoetjes (Manager), Fay Stodart (Finance/Office Administrator),  
Graham Gallagher (Field Officer)

**Department of  
Conservation:** Ross Atkinson

**Members of  
The public:** Noel Birchall, Mike Newson

The Chairman welcomed the Councillors to the Council table and acknowledged Ross Atkinson from the Department of Conservation. The Conflict of Interest register was circulated around the table for all councillors to sign and declare any conflicts.

**APOLOGIES:** Russell Daniels

**It was moved:** *That this apology is accepted.*

*Cameron Shanks/Mark Bell* ***CARRIED.***

**It was moved:** *That the members of the public have speaking rights at the council meeting.*

*Peter Allen/Darryl Reardon* ***CARRIED.***

**Adoption of the Performance Report 2020-2021**

**It was resolved:** *That the Council adopts the Audited Performance Report of the Northland Fish & Game Council for the year ended 31 August 2021.*

*Cameron Shanks/ Darryl Reardon* ***CARRIED.***

**Presentation of the Performance Report**

The 2020-2021 Annual Performance Report was circulated at the meeting as the report was finalised by the auditors just previous to the meeting. The Chairman asked for any queries from the councillors. Noel Birchall praised the Chairman on another very well written report and the deficit was very good considering the amount of work achieved throughout the year by all staff.

The Chairman thanked Mike Newson on behalf of licence holders and acknowledged his dedication and service over the many years. Mike thanked the Council for his gift and service medal he was presented by Noel Birchall after the last meeting and said that he had enjoyed his time on the Council.

### **Previous Minutes**

**It was resolved:** *That the minutes of the meeting held on the 29<sup>th</sup> October 2021 are confirmed as true and correct.*

*Darryl Reardon/Mark Bell*

*CARRIED.*

### **Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising.

### **Manager's Report**

#### **1222 Waitangi Wetlands**

A query from the DOC office in Kerikeri was received by the manager on the status of the dam in the Waitangi Wetlands. DOC representative, Ross Atkinson, could not comment on the reason for this query.

The manager informed council he had received an email from NZFGC advising the Minister of Conservation had made a statement today that she will be reviewing the Wildlife Act 1953 which will also include the Conservation Act, Reserves Act, National Parks Act, Wild Animal Control Act and the Marine Reserves Act. The manager will forward this email to all councillors and regional staff.

#### **1226.1 Underwoods Wetland**

The manager is currently preparing an application for resource consent to construct another dam as part of stage 2 in the wetland development project. The dam wall will be approx. 140 metres in length and is in the Manganui River flood zone. No earth works will commence until the resource consent has been issued.

**It was moved:** *That the Managers Activity Report is received.*

*Peter Allen/ Mark Bell*

*CARRIED.*

### **Field Officer Reports**

The Council discussed the Field Officers' reports briefly and the lack of response from the Far North District Council on the water quality issue.

**It was moved:** *That the Field Officers' Activity Reports are received.*

*Cameron Shanks/Mark Bell*

*CARRIED.*

### **Council By-Election**

Hira Kaire resigned from council shortly after the last council meeting due to other work commitments. The vacancy has been advertised in the Northern Advocate newspaper with a closing date on the 10<sup>th</sup> January 2022 for any applications. The council has received some

enquiries and one nomination. The manager said that the council can co-opt other nominees on to the council if more than one nomination is received.

### **Game Bird Season Recommendations for 2022 Game Season**

Field Officer Graham Gallagher presented a Power Point Presentation showing graphs on the number of hours hunting within the Northland region, birds harvested, birds harvested versus the trend.

The councillors discussed reducing the bag limit on NZ Shoveler Duck and agreed that the bag limit should stay the same as previous years.

The Chairman thanked Graham for his very informative presentation. Councillor Reardon commented on changing the shooting times as the days get shorter in the winter months. The councillors agreed to leave the shooting times as the same.

<b>Species</b>	<b>Season Duration (dates inclusive)</b>	<b>Daily Bag Limit</b>
Grey/mallard duck and any hybrid of that species	7 May to 3 July 2022	12
NZ shoveler duck	7 May to 3 July 2022	3
Paradise shelduck	7 May to 31 July 2022	20
	18 Feb 2023 to 26 Feb 2023	20
Black swan	7 May to 31 July 2022	20
	18 Feb 2023 to 26 Feb 2023	20
Pukeko	7 May to 28 Aug 2022	12
	18 Feb 2023 to 26 Feb 2023	12
California and brown quail	7 May to 28 Aug 2022	10
Cock pheasant	7 May to 28 Aug 2022	5

The Council made the following resolution:

**It was moved:** *That the Council adopts the 2022 game bird season recommendation subject to amending the NZ Shoveler duck bag limit to three.*

*Darryl Reardon/Peter Allen*

*CARRIED.*

### **NZFGC Updates**

Cr Reardon gave a brief update on the NZ Council meeting held on the 4<sup>th</sup> December 2021. The discussion focused on the following:

- NZGBHT levy to increase to \$5.00. Cr Reardon suggested that NZ Council should focus their marketing strategy on \$96.00 for the game bird licence and a further \$5.00 on the Habitat levy.
- There is a new liaison representative for the Department of Conservation – Ngaire Best.
- Ray Grubb was elected unopposed as the Chairperson of the NZ Council.
- The executive committee consists of Richard MacIntyre, Debbie Oakley and Ray Grubb
- The remuneration sub-committee will focus on pay scales at for all staffing levels.
- Current managers helping other new managers with management audits.
- Training in governance will occur at the NZC meeting in February.
- Mischa Davis will be the Fish & Game leading advocate for wetlands.



**It was moved:**            *That the Financial Report to the 31<sup>st</sup> October 2021 is adopted.*

*Mark Bell/John Skeates*

*CARRIED.*

**General Business**

The management review committee will meet after the council meeting with the manager. The committee consists of Cameron Shanks, Darryl Reardon and Phil Durham.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.45pm.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Phil Durham', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

***Phil Durham***  
***Chairman***