

# North Canterbury Fish and Game Council

Minutes of the Council Meeting  
Held on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> October 2012,  
in the DOC Offices, 31 Nga Mahi Place, Sockburn, Christchurch  
commencing at 6:40pm

## 1. Present:

**Councillors:** Martin Clements (Chairman), Peter Robinson, Barry Cleghorn, Serge Bonnafoux, Trevor Isitt, Steve McNeill, Bruce Kelly, Bob Stanton, Paul Farrow.

**Co-opted Members:** Cavan O'Connell (Ngai Tahu).

**Staff:** Rod Cullinane, Steve Terry, Ross Millichamp, Scott Pearson, Debbie Ambler

**Public:** Ron Stuart, Peter Morgan, Warren Pender, Bruce Moody

2. **Apologies:** Malcolm Gilbert, (Federated Farmers), Brian Smart.

"That the apologies be accepted".

**Moved:** Cr Kelly  
**Seconded:** Cr Bonnafoux **Carried**

## 3. Notification of General Business

3.1 Opening of Lake Coleridge - Fishing Competition - Cr Farrow

## 4. Minutes from the Previous Meeting dated 15<sup>th</sup> August 2012

"That the minutes from the previous meeting be accepted but with the corrections as noted" (refer below)

**Moved:** Cr Kelly  
**Seconded:** Cr Bonnafoux **Carried**

### Amendments:

- i. 7b - Change the "Seconded" from S Terry to Cr Kelly
- ii. 7c - Change the "Moved" from Cr Robinson to Cr Isitt and the "Seconded" from Cr Isitt to Cr Cleghorn

## 5. Matters Arising/Action Sheet

Completed matters were deleted off the Action Sheet.

## 6. Public Notification Session

### Presentation of Certificates to Honorary Rangers

Prior to the presentation, Cr Clements spoke about the important role Honorary Rangers play and their being "the face" of North Canterbury Fish and Game. Certificates were presented to Rangers; Cr Cleghorn, P Morgan and W Pender. Four Rangers could not make the meeting.

**"That the presentation of certificates to B Duncan, T Keeley, B Giles and R Lintott be made at another appropriate time".**

**Moved: Cr Bonnafoux**

**Seconded: Cr Kelly**

**Carried**

## 7. Meeting Business

**7.a i R Stuart** spoke to matters raised throughout the Agenda.

**Catch and release** - the need to widely publicise the plight of and the need to promote the concept of catch and release to enable our fishery to be better protected; also the proposed signs for the Waimak have included on them a catch and release initiative;

**Rakaia WCO** - commended Fish & Game on their withdrawal and achievement of credibility given the outcome of the Consent decision. He advised that J Hodgson on behalf of the NZ Salmon Anglers Association would be registering an amendment recommendation to the Consent, specifically on the subject of oxygen content and water temperatures and that these points would require further canvassing.

**Ova planting** - R Stuart suggested that this is more cost effective than hatchery raising and reduces disease potential plus favours the fish adaption of local conditions and return imprinting.

### 7.a ii Salmon Report

S Terry spoke to the Salmon Management Report. The Report outlined concerns over the accuracy of the traditional methods used to calculate angler catch versus total runs of salmon and how this could be impacting on our fishery.

The Reports' recommendations were:

- a. North Canterbury Fish and Game reapply for funding from National resources to purchase a Didson to continue residency time research;
- b. North Canterbury Fish and Game staff continue residency time research in the 2013/14 financial year;
- c. North Canterbury Fish and Game increase the annual salmon angler harvest survey budget to \$4,000.00 for the 2013/14 financial year.

Cr Robinson stated that there was gathering support throughout Fish and Game to purchase a Didson and that should this Reports recommendations be presented to the National Managers meeting, it could have a favourable outcome. Cr Clements suggested the need to look at other ways to fund the Didson rather than through the Research Fund and that it needed to be purchased prior to February 2013.

Cr Robinson recommended:

That the North Canterbury Fish and Game Council take their own initiative in funding a Didson with the possibility of seeking in retrospect a refund from the NZ Council.

Cr McNeill suggested it may be helpful to include how many salmon were released over the reporting period and that preliminary research be conducted on other factors relating to the fishery for inclusion in this Report. That a matrix for surveys on riverflows etc also be developed. R Millichamp stated the need for more affected groups to be involved in voicing their concerns on the state of the fishery. Cr Farrow stated that angler behaviour needed to be addressed through more education. S Pearson suggested the possibly of investigating a loan of a Didson from America in their off season to see if it is a viable and reliable proposition.

**Recommendation by Cr Clements:**

That R Cullinane be tasked to bring back to the North Canterbury Fish and Game Council meeting on the 17<sup>th</sup> December 2012, recommendations on achieving the purchase of a Didson by February 2013.

That additional research be undertaken to support and strengthen S Terry's Report and that this Reports recommendations be revisited at the 17<sup>th</sup> December 2012 meeting.

That a public relations program be formulated around angler behaviour and to heighten the awareness of the state of the fishery be undertaken.

**7.a iii Funding for Pheasant Rearing**

Discussion on how and where pheasant rearing should be undertaken and which areas would be deemed good for release. Cr McNeill suggested a "put and take" pheasant release whereby pheasants be raised and then released a couple of days prior to an annual pheasant shoot "weekend".

**"That \$4,000.00 sitting under Code 1141 (Hatchery Operations) be allocated to raise pheasants rather than fish".**

**Moved: Cr McNeill**

**Seconded: Cr Cleghorn**

Cr Issitt commented he was reluctant to commit to any project that had no data to support it. Cr McNeill then suggested that the ECAN funding of \$2,000.00 for the Waimakariri River be matched but more data be gathered to support expenditure.

**"That the above motion be amended to read "that we match the ECAN funding of \$2,000.00 and that more data be gathered to support expenditure".**

**Moved: Cr Kelly**

**Seconded: Cr Isitt**

**Carried**

Cr Isitt suggested the Gamebird Sub Committee bring back recommendations to the Council on pheasant rearing.

## 7.b i Signage at the Waimak River Mouth and McIntoshs

"That a sub-committee be formed of staff and councillors to look at the design and cost of improving signage at the Waimak River Mouth and McIntoshs and report back to the next Council meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> December 2012."

Moved: Cr Robinson  
Seconded: Cr Isitt                      Carried

## 8. Reports

### 8a. Chairman's Report

The Chairman, Cr Clements reported he had attended B Ross farewell, Ranger training day, spent time in meetings regarding Horatio Street, attended the Styx Mill River AGM. Met with Labour Party MP's along with staff and had a week off in Turangi.

### 8b. Staff Report

R Cullinane spoke to the report.

1211 Grassmere Station - S Pearson to get more information from the landowners to give to Cr Robinson.

1141 Salmon/Trout Enhancement - S Terry spoke about the fish tankers initial problems with the loss of fish due to a rusty pipe but said Silverstream donated that amount back in fish. He commented that Montrose landowners wanted to sign a lease agreement with us. R Cullinane to further this.

1353 Young Hunter Training Program - R Cullinane spoke about his attendance and impressions of the Secondary School Clay Target Competition. He commented the need to foster the event as Fish and Game were the principal sponsor and that it should be brought into the Fish and Game fold. Cr Clements stated the need to look deeper into youth programs.

### 8c. Financial Report

8c i - Financial Summary - R Cullinane summarised his report. He explained the server was being transferred out to DoC offices in Rangiora where 2 staff were housed. That the insurance for the building had been paid out and an offer for the land from CERA would be forthcoming.

8c vi - Eyede Report - It was reported that at year end, licence sales were up on the previous year.

### 8d. Portfolios

**NZ Council** - Cr Robinson stated that there was more transparency in the NZ Councils minutes. He raised the point that the South Island should have a species plan and that this should be adopted into each region.

**Young Shooters** - It was reported that there were no more events for the remainder of this year.

**Gamebird** - Cr Isitt reported he had circulated the paper presented by B Ross and was looking forward to good discussion at their next sub-committee meeting.

**Compliance** - R Millichamp reported that the Ranger Training day was very successful.

**Media** - Cr Farrow commented on a misunderstanding with a store advertising that "no Fish and Game licences sold here". He advised he would follow up with the owner after the elections. Cr Farrow advised that Licence Agents complained at the delay in receiving the regulation books well after the licence books.

Cr Robinson to raise at next NZ Council meeting to have regulations books and licence books sent out at the same time.

Agents reported that paper licence sales were down on last year due to the increase in internet sales. They advised the AOL was too slow so they preferred to issue paper licences.

Wording of the season at Lake Ellesmere and huts in the Regulation books was not clear.

## 9. General Business

**9a Licences** - Cr Bonnafoux stated that fishing licences should have a more generic photo and not be too specific or involve staff.

**9b. Ruler for Lake Coleridge Fishing Competition** - Cr Farrow presented to the meeting the ruler that has been created to measure fish for this Competition. These rulers will be given out on registration.

**9c. Public notification Molesworth Station** - Cr Bonnafoux requested S Pearson investigate further visitor access relating to the Molesworth Management Plan.

**In Committee** - Cr Clements announced that there being no further business this section of the meeting open to the public closed at 9.50pm and as per Section 48 of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 the Council would go 'In-Committee' and requested non council members and staff to leave the meeting.

Chairman: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE NOTE:**      **Next Council Meeting and Annual General Meeting**  
Date:                    **17 December 2012.**  
Venue:                  **Canterbury Horticultural Society Centre**  
                              **57 Riccarton Avenue**  
Time:                    **Dinner and meeting TBA**

**There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 9.50pm**