

CONFIRMED MINUTES

FEBRUARY 2023 COUNCIL MEETING



At the **NCFG Council Meeting on 24 May 2023** these minutes were **confirmed as presented**.

Name:	NORTH CANTERBURY FISH AND GAME COUNCIL
Date:	Wednesday, 15 February 2023
Time:	5:30 pm to 7:49 pm (NZDT)
Location:	NORTH CANTERBURY FISH AND GAME COUNCIL, 595 JOHNS ROAD, HAREWOOD, CHRISTCHURCH
Board Members:	ALAN STRONG (Chair), CHRIS BRANKIN, DAVE BARRON, DAVE COLL, GRAEME NAHKIES, KEN LLOYD, NIALL COSTER, TREVOR ISITT
Attendees:	RASMUS GABRIELSSON
Apologies:	DEBBIE AMBLER, RICHARD O'KEEFE, PHILLIP MUSSON
Guests/Notes:	Cr Musson (apologies for lateness)

1. Opening Meeting

1.1 Welcome by Chairman

1.2 Karakia

1.3 Interests Register

1.4 Confirmation of Minutes

North Canterbury Fish and Game Council Meeting 17 Nov 2022, the minutes were confirmed with the following changes:

Page 9 - Ducking - access becomes assess

Note : Heading stating changes to the minutes of 17 November 22 on top of minutes, should read 2.2 Black Swan Season not Ducking.



Minutes 17 November 2022

That the minutes from the Council meeting dated 17 November 2022 be accepted.

Decision Date: 15 Feb 2023
Mover: DAVE COLL
Seconder: KEN LLOYD
Outcome: Approved

1.5 Action List

2. FOR DECISION

2.1 Game Bird Habitat Trust - Nominees



Nominees for the Game Bird Habitat Trust

That the North Canterbury Fish and Game Council support the nomination of Erin Garrick to the Game Bird Habitat Trust.

Decision Date: 15 Feb 2023
Mover: TREVOR ISITT
Second: CHRIS BRANKIN
Outcome: Approved

3. STANDARD REPORTS

3.1 Chairman's Report



Chairman's Report

To proved minutes from the Chairmans' and NZC Council meeting to the North Canterbury Council.

Due Date: 31 Mar 2023
Owner: ALAN STRONG

3.2 Operational Progress / Staff Activity Report

1. Council noted their approval for the format changes made to improve the Operational Progress Report.
2. Page 4 - Clarification regarding "Fish Stocking" - "commercial-origin juvenile trout and salmon", should have read commercial-origin juvenile salmon, and juvenile trout.
3. Page 5 - Participation - Weed control continues to be an issue at the Groynes Park Fishing Lakes, with Lake Roto Kohatu being a better long-term option for stocking efforts to create a urban stepping stone fishery resource for junior and novice anglers.
4. Page 5 - A regional deep-dive analysis of our licence sales trends has been conducted, and will form the basis for a stakeholder engagement strategy that once completed will be presented at a later Council meeting. The regional analysis will need to be complemented by a broader national analysis of licence sales trends before the full picture of participation trends can be revealed.
5. Page 5 - Participation - The implications of budget constraints and staff resources on the Priority Outcome aimed at increasing participation in sports fishing and game bird hunting was discussed.

3.3 Finance Report

Content and future format for this Report requires further discussion, and efforts are underway to identify options that will help facilitate improved reporting and cashflow forecasting to aid decision making.

3.4 Health and Safety Report

Reported that the NCFG Health and Safety program could currently meet an external audit if required. Because staff are becoming more competent in undertaking challenging fieldwork,

collaboration with other organisations is now a possible option worth exploring further. This has the potential to improve our social licence and effectiveness to achieve Priority Outcomes.

3.5 RMA Report

Discussion noted that concerns are being raised by anglers and community groups about sustained periods of high water temperatures in the Waimakariri River.

Environment Canterbury (ECan) water temperature monitoring equipment at the old highway bridge on the lower Waimakariri River have over recent years indicated that water temperatures in parts of the main river can be above 20°C degrees for sustained periods. These temperatures are above the preferred or optimal range for trout and salmon (14-18°C), and it is therefore concerning that for several periods it appears ECan's water temperature monitoring equipment had stopped working.

A better understanding of ECan's response to concerns and questions raised by outside agencies and the public about what might be driving high water temperatures (above 20-25°C) in the main stem of the lower Waimakariri River is needed. Fish & Game will advocate for ECan to increase its efforts to monitor water temperature, and improve its frequency of service and quality control of water temperature data loggers.

3.6 Compliance Report

NC & CSI Fish and Game are working on an improved salmon harvest card for next season. While some anglers are keen for some for of online a cell phone application to be used the general consensus is that a physical sea-run salmon season bag limit harvest card is still preferable for the time being.

3.7 FIF Governors Update

Further funding has been secured to assist in the development of the Glenariffe wetland. Talks with other High Country stations are currently being undertaken to identify potential development of future habitat protection and restoration projects.

3.8 NZC Report

Cr Coll verbally advised Council of the following outcomes from NZC's 3-day February workshop:

1. Barry Barnes has recently been appointed the new Chairman of NZC. Barry is the NZC appointee from the Auckland/Waikato Region.
2. Non-resident levies from Fish & Game regions are to be pooled nationally for redistribution by NZC starting in the 2023/34 financial year. Contestable funding bids for increased baseline funding by regions will be considered by NZC in this years budget round.
3. Identified risks of key concern to NZC include (1) uncertainty about the potential outcomes from the Wildlife Act Reform; (2) Fish & Game's operating costs are increasing while our baseline budgets remain the same, and (3) a high churn of staff within Fish & Game.
4. NZC has agreed upon a review of baseline budgets and resource allocations for the organisation, and a subcommittee will be formed to help progress this.
5. Additionally, a working group will also be formed to work through governance changes within F&G that require law changes. This group will include two NZC staff and two Regional Chairs.

4. GENERAL BUSINESS

5. PUBLIC SESSION

5.1 Public Session

Liaison between Winnememwintu Tribe and NZ Agencies

Melanie Cheung from ECan who is the liaison between the Winnemem Wintu Tribe and NZ Agencies stated the protocols for egg sampling could mean they may not be viable once they get into the rivers of Sacramento. Both NCFG and CSIFG indicated they were not in a position to gift eggs. She was looking forward to working in a collaborative relationship with Fish and Game.

6. FOR INFORMATION

6.1 Correspondence to CSI Fish & Game Council

6.2 Lake Coleridge Fishing Competition, Angler Satisfaction Survey & More

6.3 Sea Run Salmon Report

6.4 Lead Shot Regulations

6.5 Designated Waters Update

7. Close Meeting

7.1 Close the meeting

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

Signature: _____

Date: _____