

CENTRAL SOUTH ISLAND FISH AND GAME COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting of Central South Island Fish and Game Council held in the Boardroom, 32 Richard Pearse Drive, Temuka, on Thursday 14 June 2018 at 7:00 pm.

Present: J Cruden G Rooney (Chairman)
M Hall W Spry
D Isbister J Henry (Ngai Tahu)

In Attendance:

Staff: J Graybill (Chief Executive), B Dolan (Office Administrator), A Christensen (Resource Officer), H Stevens (Fish and Game Officer), R Adams (Fish and Game Officer), and J Couper (Fish and Game Officer).

18-021 APOLOGIES:

M Webb, B Growcott, L Koevoet, P McLauchlan, B Whipp.

AGREED that the apologies of M Webb, B Growcott, L Koevoet, P McLauchlan and B Whipp be accepted.

18-022 COUNCILLOR INTEREST REGISTER:

Chairman queried if Councillors had any new interests to add to the register. No additions were notified.

18-023 HEALTH & SAFETY:

Chief Executive pointed out exit points of the building and assembly points for evacuation of the premises.

18-024 NOTICE OF GENERAL BUSINESS:

- Season Extensions (DI)

18-025 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES – 19 April 2018:

Resolved (Isbister/Hall)

18-016

THAT THE MINUTES OF MEETING OF 19 APRIL 2018 BE ACCEPTED AS A TRUE AND CORRECT RECORD.

18-026 BUDGET AND FINANCE:

026.1 Financial Reports & Expense Listing

Resolved (Cruden/Isbister)

18-017

THAT COUNCIL RECEIVES THE FINANCIAL REPORTS AND RATIFIES THE EXPENSE LISTINGS FOR APRIL AND MAY 2018 IN THE GST INCLUSIVE AMOUNTS OF \$95,768.53 AND \$385,745.62, RESPECTIVELY.



18-027 CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT:

027.1 2018/19 Licence Fee Recommendation

CSI Council considered the NZ Council report on the 2018/19 licence fee and noted that some figures in the NZ Council paper didn't match some figures contained in the Contestable Fund Application Summary spreadsheet.

Resolved (Isbister/Spry)

18-018

THAT CSI COUNCIL SUPPORTS A 2018/19 ADULT WHOLE SEASON SPORTS FISH LICENCE FEE OF \$130 AND THE ADULT WHOLE SEASON GAME LICENCE FEE OF \$96 (INCLUSIVE OF A \$3 FEE FOR THE GAME BIRD HABITAT STAMP) INCLUSIVE OF GST.

Council felt that Fish and Game are underfunded and that the increase to whole season fish licences should be far greater than a \$3 increase to allow Fish and Game to better carry out its operational activities going forward. Council felt the increase should be more in line with having its adult whole season fish licence priced at \$150.

Licence Categories and Ratios

Council noted that there was no recommendation or supporting research on these topics in the NZ Council report. However, evidence had been provided previously to the CSI Council that multiple day licences were being purchased, particularly by Non-Residents, as an alternative to purchasing a higher value whole season fish licence.

Moved (Isbister/Cruden)

That the CSI Council rejects the proposed changes to ratios and categories due to the lack of research and consideration of potential implications.

The motion was put and declared **LOST**.

Resolved (Spry/Cruden)

18-019

- 1. THAT THE CSI COUNCIL SUPPORTS THE INCREASES PROPOSED FOR ADULT DAY (SHADED BLUE); ADULT, JUNIOR, AND CHILD NON-RESIDENT DAY (SHADED ORANGE); AND JUNIOR NON-RESIDENT WHOLE SEASON (SHADED ORANGE) LICENCES AS SHOWN IN THE SCHEDULE CONTAINED IN THE NZ COUNCIL PAPER.**
- 2. THAT THE CSI COUNCIL REJECTS THE PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE LOCAL AREA AND SHORT BREAK LICENCES (BOTH SHADED BLUE) AND RECOMMENDS THAT THIS BE REFERRED TO THE LICENCE WORKING PARTY FOR FURTHER ANALYSIS.**

Council noted that licence policy sets the fee of a Non-Resident licence at 1.3 times the value of an adult whole season licence. It was:

Resolved (Cruden/Isbister)

18-020

THAT THE CSI COUNCIL RECOMMENDS THAT THE 1.3 RATIO FOR A NON-RESIDENT LICENCE BE RE-VISITED AND INCREASED SUBSTANTIALLY.



18-028 OPERATIONS AND STAFF REPORTS:

028.1 Activity Reports & Operations Reports (10.1)

Staff responded to general queries from Councillors related to topics in their activities reports that were provided for information. Topics included: nitrate levels at McKinnons Creek, emergency works at Opihi River, jet boating in the Ahuriri River, and update on tree removal at Lake Poaka.

028.1.1 RDR Consents (M Hall)

G Rooney declared his conflict of interest and offered to leave the room. M Hall indicated at this stage he was happy for G Rooney to remain in the room.

M Hall noted that the hearing that took place on the RDR consents was about the storage pond, fish screen, and taking an extra 10 cumecs from the river. He indicated that he had guarded views on the storage pond, but his main opposition was to the application for an extra 10 cumecs being taken. He queried what CSI submitted in terms of the 10-cumec take and whether there was a suggestion that CSI would agree to a flow share?

A Christensen advised that CSI's legal submission totally opposed the proposed 10-cumec take. She explained that when the experts did their modelling they worked through various scenarios. A flow share was not supported by CSI as that would not serve the interests of Fish and Game.

Chief Executive explained that the case Fish and Game put forward was a technical case, which may have added some confusion to anglers attending the hearing. He advised that the CSI evidence at the hearing was "taken as read" so anglers in attendance would not have been in a position to hear the evidence read out, making it more difficult to understand the technical elements.

M Hall believed that if the river has an extra 10 cumecs taken out it will change the protection that the Rangitata Water Conservation Order intended.

At this point of the discussion G Rooney declared that due to his conflict of interest he would leave the Council room. G Rooney left the meeting at 8:40 pm.

It was **AGREED** the Chief Executive would chair the continuing discussion.

M Hall felt that the value of the RWCO was not addressed and that the prime values of the Rangitata are in the spring flows and snow melt. The higher flow you get, there is a balance of predation and escapement. He was disappointed this did not come up at the hearing.

Chief Executive responded that the topics and issues that M Hall raises are not something that can be re-litigated at this meeting as some of the topics raised are outside the statutory responsibility of Fish and Game and for others there is insufficient information or was not supported by expert evidence.

M Hall presented Council with a suggested motion that he wished to put forward for consideration at this meeting.

In responding to the motion presented, A Christensen and Chief Executive cautioned some of the suggestions contained within the motion. A Christensen advised that legal opinion recommended waiting for the decision of the Commissioners before requesting a plan change. D Isbister expressed concern that the suggested motion doesn't really say what it is M Hall wants. It seems to only say he's not happy. M Hall responded the motion opens up a debate.

Resolved (Hall/Spry) 2 for, 1 against, 1 abstention

18-021

CENTRAL SOUTH ISLAND AND GAME COUNCIL FORMALLY WRITES TO THE CANTERBURY REGIONAL COUNCIL REQUESTING THE URGENT REVIEW OF THE LAND AND WATER REGIONAL PLAN AS IT RELATES TO THE RANGITATA RIVER.

- A) THE COUNCIL IS CONCERNED THAT THE CURRENT PROCESS OF CONSENT APPLICATIONS DOES NOT FULLY OR PROPERLY ADDRESS THE VALUES SET OUT IN THE CONSERVATION ORDER. (RIVER IS LOOKED AT IN A PIECEMEAL BASIS.)**
- B) NOR DOES IT ADDRESS THE VALUES SET OUT IN THE CANTERBURY WATER MANAGEMENT STRATEGY.**
- C) NOR DOES IT ADDRESS THE FLOW ALLOCATIONS ABOVE 110 CUMECs OR A CAP ON IRRIGATION.**
- D) NOR DOES IT ADDRESS THE FLOW REGIME THAT SHOULD APPLY BOTH WITHIN AND OUTSIDE THE CONSENTS OR CONSENT APPLICATIONS.**
- E) IN TAKING THIS ACTION WE SEEK THE ADVICE AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF OUR LAWYERS AND COUCH OUR APPLICATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH THEIR ADVICE.**

THAT WE WRITE TO NZ FISH AND GAME COUNCIL POINTING OUT THE ACTION THAT WE HAVE TAKEN.

THAT WE SEND A LETTER TO THE MINISTERS' OF CONSERVATION AND THE ENVIRONMENT ABOUT THE OMISSION IN THE RANGITATA CONSERVATION ORDER AND THE LACK OF PLANNING UNDER THE CANTERBURY LAND AND WATER REGIONAL PLAN. IN OUR SUBMISSIONS TO THE MINISTER WE SET OUT A BRIEF CASE FOR THE RANGITATA RIVER.

THAT WE ADVISE THE HEARING PANEL FOR THE RDR CONSENTS OF THE ACTION WE HAVE TAKEN BY COPYING THEM INTO CORRESPONDENCE.

THAT WE ARE FIRM ON THE PRINCIPLE THAT ACTION NEEDS TO BE TAKEN TO ADDRESS THE INADEQUACY OF THE CONSERVATION ORDER.

G Rooney resumed the chair at 9:10 pm.



G Rooney expressed concern that the Council was not pre-notified that this issue and a motion was coming forward for a decision. He stated that this Council has always taken care to make its decisions on fact and not emotions. He felt that Council was hijacked. M Hall didn't believe it was a hijack and the LWRP was silent on 110 cumecs and it shouldn't be. He felt there needed to be some consistency across the country.

028.1.2 Sockeye Salmon Spawning in the Waitaki Catchment, Rivers and Streams 2018

Council congratulated J Couper on this report and it was:

Resolved (Hall/Spry)

18-022

THAT COUNCIL RECEIVE THE REPORT ON SOCKEYE SALMON SPAWNING IN THE WAITAKI CATCHMENT, RIVERS AND STREAMS.

18-029 NZFGC MATTERS:

M Hall provided an update on NZC matters from the 14th June 2018 meeting held in Wellington. Topics included:

- Licence fee recommendation background
- DoC's fees for charging overseas tourists
- Eyede licencing service provider contract
- RDR legal and expert witness expenses approved
- Guides licence
- Salmon report from Dave Willis
- Salmon Committee meeting to be held on Wed 20th June
- Fish and Game elections
- Lake snow
- Commercial editions of Fish and Game magazine to cease.

18-030 GENERAL BUSINESS:

030.1 Season Extensions (DI)

D Isbister advised that he wished to see this Council expand opportunities to fish outside the seasons we already have.

Chief Executive advised that to do this D Isbister would need to bring forward a case with recommendations for staff to review so it can then be addressed through the review of the Anglers Notice.

Meeting closed: 9:50 pm.

Next Council Meeting – 16 August 2018.

Chief Executive Note: A draft copy of "A trial of the effectiveness of a permeable rock bund for excluding fish at the Rangitata Water Limited intake" was handed out to Councillors in attendance and later posted to those not in attendance.

Signed _____



Date _____

