

NORTH CANTERBURY FISH AND GAME COUNCIL ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**Held Wednesday 13th December 2017
595 Johns Road, Harewood, Christchurch
Commencing at 6.30pm**

1. Present

Councillors: Trevor Isitt, Malcolm Gilbert, John Cumberpatch, Ron Stuart, Alan Strong, Craig Maylam, Chris Brankin, Phillip Musson, Peter Robinson
Staff: Rod Cullinane, Debbie Ambler, Scott Pearson, Steve Terry, Dirk Barr, Richard Cosgrove (South Island Communications Advisor), Tony Hawker
Public: Paul Hodgson, Kevin Belcher, Larry Burke, David Kirkness, Steve McNeill, Bill Southward, Pam Ellis, Mike Ager

2. Apologies

Councillors: Ken Lee, Bruce Kelly
Staff: Ryton Barr, Emily Arthur-Moore (lateness)
Public: Nil

3. Welcome By The Chairman

Cr Isitt opened the meeting by thanking and then inviting the attendees to stay on for the Council meeting which was to follow the AGM.

“That the apologies be accepted”

**Moved: Cr Cumberpatch
Seconded: Cr Stuart Carried**

4. Minutes from the Previous Annual General Meeting Dated 14th December 2016

“That the minutes from the previous meeting be accepted as a true and accurate record”

**Moved: Cr Cumberpatch
Seconded: Cr Musson Carried**

Under No 6. Noted that the year should read 15/16 and not 14/15 regarding the presentation of the Annual Report.

5. Summary of 2016/17 Issues and Achievements

R Cullinane welcomed everyone to the meeting by stating that staff would not give full presentations but would summarise current issues happening in the Region.

a. High Country Lakes

T Hawker gave background to the current closures of six lakes in the region –

- 3 weeks ago trout were found with red spots and rash;
- F&G notified MPI immediately of possibility of new disease;
- F&G closed Lakes Grasmere and Sarah;
- fish found sent to MPI for testing, with full results hopefully prior to Christmas;
- all Waimakariri Lakes were closed as a precaution after Hawdon fish found;

General feeling was the problem could be weather related with oxygen levels in lakes low.

There was hope the lakes would reopen prior to Christmas. There had also been good feedback on communications on this matter to stakeholders as well.

b. Environment

S Pearson reported briefly on the following:

- the establishment of better partnerships with ECAN;
- better communication process regarding non notified consents;
- compliance monitoring – established special protocols on stock exclusion issues, processes were being developed to more accurately check fish screens;
- Rakaia River - a group has been established to try to get more data from ECAN scientists;
- 2 nominees were received for the Working With Nature Awards;
- Hurunui/Waiiau – An agreement between ECAN and the Hurunui Waiiau Zone Committee has seen new minimum flows for Amuri Irrigation Company (in the HWRRP Plan) deferred for the last five years, while they focused on nutrient discharge reductions. In the upcoming “targeted plan change”, Fish and Game is pushing strongly for the new minimum flows to now apply to all water permit holders, which would lead to the Amuri Irrigation water take consents being.

6. Presentation of the 2016/17 Annual Report

R Cullinane reported a financial deficit of \$255,700 that was made up of hatchery over expenditure, depreciation, employee related costs and some approved use of reserves. Licence sales for the year were down on the previous year. Levies payable to NZC increased slightly on reduced income. This review will assist with determining future funding.

A hatchery review was being undertaken by Cawthron Institute to better determine funding levels.

“That the 2016/2017 Annual Report be adopted”

Moved: Cr Stuart
Seconded: Cr Maylam Carried

In general discussion it was noted that strategies within the operational work plan may need to be reset to reflect income. D Ambler to agenda for February 2018 Council meeting.

7. Presentation of the Ian “Mac” McCrory Trophy for Volunteer of the Year

The recipient for 2017 was Pam Ellis from the NZSAA. P Ellis stated she was accepting this Award on behalf of all volunteers who carry out the work to assist North Canterbury Fish and Game.

8. Snake Creek

E Arthur-Moore gave a presentation on the habitat restoration work currently being carried out at Snake Creek. R Cullinane stated that E Arthur Moore had been seconded to the Water and Wildlife Habitat Trust until the work had been completed and had been instrumental in raising funds for the project, in particular from the Fresh Water Improvement Fund. A Strong was thanked for all his work on the project also.

9. General Business

In answer to any updates from the recently held Salmon Symposium, R Cosgrove stated there would be an update from the Symposium before Christmas. Cr Cumberpatch stated that NZC supported the Salmon Sub-committee being formed as the problems were seen as a national not local project.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 7.45 p.m.

Chairman

Date