

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 3 December 2020 at 4:00 pm.

Present: A Brooks D Isbister
 S Gerard L Koevoet
 B Growcott C McKenzie
 M Hall A Simpson (Chair)

In Attendance:

F&G Staff: J Graybill, B Dolan, H Stevens, M Webb R Adams (until 5 pm), J Couper (until 5 pm).

Canterbury Aoraki Conservation Board: P Smith

Public: J de Wit

20-069 APOLOGIES:

J Henry, C Fulton, S Bannister, A Christensen.

Resolved (Growcott/Koevoet)

20-068

THAT THE APOLOGIES OF J HENRY, C FULTON, S BANNISTER, AND A CHRISTENSEN BE ACCEPTED.

20-070 COUNCILLOR INTEREST REGISTER:

Chair queried if Councillors had any new interests to add to the register or any conflicts between their current interests and the business of tonight's meeting? None were advised.

20-071 HEALTH & SAFETY:

Chief Executive pointed out exit points of the building and reminded Councillors and public to make use of the hand sanitiser when entering or exiting the boardroom, sign in on the attendance book or use their Covid-app to scan the QR code and be aware of the social distancing requirements.

20-072 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES –

Resolved (Koevoet/McKenzie)

20-069

THAT THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 17 SEPTEMBER 2020 BE ACCEPTED AS A TRUE AND CORRECT RECORD.

Resolved (Growcott/Koevoet)

20-070

THAT THE MINUTES OF THE EGM MEETING OF 2 NOVEMBER 2020 BE ACCEPTED AS A TRUE AND CORRECT RECORD.

20-073 DEPUTATION:

73.1 J deWit

J deWit addressed the Council on the following items: Plan Change 7, and NZ Fish and Game Council matters.

20-074 RECEIVE OPERATIONS AND STAFF REPORTS:

Resolved (Growcott/Isbister)

20-071

THAT THE OPERATIONS AND STAFF REPORTS OF 3 DECEMBER 2020 BE RECEIVED.

20-075 BUDGET AND FINANCE:

075.1 Financial Reports & Expense Listing (7.1)

Chief Executive gave Council an update on the CSI financial situation. He noted that while the early increase in fish licence income compared to last year's sales is encouraging, a cautionary approach is still warranted. Non-resident sales are well down and will remain virtually zero while borders are closed. Therefore, it appears that many fish licence buyers bought early, and that the higher fish licence income compared to last year's sales will continue to decline to an unknown endpoint.

Resolved (McKenzie/Koevoet)

20-072

THAT COUNCIL RECEIVES THE FINANCIAL REPORTS AND RATIFIES THE SCHEDULES OF PAYMENTS FOR SEPTEMBER, OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER 2020 IN THE GST INCLUSIVE AMOUNTS OF \$83,987.38, 69,043.32 AND \$275,718.31, RESPECTIVELY.

20-076 CHAIR'S REPORT:

076.1 CSI Finances (8.1)

Chair advised that the 2019/20 financial year was dominated by Covid-19. Fish licence income turned out to be less affected than game licence income.

076.2 NZ Council (8.2)

Chair expressed his thanks to CSI's NZC appointee, Daniel Isbister, for his energy and commitment to that important relationship. He also thanked Paul Shortis who recently stepped down from chairing NZC and looked forward to working with Ray Grubb as the new NZC Chair.

076.3 Ministerial Review (8.3)

Chair reported that the reviewers have now completed their consultations and submissions have closed. We await release of their report.

076.4 Ngai Tahu Freshwater Rangatiratanga Action (8.4)

Chair reported that the South Island iwi Ngāi Tahu reportedly is taking the Crown to court, seeking 'rangatiratanga' over all freshwater in its takiwā (area). The case would seek to establish 'shared authority' with the Crown over policy and practice (*Stuff*, 2 Nov 2020). He noted that the claim, if it succeeds, is likely to have implications that are far-reaching, including for sports fish and game bird management. We will continue to watch developments in this case closely.

076.5 Expanding Stakeholder Engagement (8.5)

Chair reported that, now that CSI has got its house in order, he believed CSI should re-focus its efforts during 2021 on engagement with our stakeholders. He invited members to contribute their ideas for doing so.

076.6 Sports Fish and Game Management Plan (8.6)

Chair advised that CSI is required to form ten-year "Management Plans" for sports fish and game birds (*Conservation Act s 17L*). The Management Plan must be circulated for public consultation and, ultimately, submitted to the Minister for approval (*Conservation Act s 17M*). Since CSI's current Management Plan will be due for revision in 2022, he proposed that Council should, during early 2021, plan out how it will go about updating it, including what consultation it will undertake, in order to allow our stakeholders the best possible opportunity to contribute to that.

20-077 CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT:

077.1 Risk Register (9.1)

CE advised that a collaborative project has begun involving ECan, DOC, Runanga, North Canterbury & CSI Fish and Game and NIWA to investigate the hapua fish community. This project is targeted on smelt populations but will also provide information on the state of the sea-run trout fishery.

077.2 2019/20 Performance Report (9.2)

The 2019/20 Performance Report was presented for Council adoption. CE reported that the bottom line of the Statement of Financial Performance shows a year-end deficit of \$110,950 against a budgeted deficit of \$140,950. This shows an improvement on budget of approximately \$30,000. He spoke to a summary report that showed the high-level losses and gains in income and expenditure compared to budget that explained the year-end improvement of net profit of ~\$30,000.

Resolved (Koevoet/Brooks)

20-073

THAT COUNCIL ADOPT THE PERFORMANCE REPORT FOR THE 2019/20 FINANCIAL YEAR.

077.3 2021/22 Review of Gamebird Hunting (9.3)

M Webb provided recommendations on the 2020/21 gamebird hunting conditions. The following resolution resulted.

Resolved (Hall/Growcott)

20-074

THAT COUNCIL ACCEPT ALL RECOMMENDATIONS PROVIDED IN THE GAME GAZETTE REPORT. THESE BEING:

- **THAT THERE BE NO CHANGE TO GAME SEASON CONDITIONS CONTROLLING HARVEST OF MALLARD AND GREY DUCK FOR THE 2021/22 SEASON.**
- **THAT THERE BE NO CHANGE TO GAME SEASON CONDITIONS CONTROLLING HARVEST OF PARADISE SHELDUCK FOR THE 2021/22 SEASON.**
- **THAT PARADISE SHELDUCK CAN BE HUNTED IN ALL AREAS OF THE REGION, FROM THE FIRST SATURDAY IN MAY TO THE LAST SUNDAY IN JULY WITH A DAILY BAG LIMIT OF 25 BIRDS, AND MAY BE HUNTED FIRST MONDAY AFTER THE LAST SUNDAY IN JULY TO THE LAST SUNDAY IN SEPTEMBER WEST OF SH1.**

- THAT THERE BE NO CHANGE TO GAME SEASON CONDITIONS CONTROLLING HARVEST OF BLACK SWAN FOR THE 2021/22 SEASON.
- THAT BLACK SWAN CAN BE HUNTED FROM FIRST SATURDAY IN MAY TO THE LAST SUNDAY IN JULY IN ALL AREAS OF THE REGION WITH A DAILY BAG LIMIT OF 5 BIRDS.
- THAT THERE BE NO CHANGE TO GAME SEASON CONDITIONS CONTROLLING HARVEST OF SHOVELER AND PUKEKO FOR 2021/22.
- THAT THERE BE NO CHANGE TO GAME SEASON CONDITIONS CONTROLLING HARVEST OF QUAIL, PHEASANT AND CHUKAR FOR THE 2021/22 SEASON.
- THAT THE STANDARD CALENDAR CHANGES BE:
 - I WATERFOWL SEASON, 1 MAY TO 25 JULY 2021,
 - II UPLAND GAME, 1 MAY TO 29 AUGUST 2021, AND
 - III MID-SUMMER SEASON, 5/6 AND 12/13 FEBRUARY 2022.

077.4 Renewal of Council/McKinnons Hatchery Management Agreement (9.4)

CE advised that the second 5-year agreement between CSI and McKinnons Trust is due for review. He drew Council's attention to Mark Webb's introductory report that provided an excellent summary on the state of knowledge on salmon management and the 'draft' agreement attached to it. He encouraged Council to 'receive' the report provided and give approval for staff to liaise with the Trust so that an agreed 'draft' can come back to Council for consideration and adoption.

Resolved (McKenzie/Gerard)

20-075

THAT COUNCIL RECEIVES THE DRAFT CSI/MCKINNONS TRUST MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT AND APPROVES STAFF TO LIAISE WITH THE TRUST WITH THE RESULTING AGREED "DRAFT" TO COME TO COUNCIL FOR ADOPTION.

077.5 Commercial Origin Salmon Release Policy (9.5)

CE introduced the 'draft' policy referred to salmon regions by the NZ Council that he understood was an initiative coming from the National Sea-Run Salmon Committee (NSRSC). Concern was expressed that the NSRSC hadn't seen the wider implications of the policy and that further review and comment should be given to the policy.

Resolved (Hall/Brooks)

20-076

THAT THE CHAIR WRITE TO NZ COUNCIL REQUESTING FURTHER TIME FOR CONSIDERATION ON THE 'DRAFT' POLICY ON COMMERCIAL ORIGIN SALMON RELEASES TO ALLOW OPPORTUNITY TO LIAISE WITH THE NATIONAL SEA-RUN SALMON COMMITTEE AND TO ALLOW INTERESTED PARTIES TO SUBMIT THEIR COMMENTS.

077.6 NZC Reserves Policy (9.6)

D Isbister declared his 'conflict of interest' as a member of the NZC Standing Finance Committee.

CE reported that the NZC Standing Finance Committee has prepared a "draft" Reserves Policy and circulated it to regions for comment. The Chair thanked Matthew Hall, who was asked to review the 'draft' policy and provide comment. Concern was expressed that the 'draft' crosses a boundary as the NZC don't have authority to set reserves and manage other councils' reserves. Further, it was believed that policy is the wrong instrument rather guidance could be provided to set a process and NZC could track reserves.

Resolved (Koevoet/Brooks) (D Isbister abstaining)

20-077

THAT CSI COUNCIL AUTHORISES THE CHAIR TO WRITE A SUBMISSION TO THE NZC ON THE PROPOSED RESERVES POLICY

077.7 RSIL Spawning Race (9.7)

Council was advised that M Webb and A Christensen had met with John Wright (General Manager of the RSIL scheme) to examine the current state of the salmon spawning race following the significant Rangitata River flood in December 2019.

CSI's concerns remain that flow be reinstated to the race, that spawning gravel be restored and that public access be reinstated.

RSIL General Manager confirmed to CSI Staff that the spawning race will be restored and flow to the race will be reinstated. This work must, however, await ECan's river works to repair the significant damage done by the December flood.

Resolved (Growcott/Isbister)

20-078

STAFF CONTINUE TO LIAISE WITH RSIL FOR RESTORATION OF THE SALMON SPAWNING RACE BY THE MOST PRACTICAL AND SUSTAINABLE METHOD AND AT THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE TIME.

077.8 Meeting Dates for the 2021 Calendar (9.8)

CE advised that the CSI meeting dates have been recommended to align with those of the NZC to meet their requirements for receiving information on budgets, OWP's and the licence fee recommendation.

THAT THE CSI MEETINGS FOR 2021 WILL BE HELD AS PER THE SCHEDULE BELOW:

- 4 FEBRUARY CSI COUNCIL MEETING
- 18 MARCH CSI COUNCIL MEETING INCLUDING APPROVE OWP & BUDGET FOR SUBMITTING TO MANAGERS/CES FOR RECOMMENDATION TO NZC
- 20 MAY CSI COUNCIL MEETING INCLUDING APPROVE ANGLING REGULATIONS AND LICENCE FEE RECOMMENDATION TO SUBMIT TO NZC
- 15 JULY CSI COUNCIL MEETING
- 16 SEPTEMBER CSI COUNCIL MEETING.

(NOTE: THESE DATES MAY BE SUBJECT TO CHANGE DEPENDANT ON THE OUTCOME OF THE REVIEW).

20-078 NZFGC REPORT:

D Isbister gave an update on the NZC meeting held in Wellington in November 2020. Some of the topics discussed at the NZC meeting were: pheasant preserves to cease operating in their current form by 2024, possible ways to manage pressure sensitive fisheries, national angling survey to be undertaken by NIWA, Communications policy to go back to regions, check list for staff reports initiated, fishing licence sales tracking well so far, resignation of P Shortis as NZC Chair, and meeting between NZC and Federated Farmers.

20-079 NOTIFIED GENERAL BUSINESS:

079.1 Communications Policy

S Bannister had requested consideration a draft Communications Policy but, due to his absence from the meeting, Chair advised that he would invite S Bannister to re-circulate the proposed Communications Policy and address the topic at the February meeting.

079.2 Canterbury Aoraki Conservation Board

Paula Smith introduced herself to the CSI Council and advised that the Canterbury Aoraki Conservation Board and CSI Fish and Game have many similar interests. She would like to increase the dialogue between the two organisations. Chair welcomed Ms Smith and advised that CSI Fish and Game would be happy to establish dialogue.

20-080 PUBLIC EXCLUDED SESSION:

Resolved (Growcott/Brooks)

20-080

THAT THE PUBLIC BE EXCLUDED FROM THE FOLLOWING PARTS OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THIS MEETING, NAMELY—

080.1 APPROVAL OF 17 SEPTEMBER 2020 PUBLIC EXCLUDED MINUTES

THE GENERAL SUBJECT OF EACH MATTER TO BE CONSIDERED WHILE THE PUBLIC IS EXCLUDED, THE REASON FOR PASSING THIS RESOLUTION IN RELATION TO EACH MATTER, AND THE SPECIFIC GROUNDS UNDER SECTION 48(1) OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT


OFFICIAL INFORMATION AND MEETINGS ACT 1987 FOR THE PASSING OF THIS RESOLUTION ARE AS FOLLOWS:

General Subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter [i.e. OIA interest protected]	Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution
Approval of Public Excluded Minutes	OIA section 9(2)(g)	That the public conduct of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist under section 6 or section 7 or section 9 of the Official Information Act 1982.

Council resumed in public session at 5:40 pm.

Meeting closed: 5:40 pm.

Next Council Meeting: Thursday 4 February 2021

Signed  Date 4 February 2021