

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 20 April 2017 at 7:00 pm.

Present: J Cruden P McLauchlan
B Growcott G Rooney (Chairman)
M Hall B Whipp
D Isbister J Henry (Ngai Tahu)
L Koevoet

In Attendance:

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

17-012 APOLOGIES:

Will Spry (Councillor), H Stevens (Fish and Game Officer) and D Winterburn (DoC).

AGREED that the apologies of W Spry and D Winterburn be accepted.

17-013 COUNCILLOR INTEREST REGISTER:

Chairman queried if Councillors had any new interests to add to the register. No changes were advised.

17-014 GENERAL BUSINESS:

- Fishing in the Mackenzie (GR)

17-015 HEALTH & SAFETY:

Exit points of the building and assembly points for evacuation of the premises were advised.

17-016 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES – 16 February 2017

Resolved (Koevoet/Isbister)

17-006

THAT THE MINUTES OF MEETING OF 16 FEBRUARY 2017 BE ACCEPTED AS A TRUE AND CORRECT RECORD.

17-017 BUDGET AND FINANCE:

006.1 Financial Reports & Expense Listing

Resolved (Koevoet/McLauchlan)

17-007

THAT COUNCIL RECEIVES THE FINANCIAL REPORTS AND RATIFIES THE EXPENSE LISTINGS FOR FEBRUARY 2017 AND MARCH 2017 IN THE GST INCLUSIVE AMOUNTS OF \$325,283.32 AND \$97,835.26, RESPECTIVELY.

17-018 DOC LIAISON:

- None.



17-019 OPERATIONS AND STAFF REPORTS:

008.1 Activity Reports & Operations Reports (8.1)

Staff responded to general queries from Councillors related to topics reported in their activities and operations reports. Topics included:

- Explanation on Jet Boat By Laws – with the change in parent legislation the only requirement now needed to be taken into account is safety issues and not fisheries and amenity values. Fish and Game staff are in discussions with district councils to include provisions to limit jet boat access at sites with fishery and angling values in their annual plans.
- Benmore Irrigation Appeal update. A Christensen confirmed that Benmore Irrigation have withdrawn their appeal.
- RDR consents hearing – Chief Executive advised that F&G are yet to get confirmation on whether there is a change in dates for the hearing.

17-020 CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT:

020.1 Draft 2017/18 OWP & Budget (8.1)

Chief Executive advised that this draft budget is largely a hold-the-line budget and the suggested changes in the OWP were highlighted in bold.

M Hall advised that he would like to see objective 3.5.1 expanded to include a Salmon Symposium being held before the next fishing season with the idea to allow for funding of \$10,000 towards the Symposium.

Resolved (Koevoet/Growcott)

17-008

THAT COUNCIL APPROVE THE DRAFT OWP AND BUDGET FOR THE 2017/2018 FINANCIAL YEAR.

020.2 2017/18 Anglers Notice Review

M Webb provided Council with a report outlining submissions received and his recommendations for the 2017/18 Angler Notice.

Secretary's Note: For the full details of the submission and staff recommendations refer to the 2017/18 Anglers Notice Review Report in the 20 April 2017 meeting papers.

1. Salmon Season April Closure

It was confirmed that the regional target of 3,650 angler caught salmon has not been exceeded in any of the ten seasons since removal of April from the fishing season. Resolution 06-037 determines that before salmon fishing in April is reconsidered the target needs to be exceeded in three consecutive years.

Resolved (Isbister/Hall)

17-009

- 1. TO RETAIN CURRENT APRIL CLOSURE CONDITION ACROSS THE REGION.**
- 2. TO REVIEW CONTINUED CLOSURE DURING ANGLER NOTICE REVIEW IN APRIL 2018.**

2. Lake Tekapo Salmon Bag Limit

This proposed regulation change was considered a matter of urgency as it would maximise the opportunity for licenced anglers to utilise the established put-n-take salmon fishery in Lake Tekapo resulting from past stocking. It is predicted that



the salmon released in 2015 and 2016 will be takeable (300mm+) in the next two sports fishing seasons, 2017/2018 and 2018/2019.

It was noted that Lake Tekapo is a popular sports fishery attracting around 8,900 angler days in the 2014/2015 sports fishing season (NIWA, 2016). The lake has a resident self-sustaining population of rainbow and brown trout.

Resolved (Hall/Isbister)

17-010

THAT FOR LAKE TEKAPO THERE BE A DAILY BAG LIMIT OF 6 SPORTS FISH, NO MORE THAN 4 TO BE TROUT AND NO MORE THAN 4 TO BE SALMON.

3. **Ashburton River South Branch April Trout Season**

It was noted there was an error last year in that the AN did not include provision for the Ashburton River South Branch to have a trout season that continued until the end of April. The Regulation Guide did not repeat the omission so no harm was done to anglers.

Resolved (Koevoet/Whipp)

17-011

THAT THE SPORTS FISHING SEASON FOR THE ASHBURTON RIVER SOUTH BRANCH UPSTREAM OF TAYLORS STREAM JUNCTION TO INCLUDE TROUT FISHING FROM 1 APRIL TO 30 APRIL WITH BAG LIMIT AND METHODS AS FOR 1 OCTOBER TO 31 MARCH.

17-021 NZ COUNCIL MATTERS:

021.1 Licence Sales YTD and Licence Analysis

Council considered a request from the NZ Council that regions review a report from the March 2017 NZ Council meeting. The paper makes 4 recommendations, 3 of which require feedback to the NZ Council.

Recommendation 2 - That licence categories and fee ratios remain unchanged for the 2017/18 financial year. This was supported by Council.

Rationale:

The Licence Working Party has promoted that fee ratios remain unchanged for a 3-year period in order to more fully assess the uptake and switching between categories and the possible income effects that result.

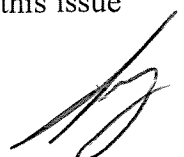
Recommendation 3 - That Regional Councils be consulted on:

(a) Imposing a limit on the number of consecutive days that a day licence can be issued for, with the proposed limit being three-days and not renewable for a further five working days. This was not supported by Council.

Rationale:

The background for this suggestion is that there is an anecdotal perception that a non-resident angler is favoring buying 4-6 day licences in a row at \$20 per day thereby avoiding having to pay the cost of a non-resident licence (currently \$163).

The first question that should be asked is “is this really a big problem?” We don’t really know the overall monetary effect as this has not yet been assessed. It was felt this issue needs to be quantified before any change is undertaken.



(b) Broadening the use of designated fisheries as a useful management tool in the promotion of more whole season (including non-resident) licences. This was supported by Council.

Rationale:

This is being suggested as an instrument to better promote and manage fisheries designated as “back country” fisheries or “special fisheries” using funds reserved from the non-resident licence premium.

(c) Changing the name of the “Adult Whole Season” licence to “Premium” licence with an expiry date of September 30th. This was supported by Council.

Rationale:

It was felt that calling the licence a ‘whole season’ licence brings confusion to anglers who perceive that the “season” refers to 12 calendar months from the date of purchase.

(d) Permitting all named people to use the family licence i.e, primary, secondary, and named children, as a fish alone licence. This was not supported by Council.

Rationale:

It was felt the original purpose of introducing the family licence was to introduce new members and keep the family fishing together. It came at a reduced price but with that reduction there were restrictions. Over the years the licence has been relaxed from its original stance to allow the secondary licence holder to fish without the primary holder present as long as they are accompanying their children. Grandchildren are now also permitted to be named on the family licence of grandparents.

The question needs to be asked if this proposal suits the original purpose? Council believe it does not. This suggestion seems to have being generated on a handful of complaints from anglers who simply wish to find a way to pay less for their licence.

Recommendation 4 - *That ways to grow participation rates become part of a proposed marketing strategy.* This was supported by Council.

Resolved (Isbister/Cruden)

07-012

THAT THE CSI COUNCIL SUPPORTS RECOMMENDATIONS 2, 3B AND 3C AND 4, BUT DO NOT SUPPORT RECOMMENDATIONS 3A, AND 3D.

021.2 Report from NZ Meeting of April 2017

M Hall provided an update on NZC matters. Topics included:

- NZ Councillors expressing appreciation of the visit to the CSI Region.
- Bryce Johnson gave formal notice of his retirement in October 2017.
- North Canterbury FGC has requested funding for their hatchery be approved and wish to use funds from their reserves to finish their new building.
- Legal funding for CSI to cover cost of Plan Change 3 was approved
- Possible Governors Forum in 2018.



17-022 GENERAL BUSINESS:

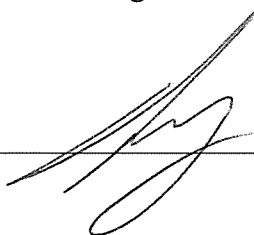
022.1 Fishing in the Mackenzie (GR)

G Rooney advised he had received a letter from an angler expressing frustration about breaches of fishing regulations at the Ohau canals and asked if Meridian could be approached to ban fishing off the dam.

M Webb responded that this issue has already been addressed through the Anglers Notice process where anglers must return fish to the water with as little injury as possible. He advised that staff and rangers are ranging the canals regularly so it was **AGREED** that staff would keep an eye on the situation over the next 3-6 months.

Meeting closed: 9:30 pm.

Next Council Meeting – 15 June 2017

Signed  _____

Date 15/6/17 _____