

**CONFIRMED MINUTES OF THE 155th MEETING OF THE EASTERN FISH AND
GAME COUNCIL, HELD AT THE ROTORUA OFFICES OF FISH & GAME NEW
ZEALAND ON WEDNESDAY 18th NOVEMBER 2015 AT 12.00PM**

Present

Murray Ferris, Lindsay Lyons, Barry Roderick, Michael Little, Terry Wood, Neal Hawes, Laurence Allingham, Terry Sutton, Peter Storey, Steve Scragg, Laurance Tamati, David Woolner, Ken Coombes, Sandy Bull, and Alan Baird.

IN ATTENDANCE

Andy Garrick, Kate Thompson, Eben Herbert, Matthew McDougall, John Meikle, Lloyd Gledhill, Mark Sherburn, Anthony van Dorp, Lynne Sands, Carmel Veitch, Harri Condie (Eastern Fish & Game); Brigit Nieuwboer (Royal Society of NZ Science Teaching Leadership Programme); Grant Dyson (Public Awareness Advisor, New Zealand Fish & Game); Ken Raureti (Chairman, Bay of Plenty Conservation Board); Trevor Richardson (Western BOP Fish & Game Club); Paul Badger (Gisborne Anglers Club); Alan Robinson (Wairoa Anglers Club); Ray Bushell, Thomas Turner, Maurice Mitchell and Ross Dillon.

1.0 WELCOME

1.1 Cr Murray Ferris opened the meeting at 12.00pm and welcomed all present, inviting new Councillors to sit at the Council table.

2.0 APOLOGIES

2.1 Apologies were received from Crs Annaka Davis and Steve Luscombe; Helen Neale (Department of Conservation); and Colin Paton (T/T Conservation Board).

2.2 *Agreed (Mike Little/Terry Wood) that the apologies for the 155th meeting of the Eastern Region Fish and Game Council be sustained. [15/11/2.2]*

3.0 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (21 OCTOBER 2015)

3.1 *Agreed (Neal Hawes/Barry Roderick) that the minutes of the meeting held on 21st October 2015 be confirmed as a true and correct record. [15/11/3.1]*

3.2 There were no resolutions identified for inclusion in Council Policy.

4.0 MATTERS ARISING

4.1 Cr Terry Wood expressed again his concern over Councillor absenteeism and requested that Council consider a future agenda item on the subject with the intention of establishing a policy for this. Andy Garrick noted that expectations of Councillors would be discussed during governance induction training at Council's February 2016 meeting. He noted also, that Agenda Item 15 of today's meeting would look at dates and timing of meetings and this may reduce issues some Councillors have had with their availability for previously scheduled meetings.

4.2 Cr Mike Little expressed his concern over the 2015 election process advising that he had written to the New Zealand Council requesting changes to the electoral conditions. In particular he has requested that all season licence holders be automatically enrolled, and for a candidate to be eligible to stand for Council they must reside within 50km of the sub region that they are standing in. Andy Garrick advised that election process

issues had been raised nationally, and that this item will be put on the agenda for Council's February meeting and the outcomes of that discussion submitted to the New Zealand Council.

5.0 2014-2015 PERFORMANCE REPORT

5.1 Andy Garrick informed Council that the agenda item for the 2014-15 Performance Report included a summary of the final results for the 2014-15 financial year and follows on from Kate Thompson's overview provided at the October meeting. Crs Barry Roderick and Steve Scragg queried whether the Waikaremoana Sports Fish Habitat Enhancement Fund should be excluded from the Fish & Game accounts to ensure the funds are protected for their original purpose and not included in general reserves. Kate advised that the Waikaremoana Sports Fish Habitat Enhancement Fund had previously been held outside of the Eastern Fish & Game accounts in the name of the Waikaremoana Sports Fish Habitat Enhancement Trust, but due to our inability to gain charitable status, and for taxation purposes, the Trust was wound up and the funds transferred to the Eastern Fish and Game Council. Kate confirmed that the "Fund" is recorded as a dedicated reserve within the Performance Report and is not included in any calculations relating to the operational reserves and funding of the operational work plan.

5.2 *Agreed (Barry Roderick/Peter Storey) that Council adopts the Performance Report for the 2014-2015 year. [15/11/5.2]*

6.0 FAREWELL TO DEPARTING COUNCILLORS

6.1 On behalf of Council and staff Cr Murray Ferris extended thanks to departing Councillors Mike Little, Terry Sutton, Laurence Allingham, Terry Wood, and Steve Luscombe in recognition of their services to Fish & Game. He said that being a Councillor can sometimes be a thankless job, but noted that everyone had made a contribution, and he encouraged new Council members to actively engage and participate in Council discussions and deliberations. Murray then presented each of the departing Councillors with a certificate of appreciation and acknowledgement of their time on the Council.

6.2 Terry Wood said that his time on Council had been a great opportunity, he had learnt a great deal, and was leaving with treasured memories. He wished the new Council, Andy Garrick and staff continued success.

6.3 Terry Sutton said that it had been great to get to know and work with Council, and felt that Eastern was held in high regard across the country. Terry commented on his support for amalgamation of the Taupo and Eastern Region fisheries, and reiterated his desire to see triploid fish included in liberations.

6.4 Laurence Allingham acknowledged the stewardship of Andy Garrick and the great team that Eastern Region has. He noted that the Eastern Region has a tremendous resource to look after.

6.5 Mike Little wished Council and staff all the best adding that while he would no longer be a Councillor he could now have an input from the outside.

6.6 Steve Luscombe had put his apologies in for this meeting but wished to pass on his support for continued work with the mallard programmes.

6.7 Cr Murray Ferris advised that at this point the first part of the proceedings was now concluded. Mike Little and Terry Sutton extended their thanks and left the meeting.

7.0 ELECTION OF NEW ZEALAND FISH AND GAME COUNCIL APPOINTEE AND REGIONAL CHAIRPERSON

7.1 Andy Garrick took the Chair and informed Council of the statutory requirement to appoint an interim New Zealand Council representative and an interim Chairperson to cover the period up until February 2016. At this point Council will repeat the process and include other Council positions. Cr Lindsay Lyons, current Eastern Fish & Game appointee and chairman of the New Zealand Council, provided a brief overview of his current role and informed Council of the upcoming 118th meeting of the New Zealand Council this weekend in Hamilton. Cr Barry Roderick acknowledged the significant demands of this role and thanked Cr Lindsay Lyons for the co-operation and progress seen within the New Zealand Council under his guidance as Chair. Barry noted that the interim appointment was required to cover the Christmas period through to the next meeting of Council in February 2016 at which time firm appointments would be made.

7.2 *Agreed (Barry Roderick/Neal Hawes) that Lindsay Lyons be New Zealand Council appointee between now and Council's next meeting in February 2016. [15/11/7.2]*

7.3 *Agreed (Neal Hawes/Lindsay Lyons) that Murray Ferris be Council Chairman between now and Council's next meeting in February 2016. [15/11/7.3]*

7.4 Cr Murray Ferris took the Chair and thanked Council for their support.

8.0 NOTIFICATION OF ITEMS FOR GENERAL BUSINESS

- Terry Wood – maimai (dealt with in Council Priorities 12.1).
- Maurice Mitchell –game bird matters

9.0 CONFLICT OF INTEREST REGISTER

9.1 Cr Barry Roderick registered his potential conflict of interest over items within the agenda relating to the Waewaetutuki wetland and his prior relationship with the Tauranga Acclimatisation Society. Barry advised that he would not vote on these matters if a vote was to be taken.

10.0 LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS AND COUNCILLOR INDUCTION

10.1 Andy Garrick advised that this agenda item would be revisited in full in February 2016. He provided a brief summary of the documents contained within the Councillor induction manuals to be distributed at the conclusion of the meeting. He said some sections were in the process of being updated and these would be provided in February. In the meantime Councillors could familiarise themselves with the content available now. Andy advised that Robert Sowman, the New Zealand Council's Policy and Planning Manager, would be in attendance at the next meeting of Council to discuss the roles of governors, and governance more generally, and provide an induction to Fish & Game.

11.0 COUNCIL PRIORITIES

11.1 *Angler and Hunter Access:* Terry Wood spoke of his recent contact and complaint he had lodged with the Bay of Plenty Regional Council in relation to dilapidated maimai on Lake Rerewhakaiitu, and advised that the Regional Council had since removed the structure. Andy Garrick confirmed that this was the case and that the Department of Conservation had been invoiced for the cost of doing so. The implications likely to arise from this are potentially significant. Andy noted that while the responsibility,

and therefore costs, technically lie with the individual(s) who constructed the maimai, it is in practice very difficult to identify who these people are, meaning liabilities are then brought to bear on the landowner. In this case it was DOC but it could have been LINZ, or a local or regional authority. Andy advised that he has arranged a meeting with the Regional Council and the Department of Conservation to discuss the issue and determine a pragmatic way forward. Cr Murray Ferris asked Councillors to discuss issues such as these with the Manager before trying to deal with them. Ray Bushell added that this situation was not dissimilar to abandoned whitebait stands.

- 11.2 *Enhancing Habitat for Greylard Production:* Cr Barry Roderick said that with the Game Season conditions up for review there was a need to discuss the mallard population collapse in Area A2 as described within the regulations. Cr Murray Ferris informed Council of a letter submitted by the Western BOP Fish & Game Club regarding pukeko numbers, an out of season swan shoot, increasing take on drakes if duck numbers are showing an increase, and its support for the 3 shot regulation currently adopted by the Auckland/Waikato and Hawke's Bay Fish and Game Councils. Ross Dillon from Edgecumbe spoke of his concerns that the current regulations, and in particular the short seasons, were killing the sport. He advised that in the area he hunts they have two good weekends of hunting before the birds raft out to sea and do not return until later in the season. This effectively reduces their opportunity to take mallard from four weeks to two weeks. He advised that they achieve their limit in the first hour, and that night shooting was not happening.
- 11.3 Matt McDougall informed Council that currently population estimates are as low as they have ever been and that Council is tasked with setting regulations to deal with that. He said that survival is affected by season length in that we are hunting too long into the breeding season and this is the reason Council supported a four week season this year. Matt noted however, that following extensive surveying of the Rangitaiki and Bay of Plenty drains it appeared that we have had a good breeding season this spring. Matt believes that the population is cyclic and that harvest surveys indicate that populations are improving. John Meikle added that despite the season for greylard being reduced there were opportunities to take other species over the four months of the game season. Andy Garrick noted that while staff believe there is some recovery taking place this is not apparent in the Reporoa/Broadlands area. He said that severely depressed populations are typically slow to recover and there may be a requirement for differential regulations within parts of the region.
- 11.4 Maurice Mitchell, duck hunter of 37 years, felt that Fish & Game was doing its best to improve numbers and habitat but asked what else can be done? He had heard that pukeko were taking a lot of eggs and ducklings and asked whether Council would consider removing the limit on pukeko? He also felt that paradise shelduck were dominant over breeding waters and were pushing mallards and grey duck out and queried whether the limit on parries should also be increased? Maurice was concerned too, that there were fewer opportunities for young hunters, and that he endorsed a three shot maximum. Maurice thanked Council for the opportunity to speak.
- 11.5 Trevor Richardson spoke to the submission forwarded by the Western Bay of Plenty Fish & Game Club. He said that pukeko were an ever increasing issue for hunters and farmers and that he and the club supported an increased limit if not making them available to take all year round. Trevor advised Council that the swan on Tauranga harbour head for the hills prior to Opening and requested that Council consider an out of season cull. He also agreed with earlier comments that the greylards are present at the start of the season but are gone later on, and asked Council to consider, if trend

- counts increase, adding two extra drakes to the bag limit. He felt it was better to ask hunters to go for green heads but acknowledged that they were not easily identifiable in the air. Trevor and the club also endorsed the 3 shot limit as they felt stray pellets had a lot to do with the declining mallard populations. Ray Bushell added that he supported shooting on the water as these birds were more easily retrieved and felt that those shot on their way out were often injured or not retrievable.
- 11.6 Maurice Mitchell requested that Fish & Game look into the possibility of growing ducks to point of flight and releasing these unless there was something within the Act that specifically prohibited this. Andy Garrick advised that it is an option and that a number of hunters were doing this having applied for, and been granted permits to do so by the Department of Conservation. The Eastern Fish and Game Council had developed a policy for the release of captive reared mallards in June this year which set out terms and conditions it sought to have applied to the permits issued by DOC, but was not at this stage contemplating rearing or releasing birds itself. He said that the jury is still out as to whether this is a cost effective and worthwhile management option here as some overseas studies have suggested otherwise. Andy noted that those who do apply to do this in the Eastern Region are required to have the birds banded before they are released so we can obtain some insight into survival rates and to what extent released birds may be contributing to the recovery of regional mallard populations.
- 11.7 Ken Raureti, BOP Conservation Board, expressed concerns about proposals to increase or remove limits on pukeko and asked that when Council considers limits it does so taking into account cultural concerns that it is offensive to harvest a species and leave it to waste. Andy Garrick advised that pukeko populations appear to have dramatically increased in some areas, and queried Ken as to whether he could see issues with increased takes of birds provided these were done sustainably as is required (by statute) of Fish & Game. Andy noted also, that Fish & Game has a Code of Conduct for hunters and asks hunters not only to hunt safely, lawfully and with regard to the rights of others, but to do so in an ethical manner. Ken endorsed that it was important for harvest to be within sustainable levels and limits should be set for local areas. Cr Sandy Bull commented on the substantial increase in pukeko numbers on Gisborne orchard properties and supported an increase to the daily bag limit or permits out of season.
- 11.8 Cr Murray Ferris thanked everyone for their input to this discussion and Andy Garrick noted that staff would take the comments and suggestions put forward into consideration.
- 11.9 *Maximising Fishery Opportunities:* Cr Barry Roderick briefly spoke of the Tangaroa fishing competition and suggested this is a great competition to publicise. Andy Garrick confirmed our involvement with this competition noting that staff attend and assist with each of the weigh-ins.
- 12.0 2016 GAME SEASON CONDITIONS**
- 12.1 Cr Barry Roderick opened the Game Season Conditions discussion asking that Council re-affirms items 4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.5, 4.6 and 4.8 as recommended before further discussion of items 4.4, 4.7, 4.9 (x2) and 4.10.
- 12.2 *Agreed (Barry Roderick/Steve Scragg) that Council re-affirms the threshold approach to setting mallard and grey duck harvest regulations (where grey duck are treated as mallard due to the difficulty in distinguishing between the species). [15/11/12.2]*

- 12.3 *Agreed (Barry Roderick/Steve Scragg) that the threshold levels are set at 350,000 and 450,000 such that at or below 350,000 a set of restricted conditions apply; above 350,000 and, at or below 450,000 a set of intermediate harvest regulations apply; and above 450,000 a relaxed set of conditions apply. [15/11/12.3]*
- 12.4 *Agreed (Barry Roderick/Steve Scragg) that restricted conditions shall comprise a 4-week season (including Queens Birthday when appropriate) with a bag limit of 6 mallard and grey duck; intermediate conditions shall comprise a 6-week season with a bag limit of 8 mallard and grey duck; and relaxed conditions shall comprise an 8-week season with a bag limit of 10 mallard and grey duck. [15/11/12.4]*
- 12.5 *Agreed (Barry Roderick/Steve Scragg) that paradise shelduck and black swan thresholds and regulations remain the status quo and are subject to January monitoring results. [15/11/12.5]*
- 12.6 *Agreed (Barry Roderick/Steve Scragg) that the 2016 season conditions for shoveler duck be a two bird bag limit for four weeks. [15/11/12.6]*
- 12.7 *Agreed (Barry Roderick/Steve Scragg) that Council approves the continuation of hunting of pukeko with Australasian harriers. [15/11/12.7]*
- 12.8 *Proposal to further constrain mallard and grey duck bag limit in the Reporoa/Broadlands/Upper Waikato River area.:*

Matt McDougall spoke of feedback received from hunters and Council about significantly depleted duck populations in the Reporoa/Broadlands areas advising that while these observations are anecdotal this feedback has been coming for some time. He advised that Fish & Game monitoring in the area included banding, but in recent years insufficient birds have been able to be captured to provide a robust insight into what's happening. Matt said there is reason to believe that populations, and hunting opportunity in the Broadlands/Reporoa area, is augmented from birds migrating into the locality from the Waikato River and lower Waikato. He suggested that impacts on habitat arising from Waikato River water level ramping, the collapse of the Waikato lakes from nitrification and activity of koi carp, and increased dairy conversions in the last couple of decades may have contributed to the reported decline. Matt referred to comments provided in the agenda and noted that Council needs firstly to decide whether more restrictive game season conditions are required within this area, what those restrictions should be if any, and then what area these restrictions should apply to? Cr Ken Coombes commented that considerable numbers of birds had been seen in submerged paddocks prior to opening but these had gone by the time opening arrived. He had spoken to a number of hunters none of whom was opposed to more restrictive bag limits being introduced to this area for a period. Cr Alan Baird stated that from his perspective there seemed to be no issue with duck numbers in the Waikite/Ngakuru/Kapenga areas, and his shooting had been unaffected. He advised that one of his ponds currently had 200 ducklings on it and he believed there were plenty of ducks around. The following matters were discussed:

- Level of confidence the Council needed to instigate changes to regulations.
- In the absence of good science Council should err on the side of caution if concern and uncertainties exist, as hunting success is not always the best indicator.
- Potential compliance issues resulting from a proposed change.
- Impacts on licence sales and the need to maintain revenue to support the mallard research currently being undertaken.

- Difficulties in monitoring the area and the need for a baseline population estimate to measure the effects of further restrictions if these were imposed.

Council concluded that more information on mallard numbers was required prior to changing the bag limits for these areas. Matt McDougall would investigate the possibility of establishing new banding sites in the area in consultation with Crs Baird and Coombes and acquiring greater insight into the status of mallards within this area over the next 12 months.

- 12.9 *Agreed (Steve Scragg/Alan Baird) that the proposal to constrain the mallard and grey duck bag limit in the Reporoa/Broadlands/upper Waikato River areas be reviewed in November 2016 following further investigations by staff and the establishment of baselines for monitoring populations in these areas. [15/11/12.9]***
- 12.10 *Proposal to allow one hen pheasant per day over opening weekend:***
 Cr Steve Scragg queried whether a harvest of hen pheasants was detected in this year's game hunter survey. Matt McDougall advised that while the surveyors had been asked to record the number of hens harvested this had not occurred, but he had seen no increase in harvest over opening weekend where he thought there might have been. Council discussed the background as to why the limited harvest of hens was introduced and the subsequent ill feeling that this had created amongst some hunters. Cr Ken Coombes tabled a petition from the Wildfowlers Association opposing the proposal. Council were divided over this regulation noting on the one hand that it provided an additional opportunity and incentive for young hunters and those new to the sport, a training opportunity for new dogs, hunters were not obliged to take hens if they didn't wish to, and there was no indication and little likelihood that numbers being taken were significant or unsustainable. On the other hand there was a long standing tradition not to take hens, and a belief by some hunters that the females of this particular species should not be harvested even though this is contrary to the approach taken to all other game birds.
- 12.11 *Agreed (Barry Roderick/Sandy Bull) that Council discontinues the proposal to harvest one hen pheasant on opening weekend of 2016 as insufficient demand has been indicated in support of providing this opportunity. [15/11/12.11]***
- 12.12** Andy Garrick briefly commented on a suggestion raised at Hawke's Bay Region's Council meeting the night before to bring the opening of the game bird season forward by a week to reduce the impact of longer seasons on the condition and/or survival of hen mallards going into the subsequent breeding season. Council discussed timing and compliance issues, and some felt that any change to the season start date should be at a national level and be consistent.
- 12.13 *Agreed (Steve Scragg/Barry Roderick) that Council approve the remaining conditions for 2016 as per Appendix 1 in the agenda. [15/11/12.13]***
- 12.14 *Proposal to restrict magazine capacity:***
 Council considered the magazine restrictions imposed by its neighbouring regions (Auckland/Waikato and Hawke's Bay) and the indications that this regulation is likely to be adopted nationally. The background as to why the restrictions were removed was discussed, as was compliance, means of restriction, and the concept of a voluntary lead in period.
- 12.15 *Agreed (Barry Roderick/Lindsay Lyons) that Council supports a voluntary restriction of 3 shots for the 2016 Season with the intention that this will become a mandatory requirement for the 2017 Season. [15/11/12.15]***

- 12.16 *Proposal to continue with the Waewaetutuki novice hunt programme:*
Cr Barry Roderick had earlier notified his conflict in discussions pertaining to the Waewaetutuki wetland and reiterated that he would not vote on the matter.
- 12.17 *Agreed (Steve Scragg/Lindsay Lyons) that the Waewaetutuki wetland be closed to the general ballot and walk in permit system for the 2016 game bird hunting season and that the novice hunt programme instigated in 2015 be repeated. [15/11/12.17] Cr Barry Roderick abstained.*
- 13.0 DATE FOR FEBRUARY 2015 FISH AND GAME COUNCIL MEETING**
- 13.1 Council considered dates for the first meeting of Council for 2016.
- 13.2 *Agreed (Barry Roderick/Lindsay Lyons) Council agrees that the first 2016 Council meeting will be on 18th February 2016 at 12pm. [15/11/13.2]*
- 14.0 LIAISON OFFICER REPORTS**
- 14.1 **Tongariro-Taupo Conservation Board**
Not represented and no report available.
- 14.2 **Bay of Plenty Conservation Board**
Ken Raureti, Chairman of the Bay of Plenty Conservation Board, congratulated Council on the recent success of the Red Tag promotion advising that he had heard some great feedback from anglers he knows. Ken advised that all Board members excluding himself were new to their positions and that they were now getting their feet on the ground. He spoke of three key priorities of the Board;
- Development of a new Conservation Management Strategy.
 - Implementation of Iwi Treaty settlements and in particular Ngati Whare/Whirinaki and Tuhoe/Te Urewera.
 - War on Weeds – the ‘dirty dozen’, wilding pines, and aquatic weeds.
- Ken advised that the Board would look at promotions to get people active and enjoying our environment, and they hoped to engage and grow their volunteer base.
- 14.3 **East Coast/Hawke's Bay Conservation Board**
Not represented and no report received.
- 14.4 **Department of Conservation, Central and Lower North Island Regions**
Not represented and no report received.
- 14.5 **Report from the New Zealand Council**
Lindsay Lyons’ report had been pre-circulated and Lindsay had nothing further to add advising that the New Zealand Council would be meeting in Hamilton this coming weekend with three new Councillors in attendance. Lindsay advised that the New Zealand Council would meet again in March next year once all regional representatives had been confirmed at the February Regional Council meetings.
- 15.0 MANAGEMENT REPORT**
- 15.1 Kate Thompson provided an updated verbal report on the Region's licence sales and commented briefly on what was occurring elsewhere in the Country.
- 15.2 *Agreed (Steve Scragg/Barry Roderick) that Council receives the Management, Finance, and Licence Sales Reports, and approves the payments for September 2015 totalling \$120,731.99. [15/10/15.2]*

16.0 GENERAL BUSINESS

16.1 Maurice Mitchell queried the Council's monitoring of properties with special conditions for upland game and sought confirmation as to when birds were released. He believed that some properties were not adding to wild numbers and if this was the case should their permits be rescinded? Andy Garrick confirmed that there was a requirement to release birds ahead of time, but there was no requirement to have a demonstrable impact on numbers beyond the boundaries of the properties. He advised that annual returns were required from each operation and that a summary of these would be included in the papers for information for the February 2016 meeting.

17.0 PUBLIC EXCLUDED SESSION

17.1 *Agreed (Steve Scragg/Lindsay Lyons) that pursuant to Section 48 (1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, the public be excluded at 2.47pm from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, namely a discussion on the Manager's annual performance review. [15/11/17.1]*

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	GROUND(S) UNDER SECTION 48(1) FOR THE PASSING OF THIS RESOLUTION
Discussion on the Regional Manager's performance review	Good reason to withhold exists under section 7 of the Official Information Act 1982	Section 48(1)(a)(ii)

This resolution is made in reliance on Section 48(1)(a) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interest or interests protected by Section 9 of the Official Information Act 1982 which would be prejudiced by the holding of the whole or relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public are as follows:

ITEM	REASON UNDER THE OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT 1982	SECTION	PLAIN ENGLISH REASON
16 3.1	Protect the privacy of natural persons	Sec. 7(2)(a)	Discussion between the Regional Manager and the Council on the Manager's performance review and any negotiations on employment conditions should occur in private between these parties.

17.2 *Agreed (Steve Scragg/Barry Roderick) that the public be readmitted to the meeting at 3.36pm. [15/11/17.2]*

18.0 MEETING CLOSED

18.1 The meeting was closed at 3.36pm.

.....
Murray Ferris,
Chairman

10.2.16
.....
Date

SUMMARY OF RESOLUTIONS

- 2.0 APOLOGIES**
- 2.2** *Agreed (Mike Little/Terry Wood) that the apologies for the 155th meeting of the Eastern Region Fish and Game Council be sustained. [15/11/2.2]*
- 3.0 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (21 OCTOBER 2015)**
- 3.1** *Agreed (Neal Hawes/Barry Roderick) that the minutes of the meeting held on 21st October 2015 be confirmed as a true and correct record. [15/11/3.1]*
- 5.0 2014-2015 PERFORMANCE REPORT**
- 5.2** *Agreed (Barry Roderick/Peter Storey) that Council adopts the Performance Report for the 2014-2015 year. [15/11/5.2]*
- 7.0 ELECTION OF NEW ZEALAND FISH AND GAME COUNCIL APPOINTEE AND REGIONAL CHAIRPERSON**
- 7.2** *Agreed (Barry Roderick/Neal Hawes) that Lindsay Lyons be New Zealand Council appointee between now and Council's next meeting in February 2016. [15/11/7.2]*
- 7.3** *Agreed (Neal Hawes/Lindsay Lyons) that Murray Ferris be Council Chairman between now and Council's next meeting in February 2016. [15/11/7.3]*
- 12.0 2016 GAME SEASON CONDITIONS**
- 12.2** *Agreed (Barry Roderick/Steve Scragg) that Council re-affirms the threshold approach to setting mallard and grey duck harvest regulations (where grey duck are treated as mallard due to the difficulty in distinguishing between the species). [15/11/12.2]*
- 12.3** *Agreed (Barry Roderick/Steve Scragg) that the threshold levels are set at 350,000 and 450,000 such that at or below 350,000 a set of restricted conditions apply; above 350,000 and, at or below 450,000 a set of intermediate harvest regulations apply; and above 450,000 a relaxed set of conditions apply. [15/11/12.3]*
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- 12.5** *Agreed (Barry Roderick/Steve Scragg) that paradise shelduck and black swan thresholds and regulations remain the status quo and are subject to January monitoring results. [15/11/12.5]*
- 12.6** *Agreed (Barry Roderick/Steve Scragg) that the 2016 season conditions for shoveler duck be a two bird bag limit for four weeks. [15/11/12.6]*
- 12.7** *Agreed (Barry Roderick/Steve Scragg) that Council approves the continuation of hunting of pukeko with Australasian harriers. [15/11/12.7]*
- 12.9** *Agreed (Steve Scragg/Alan Baird) that the proposal to constrain the mallard and grey duck bag limit in the Reporoa/Broadlands/upper Waikato River areas be reviewed in November 2016 following further investigations by staff and the establishment of baselines for monitoring populations in these areas. [15/11/12.9]*
- 12.11** *Agreed (Barry Roderick/Sandy Bull) that Council discontinues the proposal to harvest one hen pheasant on opening weekend of 2016 as insufficient demand has been indicated in support of providing this opportunity. [15/11/12.11]*
- 12.13** *Agreed (Steve Scragg/Barry Roderick) that Council approve the remaining conditions for 2016 as per Appendix 1 in the agenda. [15/11/12.13]*
- 12.15** *Agreed (Barry Roderick/Lindsay Lyons) that Council supports a voluntary restriction of 3 shots for the 2016 Season with the intention that this will become a mandatory requirement for the 2017 Season. [15/11/12.15]*
- 12.17** *Agreed (Steve Scragg/Lindsay Lyons) that the Waewaetutuki wetland be closed to the general ballot and walk in permit system for the 2016 game bird hunting season and that the novice hunt programme instigated in 2015 be repeated. [15/11/12.17] Cr Barry Roderick abstained.*

13.0 DATE FOR FEBRUARY 2015 FISH AND GAME COUNCIL MEETING

13.2 *Agreed (Barry Roderick/Lindsay Lyons) Council agrees that the first 2016 Council meeting will be on 18th February 2016 at 12pm. [15/11/13.2]*

15.0 MANAGEMENT REPORT

15.2 *Agreed (Steve Scragg/Barry Roderick) that Council receives the Management, Finance, and Licence Sales Reports, and approves the payments for September 2015 totalling \$120,731.99. [15/10/15.2]*

17.0 PUBLIC EXCLUDED SESSION

17.1 *Agreed (Steve Scragg/Lindsay Lyons) that pursuant to Section 48 (1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, the public be excluded at 2.47pm from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, namely a discussion on the Manager's annual performance review. [15/11/17.1]*

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	GROUND(S) UNDER SECTION 48(1) FOR THE PASSING OF THIS RESOLUTION
Discussion on the Regional Manager's performance review	Good reason to withhold exists under section 7 of the Official Information Act 1982	Section 48(1)(a)(ii)

This resolution is made in reliance on Section 48(1)(a) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interest or interests protected by Section 9 of the Official Information Act 1982 which would be prejudiced by the holding of the whole or relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public are as follows:

ITEM	REASON UNDER THE OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT 1982	SECTION	PLAIN ENGLISH REASON
16 3.1	Protect the privacy of natural persons	Sec. 7(2)(a)	Discussion between the Regional Manager and the Council on the Manager's performance review and any negotiations on employment conditions should occur in private between these parties.

17.2 *Agreed (Steve Scragg/Barry Roderick) that the public be readmitted to the meeting at 3.36pm. [15/11/17.2]*