

**CONFIRMED MINUTES OF THE 167<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE EASTERN FISH AND  
GAME COUNCIL, HELD AT THE ROTORUA OFFICES OF FISH & GAME NEW  
ZEALAND ON THURSDAY 30<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2017 AT 12.00PM**

**Present**

Lindsay Lyons, Alan Baird, Barry Roderick, Neal Hawes, Ken Coombes, Peter Storey, Sandy Bull, and Annaka Davis (arrived 12.40pm).

**IN ATTENDANCE**

Andy Garrick, Matt McDougall, Kate Thompson, Lynne Sands, Nigel Simpson, Eben Herbert, John Meikle, Lloyd Gledhill, Anthony van Dorp, Carmel Veitch, Matt Osborne, and Mark Sherburn (Eastern Fish & Game); David Conley (Department of Conservation); Ken Raureti (Bay of Plenty Conservation Board, arrived 2.06pm); and Ray Bushell.

**1.0 WELCOME**

Cr Lindsay Lyons (Deputy Chairman) opened the meeting at 12.09pm and welcomed Councillors, staff, and Dave Conley (Taupo Fisheries Manager).

**2.0 APOLOGIES**

2.1 Apologies were received from Crs Murray Ferris, Steve Scragg, Laurance Tamati, and David Woolner, and it was noted that Annaka Davis had advised that she would be delayed. Apologies were also received from Helen Neale (Department of Conservation).

2.2 Andy Garrick took this opportunity to inform the Council of Cr David Woolner's recent health concerns, and passed on David's advice that he would be unavailable to attend meetings in the foreseeable future and possibly well into 2018. Andy noted that David would continue to receive Council information and that he had indicated he was keen to contribute by providing comment where he could.

2.3 *Agreed (Alan Baird/ Neal Hawes) that the apologies for the 167<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Eastern Region Fish and Game Council be sustained. [17/11/2.3]*

**3.0 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (19 OCTOBER 2017)**

3.1 *Agreed (Sandy Bull/Alan Baird) that the minutes of the meeting held on 19th October 2017 be confirmed as a true and correct record. [17/11/3.1]*

**4.0 IDENTIFICATION OF RESOLUTIONS FOR INCLUSION IN COUNCIL POLICY**

4.1 There were no items for inclusion in Council policy.

**5.0 MATTERS ARISING**

5.1 Cr Barry Roderick queried Dave Conley about whether the Department of Conservation was aware of concerns over Himalayan balsam weed which had been raised as an issue by members of the public at the recent meeting of Council in Tauranga. Dave Conley advised that he was unaware of such concerns. Andy Garrick informed Council that this weed had been around for quite some time, and was listed as an "advisory plant" in the Waikato Regional Pest Management Plan and a "restricted pest plant species" in the operative Bay of Plenty Regional Pest Management Plan. The botanist at the Department of Conservation in Rotorua was aware of its presence within the region and did not perceive it to be an issue, but

- would remain alert to the concerns raised by Owen Poad at Council's last meeting. Andy advised he would get staff to have a look at the Tahunaatra situation, and noted that while both plant and animal species can be an issue in some parts of the world, they are not necessarily a problem wherever they occur as ecological factors and environmental conditions vary widely and greatly influence how a species behaves.
- 5.2 Cr Sandy Bull informed Council that Item 18.1 from the minutes of the previous meeting relating to stranded fingerlings had been resolved, and that Item 18.2 regarding Fish & Game's involvement with the Gisborne Regional Fresh Water Plan had been clarified by the Regional Manager when he spoke at the Gisborne Anglers' AGM.
- 6.0 NOTIFICATION OF ITEMS FOR GENERAL BUSINESS**
- Barry Roderick - Lake Tarawera and Waikaremoana updates
  - Ken Coombes - perch, Papamoa
  - Neal Hawes - catfish, Rotoiti
  - Barry Roderick – boat licence
- 7.0 CONFLICT OF INTEREST REGISTER**
- 7.1 No conflicts of interest were identified.
- 7.2 Cr Lindsay Lyons reminded Council that any perceived conflicts also needed to be declared, and explained what a perceived conflict of interest could be considered to be.
- 8.0 2016-2017 PERFORMANCE REPORT**
- 8.1 The audited copy of the 2016-2017 Performance Report for the Eastern Fish & Game Region had been circulated to Council prior to the meeting via email and a further hard copy was tabled at the meeting. Andy Garrick advised that the agenda item provided a detailed summary of variances and asked if there were any further questions that Council might have.
- 8.2 Cr Barry Roderick asked whether the auditor was happy with the outcomes of the audit and that there were no qualifications to this? Andy Garrick confirmed that the auditor was once again happy with the audit process and its outcomes and that no issues had been identified. Andy referred Councillors to the Audit Management Letter a copy of which had been emailed to them with the Audited Performance Report.
- 8.3 *Agreed (Peter Storey/Ken Coombes) that Council adopts the Performance Report for the 2016-2017 year. [17/11/8.3]*
- 8.4 Cr Barry Roderick congratulated staff on their performance.
- 9.0 UPLAND GAME PROPERTIES REPORT**
- 9.1 Matt McDougall identified an error within Item 3.1 on page 17 of the report, this being that the year "2006" should have read "2016".
- 9.2 Cr Sandy Bull queried whether there was any information on nesting success on Upland Game Properties or land bordering these properties, and whether the liberated birds were marked in any way? Cr Alan Baird had the impression that numbers appeared to be increasing in some areas as a result of the liberations and said that he had seen good numbers on his properties. Nigel Simpson advised that little or no marking had been undertaken to date but as permits were renewed the Department of Conservation had been incorporating a condition that required this despite Eastern Fish & Game submitting that this was inappropriate and unnecessary. He said that it

was difficult to band them as they were released at only six weeks of age and were too small to accommodate an adult sized band. Matt McDougall noted that some birds had been wing tagged. In response to Sandy's question as to whether property owners monitor nests, Nigel Simpson said no, not in his experience, and commented that if you could see the nests to count them it was unlikely they would be viable as they would be conspicuous to predators too.

**9.3** *Agreed (Alan Baird/Ken Coombes) that Council receives the summary of hunter effort and harvest on Upland Game Properties in 2017. [17/11/9.3]*

**10.0 2018 GAME SEASON CONDITIONS**

10.1 Council considered further Game Season Conditions requiring discussion and/or resolutions at this meeting. Andy Garrick pointed out that Recommendation 4.5 relating to the Waewaetutuki wetland had been resolved at the October meeting of Council and did not require further discussion.

10.2 Cr Barry Roderick suggested that Council confirms Items 4.3 and 4.4 as recommended before further discussion on items 4.1, 4.2, 4.6 and 4.7.

**10.3** *Agreed (Barry Roderick/Ken Coombes) that the 2018 season conditions for shoveler duck be a two bird bag limit for four weeks. [17/11/10.3]*

**10.4** *Agreed (Barry Roderick/Ken Coombes) that the remaining conditions for the 2018 season are as proposed in Appendix 2. [17/11/10.4]*

10.5 Referring to Items 4.6 and 4.7 Cr Lindsay Lyons queried the bag limit of 10 per person and whether this shouldn't be unlimited? Matt McDougall confirmed that Recommendations 4.6 and 4.7 regarding the special seasons should have been written as "unlimited bag limits" and that the limit of 10? per person was presented in error.

**10.6** *Agreed (Ken Coombes/Alan Baird) that a special black swan season be held on one weekend (two days) in February 2019 in Management Area A1 with an unlimited daily bag limit. [17/11/10.6]*

**10.7** *Agreed (Ken Coombes/Alan Baird) that a special pukeko season be held on the same weekend in February for all of the Eastern Region with an unlimited daily bag limit. [17/11/10.7]*

10.8 Council discussed Recommendation 4.1 relating to the restricted season proposed for the Reporoa/Broadlands/upper Waikato River areas. Cr Ken Coombes queried whether the population might have increased as he had seen some good numbers of mallards in places this spring and what appeared to be a lot of breeding occurring? Nigel Simpson confirmed that the area on the corner of Ohaaki Road was a stand out spot but questioned whether this was an isolated example, as the Reporoa area more generally was still showing low numbers. He felt that birds were in prime spots but they were not there in high enough numbers to spread out to secondary locations as had been seen elsewhere. Council supported Nigel's recommendation to extend the restriction for a further year and acknowledged that the change implemented last season was not considered to have been sufficient to make a real difference yet.

**10.9** *Agreed (Barry Roderick/Peter Storey) that Council reaffirms the restricted season for mallard and grey duck in the Reporoa/Broadlands/upper Waikato River area of 4 weeks/5 weekends with a bag limit of 4. [17/11/10.9]*

10.10 Council discussed Recommendation 4.2 relating to the boundaries of the Reporoa area in which restricted conditions will apply, and whether it should also include the Reporoa basin which was omitted from it during the 2017 game season. Matt McDougall provided his reasoning behind the area gazetted for the 2017 season which was that it was easy to describe and captured most sites hunted within the wider area

of concern, while Nigel Simpson provided an alternative perspective which included the confusion likely to arise for some hunters in naming the restricted area as the Reporoa Area when it did not actually include Reporoa. Cr Ken Coombes felt that it would be a mistake to alter the boundaries of the area now as most people had adapted to it last season, and Matt McDougall agreed that it might cause additional confusion if it was to be altered for the coming season.

**10.11 *Agreed (Ken Coombes/Alan Baird) that Council retains the status quo for the description accompanying the gazettal of the Reporoa Area for the 2018 Game Bird Season. [17/11/10.11]***

#### **11.0 DATE FOR COUNCIL MEETINGS 2018**

11.1 Andy Garrick advised that the proposed schedule for the Council's 2018 meeting dates was based on corresponding Thursdays from the current year while ensuring that the timing of meetings also met with operational deadlines set by the New Zealand Council. With Andy no longer being required to attend Hawke's Bay Council meetings he advised Council that there was opportunity to revert back to a Wednesday meeting if they chose to. Council agreed to leave the meeting day as a Thursday as this suited most Councillors.

11.2 Cr Ken Coombes queried attendance at the October Council meeting held in Tauranga, and whether there was a need to meet outside of Rotorua, noting the significant effort required by all to attend? Andy Garrick confirmed that only two members of the public had attended the Tauranga meeting. Points raised during the discussion following included;

- reasonable attendance at meetings held in Wairoa compared to other locations;
- meetings are held during week days when most people are at work so perhaps away meetings should be held on a weekend day;
- earlier start times are required to accommodate Councillors travelling to and from other locations;
- may not be justifiable or necessary to have meetings out of Rotorua every year, once during the 3 year term may be sufficient;
- costs associated with staff and Councillor attendance at other locations can be considerable;
- meeting at a local Marae may be a useful way of engaging with iwi though the agenda would need to be focussed on topical matters relevant to the iwi group concerned, and this might compromise the ability of the Council to attend to core business.

**11.3 *The motion was put (Neal Hawes/Ken Coombes) that Council confirms the proposed meeting dates and defers consideration of options for an away meeting and/or meetings at other venues until a later point in time. [Not carried]***

11.4 Cr Sandy Bull was very keen to see an away meeting take place in Wairoa if not Gisborne and advised that he would contact clubs and other groups in the area to confirm their interest.

11.5 Andy Garrick suggested that Council revisit this at its next meeting in February and he would present some additional thoughts to facilitate the discussion.

**11.6 *Agreed (Sandy Bull/Annaka Davis) that Council confirms all proposed meeting dates other than that suggested for the August 2018 meeting, the latter to be given further consideration at Council's next meeting in February. [17/11/11.6]***

## **12.0 GUIDES LICENCE**

- 12.1 Cr Lindsay Lyons updated Council with an overview of work completed to date on the proposal for a Guides Licence. He said that the New Zealand Council was looking to re-submit the proposal to the new Minister of Conservation Hon. Eugenie Sage in February 2018. This being subsequent to the then Minister of Conservation Hon. Maggie Barry requiring further information on the prior submission. Three guides had since presented to the New Zealand Council and Lindsay commented on their reliance on Fish & Game to get this through suggesting that they should also be lobbying their MPs. Lindsay confirmed that any submission made by the New Zealand Council is made from a Fish & Game perspective.
- 12.2 Andy Garrick questioned the implications for Fish & Game of a guides licence, and noted an obvious one being greater CLE demands. Andy questioned whether Fish & Game would also be responsible for setting criteria for being a guide and screening applicants? Lindsay advised that criteria and qualifications would be set by the guides, and Fish & Game would be provided with the details of these.
- 12.3 Ken Raureti questioned what the main driver was behind the proposed guides licence? Lindsay advised that existing NZ based guides are the main proponents. They want operators to be licenced because:
- there is increasing pressure by international ‘guides’ on NZ’s waterways;
  - some South Island rivers are being overrun by guides;
  - revenue paid to international guides bypasses the NZ tax system as more often than not groups are booked and paid for outside of the country;
  - overseas anglers who have visited NZ come back again to guide others;
  - there are Health & Safety and other compliance issues involved, e.g. MSA requirements for boats.
- Lindsay spoke of the value to Fish & Game of knowing who is guiding and where, and being better able to monitor the pressures placed on back country rivers and waterways. He also commented on issues of exclusive capture.
- 12.4 Cr Barry Roderick felt that guides needed to provide a quality service to ensure the international visitor has a memorable experience. Andy had heard of issues over etiquette and behaviour of some groups and suggested that a guides licence may be a way of reducing some of these issues. Dave Conley from the Department of Conservation advised that a guides licence was also something they were looking into for the Taupo Fishery. He talked about the concession system for operators using DOC conservation land and the huge effort that is required to manage this, particularly in relation to compliance, and suggested that there would be a need to ensure that the process behind endorsement of licence applicants is robust. He said a licence system may improve behaviours but from experience with concessions often the opposite had occurred.
- 12.5 Cr Annaka Davis queried whether our Sports Fish and Game Management Plan provides for Fish & Game to do this? Eben Herbert advised that the plan was a high level policy document that recognises there is a role for guides, rather than a document addressing whether or not Fish & Game can issue licences as legislative provision is already available for licensing guides.
- 12.6 Cr Peter Storey asked if there was any point in pushing for a ‘beat’ system? Andy Garrick noted that a provision of this nature, “controlled fisheries” was already available and applied in some South Island rivers, but was not something that had been identified as being needed in the Eastern Region at this point in time.

- 12.7 Mark Sherburn suggested that consideration should be given to compliance issues in the field e.g. how do you confirm if someone is guiding or not? His discussions with other field staff had suggested there were a lot of grey areas. Lindsay Lyons agreed as often visitors pay for accommodation and so forth and get the guiding for free.

### **13.0 LIAISON OFFICERS' REPORTS CONTINUED**

#### **13.1 Reports from other agencies**

##### ***Bay of Plenty Conservation Board***

Ken Raureti informed Council that he was looking forward to the opening of the streams tomorrow and spoke on a number of matters including:

- favourable consideration by the Board of Eastern Fish & Game's concession application for the Wairua Hut;
- favourable signals coming from the new Government with regard to getting more resources into conservation land;
- MPI shortly? to notify new fisheries regulations for Te Arawa Lakes taonga species;
- concerns over broom spreading to the conservation estate and proposals to control broom by releasing a "musk weevil";
- serious concerns over catfish in Lake Rotoiti.

Ken acknowledged and thanked Andy Garrick for the good working relationship in place between the Conservation Board and the Eastern Fish and Game Council. Cr Barry Roderick commented on the great work DOC does for conservation of species such as kiwi and kokako but asked that concerns he and others have over Australasian bittern numbers be raised with the Department. Ken was happy to do this and advised that a key focus presently was on kea. Andy Garrick added that there needed to be more of a focus placed on habitat, and voiced his concerns over wetlands within the Bay of Plenty not measuring up to the Department's national habitat ranking systems and therefore being ineligible for DOC funding. He hoped that the Department's new "Local Treasures" initiative might pick up on these wetlands. Dave Conley advised that fauna was very much a part of DOC's recently developed landscape assessment system and that he hoped a more collaborative approach could be developed between ourselves. Andy Garrick felt that resourcing was a big issue and hoped that the new government will turn the tide and increase its focus on biodiversity. Ken thanked Fish & Game staff for all their work within the region, and concluded by acknowledging that while Lake Tarawera was on the Council's radar, he was saddened by the current condition of the trout in the lake.

#### **13.2 *Tongariro-Taupo Conservation Board***

Cr Annaka Davis advised that the Board had met two weeks ago and while there was a lot to discuss she had little to report that was relevant to Fish & Game.

#### **13.3 *Department of Conservation***

Dave Conley provided an update from the Taupo fishery as follows:

- Waipa trap to be removed next week and work to be commenced on data analysis noting that this season had been the best in some time. Brown trout were on average 600 grams heavier than last year and rainbows 500 grams heavier.
- The lake is in a good state in terms of its mixing cycle and productivity, and acoustic monitoring of smelt is underway and looking positive for this time of year. Fish condition was exceptional.

- Licence sales are showing good results following category changes, and are tracking close to modelled outcomes. Thanks to Andy Garrick and Kate Thompson for sharing information and advice.
- Introduction of the Anglers Notice and the measures introduced to maintain harvest pressure on the trout population. The new regulations will need to be in place for a number of years to achieve the results sought.
- They are experiencing issues with a variant of Czech nymphing involving heavy sinkers being used.
- Progress is being made with access issues to the Blue Pool following the sale of the prison, and verbal reassurance has been received that access will be reinstated once forest harvesting operations have been completed.
- DOC is working through similar issues with gating at Lake Rotoaira forest, but angling opportunities are still available there.
- Commercial activities on Lake Taupo will not affect angling.

Cr Annaka Davis commented on the good quality of the trout and had seen a post on Facebook regarding access issues and gate closures. She asked if DOC had looked at securing future access to other vulnerable areas? Dave confirmed that this had been considered but they didn't think that there were any other potential issues. Annaka also asked if there was any education happening to educate anglers on the new rules? Dave advised that there is an advocacy ranger out there doing just that. He said that summer compliance will continue as a core part of their business with targets of over 1,000 contacts. Cr Barry Roderick also commented on the fantastic quality of the fish.

13.4 The meeting broke for a short time at 2.06pm, and recommenced at 2.16pm.

#### 13.5 *New Zealand Council*

Lindsay Lyons spoke of the recent meeting of the New Zealand Council where the new CE Martin Taylor was present for the first time since taking up his new role. He advised that Martin had visited several regions over the past couple of weeks to meet with staff and managers. The new Minister of Conservation Eugenie Sage had attended the NZC meeting for half an hour and acknowledged the advocacy and litigation work being done by Fish & Game. She indicated David Parker and the government wanted to refocus on the National Policy Statement for Fresh Water, and briefly talked about the Land and Water forum. Lindsay was impressed with what she had to say, and felt we would get better traction over the next three years with this government than had been the case with the last one, and now was the time to be advancing the things we want to see happen.

Lindsay also spoke briefly on the following matters:

- the submission he had made to the NZC to have job sizing undertaken for regional manager/CE roles and more transparency in this area across the country;
- outcomes of the Salmon Symposium and issues to be followed up on;
- the need to develop a strategic plan for the NZC for the next three years.

#### 14.0 **OPERATIONAL REPORTS**

14.1 Andy Garrick introduced a new section to the meeting that the executive committee felt would be useful, a 'manager's overview' of some of the key work that had been undertaken, or more specifically that he had been involved with since the previous meeting. Andy noted that only six weeks had passed since the last meeting and commented on the following:

- Planning underway for summer drift dives;
- Summer creel surveys had commenced;
- Matt Osborne currently writing up winter creel surveys;
- Opening day surveys presented to expert fisheries panel for Ohau channel;
- Planning for stream opening 1 December including media and compliance undertaken and implemented;
- Ngongotaha trap operations;
- Spring fish liberations to Eastern Region waters all but completed;
- Fish also taken to Taranaki, Wellington, Taupo, and the Waikato;
- Mallard brood and pheasant call counts completed;
- Work being undertaken on developing a more robust system for predicting Eastern Region mallard populations;
- Input to the mallard research committee including setting up more appropriate and secure facilities for storing and analysing Game Hunter Survey data;
- Input to RMA planning processes for Gisborne Freshwater Plan and Bay of Plenty Plan Change 5;
- Discussions with Tauranga City Council and Western Bay of Plenty District Council re the proposed Te Tumu subdivision across the river from the Lower Kaituna wetland reserve and implications for habitat and hunting;
- Staff participation in a bittern survey conducted with a consultant contracted to DOC, and Bay of Plenty Regional Council staff and other volunteers;
- Maimai inspections completed;
- Ballot draw completed, confirmation letters about to be despatched;
- Access work undertaken in Ngongotaha, Kaituna, Waioeka, Kaingaroa (Ngahuinga Road area);
- Liaising with DOC and seeking action to rectify malicious blocking of angler access in Waioeka Gorge;
- Andy's attendance at the Gisborne Anglers Club AGM, and meetings with DOC staff in Gisborne, Hawke's Bay Regional Council staff in Wairoa re restoration of Whakaki Lagoon, and the new Waikaremoana Tribal Authority manager based at Aniwanui. Andy advised that he had also met with the consultant who had undertaken the 1996 evaluation of the contribution the Rotorua Lakes fishery makes to the local economy, and more recently an evaluation of the Taupo fishery, the intention being to obtain a costed proposal(s) for repeating the exercise for the lakes fishery and undertaking similar assessments for other Fish & Game regions;
- Andy had also spoken with OSPRI's operations manager in relation to 1080 notifications and research funding, and was due to meet with regional DOC operation managers in the coming week. He had drafted a comprehensive agenda item on captive reared mallard releases for the New Zealand Council meeting in November in conjunction with Robert Sowman, and had critically reviewed a chapter of Katie Gibbs' (Massey University) draft Masters thesis on heavy metal contaminants in mallards.
- The Eastern team had also received a visit from Lindsay Lyons and the new National Office CE Martin Taylor.

14.2 Cr Barry Roderick queried why there were no near misses recorded in the Health & Safety report. Some discussion occurred over what constituted a near miss and Andy



Garrick queried where do we draw the line with what constitutes an incident or event that could lead to an injury, harm or loss? Andy undertook to investigate this further. Cr Barry Roderick was pleased with the Health & Safety processes undertaken for the recent bittern survey.

**14.3 Agreed (Barry Roderick/Neal Hawes) that Council receives the Health and Safety report. [17/11/14.3]**

**14.4 Agreed (Barry Roderick/Ken Coombes) that Council receives the Management, Finance, and Licence Sales reports, and approves payments for October 2017 totalling \$132,759.98. [17/11/14.4]**

**14.5 Agreed (Barry Roderick/Ken Coombes) that Council approves the proposed budget figures for the Statement of Financial Position and Statement of Financial Performance & Cash flow for the 2017-2018 financial year. [17/11/14.5]**

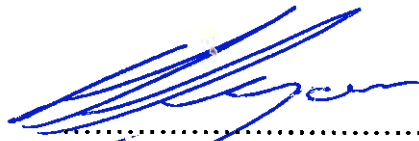
**14.6** Kate Thompson provided an update on licences sales which had shown some improvement since the report supplied within the agenda. Cr Lindsay Lyons commented on charts that had been presented at an earlier Council meeting which had shown the average age of season licence holders progressively increasing, and highlighted the need to get more kids involved. Cr Neal Hawes added that this trend was also seen at club level and Dave Conley said the Taupo Fishery was seeing this too and they had done some work on it with results identifying barriers such as increased urbanisation, and the number of other opportunities now available to kids. Andy Garrick suggested a dedicated session was needed on recruitment of this group and informed Council of Otago staff member Ian Hadland's scholarship to the US where there was a significant focus on the 3R's (Recruitment, Retention, Reactivation). Andy had also recently met with marketing consultant Steve Doughty who has been contracted by the National Office to review issues and opportunities for increasing licence revenue and other potential sources of income, and both his and Ian's findings and recommendations, when available, will be informative. Lindsay Lyons agreed there were other avenues for increasing revenue such as merchandise and bequests, and felt that a good business development manager and strategic plan was required.

## **15.0 GENERAL BUSINESS**

**15.1** Cr Barry Roderick asked if staff had seen any changes in the condition of trout being taken from Lake Tarawera. Matt Osborne advised that recent competition data had shown no real change. He said the average condition factor was below 40 whereas Rotoiti and Okataina were above 45. Cr Lindsay Lyons had caught 50 odd fish since opening on Tarawera, and there appeared to be no smelt and only bullies in fish caught in shallower water. Matt commented that this would be his expectation i.e. fish caught in the shallows would generally be in poorer condition. Barry also queried what was happening in lakes Rotorua and Waikaremoana. Matt said that Rotorua was going well with some nice fish being caught, but Waikaremoana had recently experienced some weather events that had resulted in increased silt in suspension which was a concern as previous experience shows this can persist for a very long period of time.

**15.2** Cr Lindsay Lyons requested an update on the discovery of perch at Papamoa. Matt Osborne advised we had received no further information and that delimiting surveys had yet to be undertaken. He advised that permits from Fish & Game were required to net the areas concerned and that we are very keen to support these but action had been slow to date as they were waiting for temperatures to warm up.

- 15.3 Cr Lindsay Lyons questioned why the cordon for Rotoiti catfish was set well below the surface? Matt Osborne advised that this was due to concerns from residents within the bay who were wanting to access the rest of the lake via boat. The comment was made surely this is a biosecurity issue that should override concerns of this nature?
- 15.4 Cr Barry Roderick had been approached by a boat operator querying whether Fish & Game had considered a boat licence for taking visitors out. Cr Lindsay Lyons recalls this scenario going to the New Zealand Council previously but not being taken further. Dave Conley said that the Department of Conservation had also been approached by a commercial operator proposing the same thing, but while staff were not adverse to it discussions had stalled.
- 16.0 MEETING CLOSED**
- 16.1 In closing Cr Lindsay Lyons invited all in attendance to the Annual Public Meeting which was due to commence at 4.00pm followed by a BBQ. He said it was great to see Mark Sherburn present at the meeting today, and wished him all the best. He thanked staff and Council on behalf of our stakeholders, and wished all in attendance a safe and merry Christmas.
- 16.2 The meeting was closed at 3.07 pm.



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**Lindsay Lyons**  
**Acting Chairman**

15/2/18  
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## SUMMARY OF RESOLUTIONS

### 2.0 APOLOGIES

- 2.3 *Agreed (Alan Baird/Neal Hawes) that the apologies for the 167<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Eastern Region Fish and Game Council be sustained. [17/11/2.3]*

### 3.0 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (19 OCTOBER 2017)

- 3.1 *Agreed (Sandy Bull/Alan Baird) that the minutes of the meeting held on 19th October 2017 be confirmed as a true and correct record. [17/11/3.1]*

### 8.0 2016-2017 PERFORMANCE REPORT

- 8.3 *Agreed (Peter Storey/Ken Coombes) that Council adopts the Performance Report for the 2016-2017 year. [17/11/8.3]*

### 9.0 UPLAND GAME PROPERTIES REPORT

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### 11.0 DATE FOR COUNCIL MEETINGS 2018

- 11.3 *The motion was put (Neal Hawes/Ken Coombes) that Council confirms the proposed meeting dates and defers consideration of options for an away meeting and/or meetings at other venues until a later point in time. [Not carried]*
- 11.6 *Agreed (Sandy Bull/Annaka Davis) that Council confirms all proposed meeting dates other than that suggested for the August 2018 meeting, the latter to be given further consideration at Council's next meeting in February. [17/11/11.6]*

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