

NORTH CANTERBURY FISH AND GAME COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council Meeting Held on Wednesday 17 JUNE 2020 At 595 Johns Road, Harewood Commencing at 6.30 pm

1. PRESENT:

Councillors: Dave Coll, Richard O'Keefe, Alan Strong (Chair), Graeme Nahkies (via video), Trevor Isitt, Rex Gibson, Phillip Musson, Stuart Henderson, Chris Brankin, Dan Maxwell (via video)

Staff: Rasmus Gabrielsson (CEO), Debbie Ambler

Public: Martin Taylor (CEO Fish and Game NZ), Ken Lloyd, Mike Radford, Phil Ball, Larry Burke, Neil McLean, Colin Eaton, Dennis Gooch, David Kirkness, Mike Agar, Andrew Wells, Fred Van Slooten, John Roche, Greg Tarras, Jim Grierson

2. APOLOGIES:

Councillors: Roy Knight, Ken Lee

Cr Strong welcomed members of the public and M Taylor to the meeting and explained the Covid 19 Rules regarding contact tracing.

3. NOTIFICATION OF GENERAL BUSINESS

Cr Isitt – Direction by NZC on statements made by M Taylor regarding farming practices.

4. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None

5. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

“That the minutes from the Council meeting dated 18 March 2020 be confirmed as a true and accurate record.”

Moved: Cr Isitt

Seconded: Cr Southward

CARRIED

6. MEETING BUSINESS

6 a i Angling Regulations

Three areas where recommendations to licence holders was proposed where;

- i. the need to better manage pressure sensitive fisheries,
- ii. increase angler opportunity and
- iii. implement a season bag limit regulation for sea run salmon.

i. Pressure Sensitive Fisheries

“That NCFG Council initiate a trial and designate

1. the Hurunui River South Branch (upstream of the North Esk River confluence),

2. the Hurunui River North Branch (from sign post circa 500 metres upstream of Lake Sumner),
3. the Upper Hope River (upstream of the confluence with the Boyle River) and
4. the Upper Waiau River (upstream of the confluence with the Hope River),

to be appointed as Pressure Sensitive Fisheries, which require anglers wanting to fish them to get a Backcountry Licence Endorsement.”

Moved: Cr Musson Seconded: Cr O’Keefe CARRIED

ii. Increasing Angler Opportunity and Participation

The need for the 20/21 fishing regulations as set out below be reviewed in 12 months’ time, to enable more robust fish data to be collected to assist in better decision making surrounding regulation setting.

Lakes in the North Canterbury Region – discussion focused on the retention of the high country fishing opening weekend held on the first Saturday in November.

“That the following regulation changes to the high country lakes be put in place for the 20/21 fishing season;

LAKE	REGULATION FOR THE 20/21 FISHING SEASON CHANGES
Coleridge	1st Saturday in November to 30 September. All methods. 4 Sports fish in total (trout or salmon)
Lyndon	Open all year. Methods and daily catch as per 2019/2020 Regulations.
Katrine	Open all year. Methods and daily catch as per 2019/2020 Regulations. Trolling Prohibited.
Taylor	Open all year. Methods and daily catch as per 2019/2020 Regulations.
Pearson	Open all year. Methods and daily catch as per 2019/2020 Regulations.
Selfe	Open all year. Methods and daily catch as per 2019/2020 Regulations.
Guyon	Open all year. Methods and daily catch as per 2019/2020 Regulations.
All Other Lakes	Season, methods and daily catch as per 2019/2020 Regulations.

2019/2020 Regulations include the post Covid fishing extension rules.

Moved: Cr Isitt Seconded: Cr Southward CARRIED

An amendment was made to Lake Lyndon after further discussion.

“That Lake Lyndon be open all year round”.

Moved: Cr Isitt Seconded: Cr Coll CARRIED

RIVER	REGULATION FOR THE 20/21 FISHING SEASON CHANGES
Rakaia	All year. All methods. Two trout from the Coleridge Trailrace to the mouth.
Waimakariri	All year. All methods. Two trout from the Staircase Stream to the mouth.
Ashley / Rakahuri	All year. All methods. Two trout from the Ashley Gorge Road to the mouth.
Hurunui	All year. All methods. Two trout downstream of the outlet from Lake Sumner to the mouth.
Waiau	All year. All methods. Two trout downstream of the confluence with the Hope River to the mouth.
Te Waihora / Lake Ellesmere	Open all year. All methods. Two Trout.
Selwyn / Waikirikiri River	All year. All methods. Two trout from downstream of State Highway 77 bridge to the mouth.
Halswell	All year. All methods. Two Trout.
All Other Rivers	Season, methods and daily catch as per 2019/2020 Regulations.

2019/2020 Regulations include the post Covid fishing extension rules.

Moved: Cr Coll

Seconded: Cr Gibson

CARRIED

Cr's Southward and O'Keefe Against

iii. Implementation of a Season Bag Limit Regulation for Sea Run Salmon (once permissible by Cabinet)

The proposals to alter the sea run salmon bag limits require Cabinet approval for a small technical change to the Freshwater Fisheries Regulations before they can be implemented.

“That a season bag limit of four sea run salmon per angler and a daily regional limit of two sea run salmon per angler be introduced in Canterbury (e.g. across both North Canterbury and Central South Island Fish and Game regions), and that the customary sea run salmon angling season (1 October to 30 April) is also reinstated from 1 October 2020.”

(Statement of Intent: That North Canterbury and CSI Fish and Game Councils have agreed to adopt a four season limit bag on sea run salmon, and that the season bag would be four sea run salmon across both regions and not four for each individual region.)

Ratified Council resolution made via video meeting 8 June 2020.

iv. Sea Run Salmon Duration and Daily Bag Limit Regulation for the 2020/2021 Angling Season

“That a daily bag limit of one sea run salmon per angler with a sea run salmon angling season from 1 October to 31 March be introduced in the North Canterbury region for the 2020/2021 angling season.”

Ratified Council resolution made via video meeting 8 June 2020.

(Statement of Intent: That once allowable by Cabinet, North Canterbury and CSI Fish and Game Councils have agreed to amend their regional sea run salmon regulations and adopt a four season limit bag on sea run salmon across both regions.)

v. Trolling at Lake Taylor and Loch Katrine

Background was supplied on the introduction to trolling on Loch Katrine with a recommendation to allow trolling on Lake Taylor but prohibit trolling on Loch Katrine.

**“That trolling in Lake Taylor continue to be allowed.
That Loch Katrine be closed in winter and trolling be prohibited all year round”.**
Moved: Cr Isitt Seconded: Cr Gibson CARRIED

After further discussion an amendment was made to the rules on Loch Katrine.

“That the status quo remain on Loch Katrine with trolling being totally banned.”
Moved: Cr Isitt Seconded: Cr Coll CARRIED

6 a ii Draft Licence Management Contract

With the contract for Licence Management due, the following was resolved;

“That NCFG Council resolve to authorise the CEO to accept and sign the Licence Management Contract, subject to the CEO being satisfied it has been appropriately adjusted to clarify (or remedy) items raised by himself and/or the licence working party.”
Moved: Cr Isitt Seconded: Cr Southward CARRIED

6 a iii Back Country Fishery Licence

Refer: Resolution 6 a i from this meeting. Resolved.

A South Island Trout Symposium during the 20/21 fishing season was discussed.

6 b i Independent National Review of Fish and Game New Zealand

M Taylor stated NZC was waiting to be contacted with an engagement plan.

The issue of the disparity of allocation of reserves and the equity of levies between regions was discussed. Cr O’Keefe stated that NCFG needed to present their own budget to NZC.

An extra-ordinary meeting was scheduled for 30 June 20 to discuss the 20/21 NCFG budget.

7. REPORTS

7c. Finance Report

A total of \$15,922.81 was required to be transferred from the Back Country Reserve for various work completed and field equipment necessary in the high country. The two resolutions below are the balance to be approved.

“That \$8,268.72 be approved from the Back Country Reserve to cover expenses for field equipment relating to high country field work ordered in the 2018/19 financial year”.
Moved: Cr Musson Seconded: Cr Coll CARRIED

“That a further \$2,654.09 be approved from the Back Country Reserve to cover expenses relating to the Lewis Pass Angler Survey, drift drive expenses and airfare for two staff member to Wellington for a meeting with Ministers’ Sage and Parker regarding high country protection”.

Moved: Cr Isitt Seconded: Cr Musson CARRIED

“That all Reports provided be confirmed”.

Moved: Cr Gibson Seconded: Cr Southward CARRIED

Due to the lack of update reporting from the NZC Rep the following was confirmed;

“That the NCFG NZC Representative provide a report to all meetings in writing even if he is not in attendance”.

Moved: Cr Isitt Seconded: Cr Gibson CARRIED

8. PUBLIC SESSION

Points raised by the public;

- Need to understand how to manage fishery as fishery in decline;
- Need to create opportunities for families and new comers to fishing;
- No budget to manage fishery;
- Knowledge of regions rivers and lakes from some councillors poor, yet still voting on regulations;
- Regulations need to be evidenced based;
- Environment issues a problem – over time seasons have shifted by three weeks;
- Start a plan on how to deal with degraded rivers.

9. GENERAL BUSINESS

9 i Direction of Statements by NZC Regarding Farming Practices

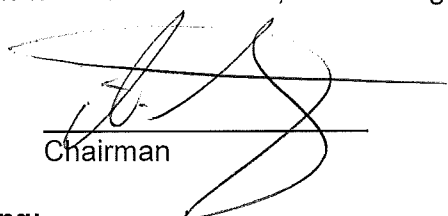
Discussion on environmental issues regarding nitrates, waterways, farming and Fresh Water Reforms impacts.

9 ii Loch Katrine

As the public were not consulted on any regulation changes with Loch Katrine, the season will remain as the status quo with trolling be banned. (Refer 6 a i iv above for resolution). Ensure Lock Katrine on Agenda for next round of regulation changes.

As there was no further business, the meeting closed at 9.27pm.

Signed:


Chairman

Date

Next Meeting:

**Via Video Conferencing
Tuesday 30th June 2020
7.00pm
595 Johns Road, Harewood**