

**FISH & GAME NEW ZEALAND
NELSON MARLBOROUGH REGION**

**MINUTES OF THE NELSON-MARLBOROUGH FISH AND GAME COUNCIL HELD
AT 10 AM ON 19 JULY 2022, AT 66 CHAMPION ROAD, RICHMOND.**

Present: Owen Baigent
Jean Willis
Steve Holmes
Ian McLeod

Present Remotely
Bill Cash
Guy Gardiner
Tom Kroos
Keepa Timms (Ngai Tahu Representative)

In Attendance
Rhys Barrier Manager
Karen Crook Secretary

In Attendance Remotely
Vaughan Lyn Field Officer

1. ***APOLOGIES***
Felix Borenstein, David Haynes, Sebastien Den Doncker, Nick King

C1/07/22 **MOVE THAT THE APOLOGIES BE ACCEPTED**
S Holmes/I McLeod
CARRIED

2. ***IDENTIFICATION OF URGENT BUSINESS AND AGREEMENT ON AGENDA ORDER***

An update by the Manager on the Molesworth Review was added to the Agenda under General Business.

3. ***ANNUAL AGENDA AND CONFLICT OF INTEREST***

No changes to the Annual Agenda

Councillors either identified by signing the Conflict register or verbally indicated when attending remotely whether there were any topics to be discussed at this meeting, they perceive to be a potential conflict of interest. None were identified.

4. ***CONSIDERATION OF THE MAY MEETING MINUTES***

C2/07/22 **MOVE THAT THE MINUTES OF THE MAY MEETING BE**
CONFIRMED AS A TRUE AND CORRECT RECORD OF THE
MEETING.
J Willis/T Kroos
CARRIED

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5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MAY MINUTES/ ACTION REQUIRED SCHEDULE

MARLBOROUGH FISH OUT POND PROGRESS

It was agreed the Manager would invite Bruno Brosnan from Fulton Hogan to the next Council meeting to update the Council on where Fulton Hogan are at regarding applying for a resource consent application for gravel extraction at the proposed Renwick Pond site.

ACTION MANAGER

6. HEALTH & SAFETY REPORT

The Health & Safety Report was tabled and accepted, and the vehicle accident noted.

7. HEALTH & SAFETY PLAN & POLICY

An updated Health & Safety Plan & Policy was considered.

**C3/07/22 MOVE THAT THE CHAIR SIGN ON BEHALF OF THE COUNCIL
THE LATEST HEALTH & SAFETY PLAN & POLCY DATED JULY 2022
S Holmes/T Kroos
CARRIED**

8. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT.

**C4/07/22 MOVE THAT THE MAY AND JUNE 2022 ACCOUNTS FOR
PAYMENT TOTALLING \$95,665.48 BE CONFIRMED FOR PAYMENT
J Willis/G Gardiner
CARRIED**

The Financial report was tabled and noted.

9. PROPOSED AUDIT FEES FOR 2022 TO 2024

**C5/07/22 MOVE THAT THE PROPOSAL TO CONDUCT THE AUDIT
FROM CROWE ON BEHALF OF THE AUDITOR-GENERAL FOR 2022,
2023, AND 2024 FINANCIAL YEARS BE ACCEPTED NOTING THAT
FISH & GAME ARE CURRENTLY UNDER REVIEW
J Willis/T Kroos
CARRIED**

10. NELSON MARLBOROUGH FISH & GAME BANKING SERVICES

**C6/07/22 MOVE THAT THE COUNCIL CHANGES BANKING
SERVICES TO AN ALL OF GOVERNMENT PROVIDER.
J Willis/T Kroos
CARRIED**

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11. REGIONAL STRUCTURES

Discussions included the following points

- The merger of 3 regions may not necessarily achieve the purposes of 26Q of the Conservation Act given the merger recommendations are based on funding implications of where people buy a licence rather than where they hunt or fish.
- There was an acknowledgement that a smaller number of Councils would in theory lead to quicker decision making and more consistent national policy implementation.
- Concern was expressed that no detailed investigation has been undertaken into regional merger costs such as change of ownership on Para Wetland land titles, Top Valley WMR, Richmond office building, Wairau hatchery sublease/consents/MPI hatchery licence etc.
- Regional representation will be completely diluted through a 3-way merger meaning the need for at least 12 elected Councillors, and the proposal for 4 Government appointed Councillors was rejected.
- The original feedback from Nelson Marlborough Fish & Game around a boundary adjustment to take in the Northern West Coast including the Karamea catchment still stands – any such boundary adjustment would make this region even more than self sufficient funding wise into the future - this option was not considered in the Hunt report.
- The Council reflected they would have considered further discussion/engagement as per the earlier letter to NZC from the 3 regional chairs but now have serious reservations given West Coast have now stated emphatically they don't support a merger.
- A response to the West Coast letter from NZC would be helpful to assist with any further merger discussion.

These points and a request for a formal response from NZC around whether serious consideration to centralising the licence fee was being undertaken would be sent to NZ Council Chair.

12. DRAFT SPORTS FISH AND GAME MANAGEMENT PLAN.

Discussion on this document was held over to the next meeting, the Manager will see if there is a planner available to look at this for us.

ACTION MANAGER

13. DOC LIAISON

Chris Golding attended the meeting and updated the Council on relevant topics.

One update was on DoC's eradication project of pest fish around the region. The question was asked if NMC was considering a change to the current regulations pertaining to fishing for coarse fish in this region. Staff recommended that there be no change to the regulation that fishing for coarse fish is prohibited in all waters of the Nelson Marlborough Region. Council concurred with this recommendation.

14. OPERATIONAL WORK PLAN REPORT.

The Manager expanded on items in the report when asked.

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15. CHAIR'S REPORT

The Chair reported that he had attended.

1. A meeting with North Canterbury and West Coast Council's in Reefton
2. A Chair-to-Chair zoom meeting
3. Pukeko Shoot – where all meat gathered was collected, made into sausages, and donated to Nelson foodbank charities and the carcasses given to recovering karearea in Blenheim. Councillor David Haynes was thanked for coordinating this.
4. Had a productive telephone meeting with Alan Strong, Chair of North Canterbury Fish & Game.

16. CORRESPONDENCE

Noted

An acknowledgment letter will be sent to Save the Wairau accepting their funds that will be held in a restricted reserve for the ongoing protection of the Wairau River.

J Willis noted FG needs to accept Tony Orman's letter and information around forestry issues but note that the situation described is actually a failure of regional Council and management and Government Policy.

17. GENERAL BUSINESS

17.1 MEETING DATES FOR THE REMAINDER OF 2022

It was agreed that the next meeting will be on the 4th of October at Wairau Valley Township if a suitable venue can be found so a visit to the hatchery can take place.

The 29th of November meeting will be moved to the 6th of December to be held at the Richmond Office at 4pm, this will ensure that the completed audit report for the 21/22 Financial Year has been received and approved.

17.2 TEMPORARY HUNTING STAND TAG

Staff noted that there is no expiry date on the temporary stand tag issued and will co-ordinate with NZ Council at the time of printing next seasons tag hopefully ensuring there is at least a purchase date and or a place to sign and date the tag.

17.3 MOLESWORTH STATION REVIEW

The Manager advised that NM F&G would be making a submission on the Molesworth Review, it was agreed that Fishing Clubs would be advised of the review and encouraged to put in a submission, Councillors were also encouraged to make individual submissions.

MEETING CLOSED 2.30 pm

Chair O. J. Buzgant Dated 4 - 10 2022