

One hundred and fifty fourth meeting
to be held in via Zoom 27th & 28th August 2021

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Meeting close

Apologies

New Zealand Fish and Game Council Meeting August 2021

Recommendations

That apologies from ... be received.

Declaration of Interest

New Zealand Fish and Game Council Meeting August 2021

Councillors are reminded of the need to be vigilant to stand aside from decision making when a conflict arises between their role as a member and any private or other external interest they might have.

Recommendations

That any conflicts be noted.

REGISTER OF COUNCILLORS INTEREST FOR FISH & GAME NEW ZEALAND

Interests that should be declared in order for potential conflicts to be considered are:

- Directorships, including non-executive directorships held in companies or organisations.
- Ownership or part-ownership of private companies, businesses or consultancies likely or possibly seeking to do business with the Fish & Game NZ.
- Any interest in any company/organisation that provides or may provide services or support to Fish & Game NZ.
- Any interest where a contract in which he/she or any person connected with him/her has any pecuniary interest, direct or indirect, the Board member shall declare his/her interest by giving notice in writing of such fact to the Trust as soon as practicable.

NAME	POSITION	DETAILS OF INTEREST AND NATURE OF BUSINESS	DATE DECLARED
Rainsford J Grubb	Chair	F&G NZ Ministerial Review Implementation Committee	11/05/21
Rainsford J Grubb	Chief Ombudsman	Personal friendship	11/05/21
Rainsford J Grubb	Consultant	Ngāi Tahu	11/05/21
Rainsford J Grubb	FIG Member	Freshwater Implementation Group Advisory	11/05/21
Rainsford J Grubb	Chair	F&G NZ Council	11/05/21
Noel Birchall	F&G NZ Council Member	Nothing to declare	20/11/20
Dave Harris	F&G NZ Council Member	Nothing to declare	20/11/20
Gerard Karalus	Council Member	F&G NZ Council	17/04/21
Gerard Karalus	Owner/occupier	Misty Creek Trust (small beef farmer)	17/04/21
Gerard Karalus	Tutor	Land based training Ltd (agriculture tutor)	17/04/21
Gerard Karalus	Independent Contractor	Dairy Trust Taranaki	24/05/21

NAME	POSITION	DETAILS OF INTEREST AND NATURE OF BUSINESS	DATE DECLARED
Dave Coll	F&G NZ Council Member	Nothing to declare	17/04/21
Debbie Oakley	Director/shareholder	Several horticultural companies/entities (Kiwifruit growers)	17/04/21
Debbie Oakley	Chair	Seeka Growers Ltd (Kiwifruit)	17/04/21
Richard McIntyre	Dairy Vice Chair	Federated Farmers	17/04/21
Richard McIntyre	Trustee	NZ Dairy Industry awards	17/04/21
Richard McIntyre	Owner/occupier	McIntyre Dairy Ltd (dairy & dry stock farming)	17/04/21
Richard McIntyre	Levy payer	NZ Beef & Lamb	17/04/21
Richard McIntyre	Levy payer	Dairy NZ	17/04/21
Bill O'Leary	F&G NZ Council Member	Nothing to declare	05/04/18
Andy Harris	F&G NZ Council Member	Nothing to declare	21/03/16
Daniel Isbister	F&G NZ Council Member	Nothing to declare	10/08/21

Health and Safety Report

New Zealand Fish and Game Council Meeting August 2021

As part of its commitment to Health and Safety and providing a safe workplace, the New Zealand Fish and Game Council requires a report at each meeting.

1.	Implementation and adherence to the Health & Safety policy/manual
	Yes. H&S meeting attendance: Jack, Steve, Carmel, Brian, Richie
2.	Risk Management (identification and treatment)
	Continued protocols in place for covid-19 track and trace.
3.	H&S matters included as an item at regular staff meetings.
3.	Training and awareness raising
	Fire Drill in Office on 18 August.
4.	H&S incidents
	None reported
5.	Near misses and/or injuries
	No injuries reported.

Approve Minutes 152
New Zealand Fish and Game Council Meeting August 2021

Recommendation:

1. *That these minutes be approved.*

One hundred and fifty second meeting of the
New Zealand Fish and Game Council
19th June 2021
Fish and Game Offices

PRESENT

NZ Councillors:

Ray Grubb (Chair), Debbie Oakley, Noel Birchall, Andy Harris, Dan Isbister, Nigel Juby (via Zoom), Bill O'Leary, Dave Harris, Richard McIntyre, Dave Coll, Gerard Karalus, Greg Duley.

NZC Staff:

Paul Shortis, Acting Chief Executive, Carmel Veitch Finance, Jack Kós Policy Advisor.

Guests:

-

1. Welcome and Chairperson's Introduction

Meeting

2. Apologies received

Cr. Juby apologised for late attendance.

3. Conflicts of Interest

- Dave Coll declared conflict re NC paper and has chosen not to speak to it unless requested and will abstain from voting.

Extraordinary Business

1. That Council add 6 papers to the agenda per the extraordinary business clause in standing orders, as these papers arose subsequent to the preparation of the paper and are urgent.
2. The papers were:
 - a. Commercial Game Preserves (under Public Excluded)
 - b. Exceptional Funding Application – NC (under Public Excluded)
 - c. Salmon Report (under Public Excluded)
 - d. Action List (previously omitted by error)
 - e. ARF Report

f. Advocacy Positions (under Public Excluded)
Moved: Crs. Grubb/O’Leary
Motion Passed.

4. Approve minutes for meeting 150

1. That the minutes for meeting 150 be approved.

Moved: Crs. McIntyre/D. Harris

Confirm D. Coll did second the motion on licence fee. Delete Q mark.

Motion Passed.

5. Approve minutes for meeting 151

1. That the minutes for meeting 151 be approved.

Moved: Cr. McIntyre/D. Harris

Motion passed.

6. Licence Fee Recommendation

- Cr. Oakley clarified the basis for Eastern’s view and that the decision was extremely close.

1. *That the licence fee recommendations be accepted at \$137 fish and \$100 game, with the corresponding ratios and categories.*

Moved: Crs. Isbister/Coll

- Discussion on the child licence fee. Range of perspectives offered, but view is that it would create the wrong perception to charge for child licences.
- Noted wider need for licence category review, but that this is not the meeting to discuss this.
- Noted that LWP currently working on this, and this will attempted to be brought forward to the November meeting.
- Opportunity for free landowner licence too – to be referred to LWP. Noted this needs to retain the opportunity to vote.

1. *That the licence fee recommendations be accepted at \$137 fish and \$100 game, with the corresponding ratios and categories.*

Moved: Crs. Isbister/Coll

Motion Passed.

7. Draft Policy – Change Freeze

1. *That the Change Freeze consultation document be approved as draft national policy.*

Moved: Crs, Grubb/O’Leary

- Chair stated this is a commonsense approach to changing circumstances
- CE noted that there was some feedback already and that there is broad support for the intent of the policy but some questions around the process.
- Confirmed this was just approving as draft policy and not actual policy.

Motion Passed.

8. Change Meeting Dates

- Some concern expressed re difficulty getting people to Wellington in December.

- Clarified that move to start of December was an election process issue around timing in the regions.
- Suggested that there is a need to have an August face to face meeting.
- Confirmed this will have budget ramifications – it can be covered, but will have impact.

1. *That NZC change the scheduled November meeting to Friday 3rd December & Saturday 4th December 2021 in Wellington.*

Moved: Crs. D. Harris/G. Karalus

Motion Passed

NOTE: Because the August meeting was originally scheduled to be a face to face meeting there was no need to formally resolve to meet face to face in August. There will be an NZC meeting in Wellington on 27/28 August.

9. Public Excluded Motion

*That the New Zealand Fish and Game Council:
pursuant to the provisions of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 exclude the public from the following part of the proceedings of this meeting, namely:*

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
Confirm Public Excluded minutes for meeting 150	<p>Section 9(2)(i) OIA The withholding of information is necessary to enable a Minister of the Crown or any department or organisation holding the information to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities.</p> <p>Section 9(2)(h) OIA The withholding of information is necessary to maintain legal</p>	Section 48(1)(a)(ii) That the public conduct of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist.

	professional privilege.	
Confirm Public Excluded minutes for meeting 151	Section 9(2)(f)(iv) OIA The withholding of information is necessary to protect the confidentiality of advice tendered by Ministers and officials	Section 48(1)(a)(ii) That the public conduct of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist.
New Licence System Update	Section 9(2)(i) OIA The withholding of information is necessary to enable a Minister of the Crown or any department or organisation holding the information to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities.	Section 48(1)(a)(ii) That the public conduct of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist.
North Canterbury Loan	Section 9(2)(i) OIA The withholding of information is necessary to enable a Minister of the Crown or any department or organisation holding the information to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities.	Section 48(1)(a)(ii) That the public conduct of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist.

Commercial Game Preserves	Section 9(2)(f)(iv) OIA The withholding of information is necessary to maintain the constitutional conventions which protect the confidentiality of advice tendered by Ministers of the Crown and officials.	Section 48(1)(a)(ii) That the public conduct of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist.
Salmon Report	Section 9(2)(f)(iv) OIA The withholding of information is necessary to maintain the constitutional conventions which protect the confidentiality of advice tendered by Ministers of the Crown and officials.	Section 48(1)(a)(ii) That the public conduct of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist.
Advocacy Positions	Section 9(2)(i) OIA The withholding of information is necessary to enable a Minister of the Crown or any department or organisation holding the information to carryout, without prejudiceor disadvantage, commercial activities.	Section 48(1)(a)(ii) That the public conduct of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist.

(b) And that staff remain to provide advice to the Council on all items.

**Moved: Crs. Oakley/McIntyre
Motion Passed**

14. Chair's Report

- Chair spoke to report.
- Discussion on role that Fish and Game plays in catchment groups. Suggests we should not facilitate but should be involved. Very important for community engagement, along with environmental benefits. Suggested this could be elevated as a higher

priority for Fish and Game and that there should be attendance from F&G at all catchment groups.

- Chair to circulate letter on this.
- Debate around appropriateness of Govt funding for F&G attendance/involvement in catchment groups. Support for seeking this in very specific circumstances.

•

1. *That this report be accepted.*

Moved: Cr. Duley/Karalus

Motion Passed

Meeting broke at 12:25 for lunch.

Meeting resumed at 1pm

15. CEO Report

1. *That this report be accepted.*

Moved: Crs. Grubb/Duley

Motion Passed

- Brief conversation around RMA hiring and administration staff.

15a. Action List

ACTION: Correspondence Register to be sent to NZC more regularly. Via SharePoint? Need to see about access permissions etc.

16. Website Update

- Queried what process was to form reference groups?
- Confirmed it is composed of individuals that would add value and that it is circulated.

1. *That this report be accepted.*

Moved: Crs. A. Harris/Juby

Motion Passed

17. NZC Finance Report

- Dealt with straight after lunch to deal as CV has early flight.
- CV spoke to paper and outlined areas that may end up over budget, in particular governance and salaries.
- Confirmed that review travel costs etc are being passed on to DOC.

1. *That this report be accepted.*

Moved: Crs. Oakley/D. Harris

Motion passed.

17a. ARF Report

- Notes section of table explained.
- CV spoke to major variation in regional ARF levels.
- Chair: Need to get all ARF budgets standardised.
- Cr.: Reminder that we passed resolution looking into ARF.
- Chair: This was first step, and next is to pass resolution to enable CV to look into ARF budgets and appropriateness.

1. *That NZC undertake a national internal audit of ARF budgets.*

Moved: Crs. Birchall/Isbister

Motion Passed.

- How do new rules on utes change things for us?

18. National Finance Report

- CV confirmed that there are no regions that are markedly over or under budget YTD.
- CV to update table for August showing actual licence revenue.

1. *That this report be accepted.*

Moved: Crs. Isbister/Birchall

Motion Passed

19. RMA/Legal Update

- Nothing to report.
- Chair and CE updated NZC on RMA coordination and upcoming RMA position.

1. *That this report be accepted.*

Moved: Crs. A. Harris/O’Leary

Motion Passed

20. Research Update

- Few comments around allocation in last budget round. NZC scheduled \$30k to reinstate the research fund back to \$100k, plus \$30k ongoing to NAS. The current funding for the NAS is short for this survey.

1. *That the uncommitted funds of \$89,733 be transferred to the NAS – in order to cover the current project.*

2. *That the NAS research be set up as a dedicated reserve.*

3. *That the report be received.*

Moved: Crs. Grubb/Birchall

Motion Passed.

ACTION: Carmel to remove total of unspent/unallocated.

21. Licence Sale Update

1. *That this report be accepted.*

Moved: Crs. Isbister/Karalus

Motion Passed

22. Consultation Register

- **ACTION: Jack to send Consultation Register to NZC**

1. *That this report be accepted.*

Moved: Crs.

Motion Passed

23a. Advocacy Positions – DIN & DRP

- Chair spoke to paper and suggested the paper from Adam Canning, Mike Joy and Russell Death be endorsed to be sent out to regions for consultation to be adopted as an advocacy position.

-

- *1. That this paper be sent out to regions for consultation to be adopted as an advocacy position.*

Moved: Crs. Grubb/D. Harris

- View that the authors may be controversially seen in the agriculture sphere.
- F&G need to have some bottom-line positions, because many other organisations will have them.

Motion Passed.

Thanks formally given to CE, Paul Shortis, for the role he has played over the past 6 months, the support he has given to the Chair and his guidance to NZC.

Meeting closed 1:45pm Saturday 19th.

Approve Minutes 153

New Zealand Fish and Game Council Meeting August 2021

Recommendation:

1. *That these minutes be approved.*

One hundred and fifty third meeting of the
New Zealand Fish and Game Council
20th July 2021
By Zoom

PRESENT

NZ Councillors:

Ray Grubb (Chair), Debbie Oakley, Noel Birchall, Andy Harris, Dan Isbister, Nigel Juby, Dave Harris, Richard McIntyre, Dave Coll, Gerard Karalus, Greg Duley.

NZC Staff:

Di Taylor, Acting Chief Executive, Carmel Veitch CFO, Jack Kós Senior Policy Advisor.

Guests:

-

1. Welcome and Chairperson's Introduction

- Meeting started 7pm
- Councillors were introduced to Di Taylor and introduced themselves

2. Apologies received

- Cr. O'Leary
- Moved: Dave Harris & Coll

Motion Passed

3. Conflicts of Interest

- Acting CE detailed conflict of interest process and how this applies to the topics today. Specifically, when a conflict arises you need to notify the council of it. We can record that, and you would abstain from an opinion.

4. Season Bag Limit Funding Bid

Agenda item centred on an exceptional funding bid for North Canterbury, Central South Island and New Zealand Fish and Game councils to spend \$10,894 from reserves for a total

of \$32,682 to fund the administration and production of the season bag limit card for sea run salmon.

- Moved Crs. Karalus & Birchall
- Discussion around financial implications and where funds will come from. CV noted both regions are well ahead of anticipated licence sales.
- Question whether this should be funded by NZC solely. Noted this is solely for the benefit of two regions.

1. That NZC resolve that New Zealand, North Canterbury and Central South Island Fish and Game councils would each be approved to spend \$10,894 (including a \$5k contingency) from reserves.

Moved: Crs. Karalus & Birchall

Motion passed. Cr. Isbister abstained.

- Record that we look at a fee for the card next season.
- Cr. Coll noted that the season bag limit is linked to the helicopter flights that NC put a separate funding bid in for.
- Chair noted that NC council agreed to hold to their original approved budgets with the exception that they have asked for \$45k for helicopter flights for salmon monitoring. Budget needs to be confirmed as administratively feasible before going to managers and NZC. At that point NZC will be asked to approve the additional funding from NC reserves with a proviso that there is no ability to top up if fall below 20%.

5. NM Legal/RMA Funding Application

Agenda item centred on a legal/RMA funding application for Nelson Marlborough arising from the Marlborough District Council's plan change.

- Chair explained that this was approved in principle at April budget round but deferred because it was suggested it should go through the legal/rma fund not CF. Noted that Tasman District Council's refusal to implement NPS had made this more urgent.
- CE confirmed will have short list by next week for RM position, funding for which is to come from the 21/22 RMA budget.
- Questioned currently have a figure of \$500K in the 21/22 RMA budget that Crs. haven't seen breakdown on how it is to be utilised. Need to be careful chipping away at it early on.
- Chair clarified the intention of this budget is to support NPS FM and NES introduction into regional plans.
- CFO clarified the funding structure and what is spent/committed from this year. Confirmed the NM funding requested could come out of this year's fund.
- Confirmed minimal chance for cost blow out.

1 That NZC approves \$40,000 from Legal/RMA for Nelson Marlborough, comprising \$5,000 for legal support, \$20,000 for RMA planning support and \$15,000 for hydrological/ecological expert advice.

Moved: Crs. Grubb/Juby
Motion Carried

6. Public Excluded Motion

That the New Zealand Fish and Game Council:

(a) pursuant to the provisions of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 exclude the public from the following part of the proceedings of this meeting, namely:

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
<i>Commercial Game Preserves</i>	<i>Section 9(2)(f)(iv) OIA The withholding of information is necessary to maintain the constitutional conventions which protect the confidentiality of advice tendered by Ministers of the Crown and officials.</i>	<i>Section 48(1)(a)(ii) That the public conduct of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist.</i>

(b) And that staff remain to provide advice to the Council on all items.

Moved: Crs. Isbister/McIntyre.

Motion Passed

Resolutions brought out from PE to Public.

- That NZC rescinds its decision in November 2020 and supports DOC's Option 2A that commercial game preserves continue to operate per a Ministerial Notice and that pheasants are deemed wildlife in the areas designated by this Notice and game in all other areas.*

AND

That the decision reached is communicated to DOC.

Moved: Cr. Duley/Karalus

For 7, against 4 (Cr. D. Harris & Cr. Birchall would like objection noted).

Motion carried

- No general business raised.
- Chair thanked NZC for consideration given to this. It is a challenging proposition, and you have all given it a considerable amount of deep thought.
- Meeting closed 8:30.

Meeting close

Fish & Game Review

New Zealand Fish and Game Council Meeting August 2021

Prepared by: Ray Grubb

1. The NZ Fish and Game submission prepared and sent by Paul has been presented to the Minister. The Minister has replied with the attached letter. Next steps is waiting for her formal response.
2. The Minister has been invited to attend this meeting but at the time of writing we have not had confirmation.
3. Separately, we have agreement from the Minister to our recommendation that we slow down the process and take whatever time is necessary to do research on contentious matters. The first of them is merging (abolishing and re-forming to be technically correct) Regions and we are expecting to receive terms of reference for that project before this meeting so we can socialize the TOR with NZC and Regions.
4. Work is proceeding on Governance, conflict of interest, strategic planning and budget cycle reform

Recommendation:

1. *That NZC formally note this report*

Hon Kiritapu Allan

MP for East Coast
Minister of Conservation
Minister for Emergency Management
Associate Minister for Arts, Culture and Heritage
Associate Minister for the Environment



23 August 2021

Ray Grubb
Chair
New Zealand Fish and Game Council
raygrubb@gmail.com

cc: Regional Fish and Game Councils

Kia ora Koutou,

In April 2021, the Fish and Game Ministerial Review was released by the Acting Minister of Conservation. The recommendations fit into two groups, those that Fish and Game can implement now, and those that require legislative change. I am advised that the New Zealand Fish and Game Council, via the Acting Chief Executive, have initiated a work program to implement those recommendations relating to updating policies to refresh governance and management practices. I strongly endorse this initiative.

There are other recommendations that will require legislative change. I ask you to note that there is currently no place on the legislative programme for these. I am presently considering the possibility of focussed legislative work to enable amalgamation of Regions and changes to the makeup of Councils.

I understand the Implementation Steering Group has visited councils throughout the country and that the NZ Council has submitted the collected views on the review. I thank Fish and Game for the high-quality submission which generally supports the spirit of the review, but also asks for more work to be done around the details of some of the more complex changes. I agree with the need for this work. Your submission will be an important input into any legislative change process.

I encourage you ensure that your council members and licence holders are aware of the key points regarding the review and take an active interest in modernising Fish and Game. In summary, the key points that I encourage you to share are:

- I appreciate the work that has gone into the submission that Fish and game Councils have made on the Review Report.
- There is general support for the recommendations and the modernisation of Fish and Game.
- Implementation of those recommendations relating to refreshed policies to guide governance and management practices are already being actioned by Fish and Game itself. I strongly endorse this initiative.
- Many of the other recommendations require both legislative change and more detailed work about how they would be implemented. Therefore, no decisions can be made yet about these recommendations.

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- I am in discussion about the possibility of legislation that will enable the merging of regions and new arrangements for composition of councils.
- Any changes involving legislation will be subject to normal processes, including public consultation.

I have received an invitation to attend the next Fish and Game NZ Council meeting at some point over 27 and 28 August, either by zoom or in person. My timetable has been disrupted by the current move to Alert level 4, but I am looking to see if I can attend this meeting.

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Kiri Allan', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Hon Kiri Allan
Minister of Conservation

Hon Kiritapu Allan

MP for East Coast
Minister of Conservation
Minister for Emergency Management
Associate Minister for Arts, Culture and Heritage
Associate Minister for the Environment



Ref: CORM-392

04 AUG 2021

Mr Paul Shortis
Former Acting Chief Executive
Fish and Game NZ
paulshortis55@gmail.com

Tēnā koe Mr Shortis

Thank you for your letter of 10 July 2021 summarising the combined submissions from the 13 Fish and Game Councils and your support for the modernisation of Fish and Game. As you know, an Implementation Steering Group has been convened to consider implementation options and the group has your submission which will help to inform its work.

There are some recommendations relating to good governance and management policy and practice that do not require legislative change. I expect that Fish and Game will progress these expeditiously to ensure that it remains a strong, relevant and independent advocate for its licence holders.

There are other recommendations that will require changes to legislation, and these will need to follow standard processes, including public consultation.

I note that all but one of the councils agree in principle with amalgamations, and that they recommend that more analysis is carried out. The Implementation Steering Group advises me that there will be more analysis and consultation before recommending any changes.

Once again, thank you for the work that you have done in assembling this submission and your support for the review. I am grateful for the leadership that you have provided as acting Chair of the NZ Council and then acting Chief Executive over the last year.

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'K. Allan'.

Hon Kiri Allan
Minister of Conservation

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cc: *Di Taylor*
Acting Chief Executive
New Zealand Fish and Game Council
dtaylor@fishandgame.org.nz

Reserves top-up determination

New Zealand Fish and Game Council Meeting August 2021

Prepared by: Carmel Veitch, CFO, NZ Fish and Game Council

Purpose

- 1 For NZC to give approval for the top up of reserves to cover the 2020, 2021 and 2022 year ends.

Background

- 2 In response to Covid-19, NZC was unsure of the impact on licence sales going forward (as borders were closed and there was uncertainty as to the game and fishing seasons).
- 3 The Standing Finance committee (SFC) was tasked to make recommendations to NZC on Budgets and Funding scenarios.
- 4 At the 144th NZC meeting the SFC made recommendations to NZC about budgets, use of reserves and the level of reserves a region needs to maintain before a top up of reserves is required.
- 5 NZC agreed to these recommendations and resolved to top up Regions whose reserves fall below 20% (of budget).
- 6 At the 150th NZC meeting a query was raised regarding which financial year(s) NZC's decision to top up Regions that fall below the 20% reserve level was made for.

Analysis

- 7 Because the impact on licence sales for the 2019/20 financial year was unknown, regions were asked to reduce spending for this period to reduce the financial impact on the region.
- 8 NZC asked Regions to reduce their Budgets by 5% and to use 10% of their budget from their reserves in the 2020/21 year. Some regions did not have sufficient reserves to cover the 10% use of reserves.
- 9 The Standing Finance Committee minutes – which were presented to NZC at the 144th meeting have the following recommendations:
 - Ray moved: Minimum reserves are dropped from 30% to 20% and NZC will adjust levies and grants to optimise this outcome. Also agree to prop up regions falling short of the 20% **until end of 2019-20 year.**

- Paul moved that the NZC can use the usual levies and grants to ensure that no region falls **below 20% reserve in 2020/21**. Paul moved/Ray Unanimous
- 10 At the 144th NZC meeting the following was resolved by (Ray Grubb/Andy Harris):
- Amended: that should any Council fall below 20% General and Dedicated reserves combined at the end of **the 2020/21** financial year, due to loss of licensed income, its reserves shall be made up to 20% first by use of the NZC reserves and secondly by adjustment to the Levies and Grants system. If this is a result of unapproved spending the NZC can review as at 31st **August 2020 and 2021**.
- 11 The minute does not mention that the top up includes the 2019/20 year, however, this was a mistake in the drafting of the resolution and does not reflect the intention of NZC. The minutes from the SFC, which this NZC resolution was based off, state both the 2019/20 and 2020/21 years that the top up of reserves will cover.
- 12 The NZC have just approved the 2021/22 budgets and again regions are required to use reserves to the tune of 2.37%.
- 13 At the time of approving 2021/22 budget one Region (Taranaki) were identified as requiring a top up to 20% as at 31 August 2022.

Financial Implications – if approved

- 14 North Canterbury’s reserves fell below 20% of budget in the 2019/20 year. The NZC topped up this reserve \$71,226 on the 26th May 2021.
- 15 In the 2020/21 financial year no region is expected to have their reserves fall below 20% of budget, due to Licence Revenue exceeding forecast in the 2020/21 year.
- 16 In the 2021/22 financial year Taranaki Fish & Game Council is forecast to be topped up by \$1,880 in order to maintain their reserves at 20% of budget.

Legislative Implications

- 17 n/a

Section 4 Treaty Obligations

- 18 n/a

Consultation

- 19 n/a

Recommendations

- 1 *That the NZC agrees that the top up of reserves to the 20% level of budget was intended to be for the*
 - 1.1 *2019/20-year end; and*
 - 1.2 *2020/21-year end; and*
 - 1.3 *Due to the request for regions to use reserves again in the 2021/22 year the NZC agrees to top up reserves to the 20% level in the 2021/22-year end.*

Ratification of Decisions

New Zealand Fish and Game Council Meeting August 2021

Prepared by: Jack Kós, Senior Policy Advisor

Purpose

1. To formally ratify a decision made via email and to confirm delegation for the Acting CE to enter into a contract.

Background

2. In June NZC made a decision via email to add a zero-fee licence category for sea run salmon (see Appendix 1). This now needs to be formally ratified.
3. At meeting 153 NZC approved spending from reserves for the administrative side of (see Appendix 2). Whilst approval for the Acting CE to enter into this contract was implicit, we are now seeking it to be minuted explicitly.

Analysis

4. See attachments.

Financial Implications

5. See attachments.

Legislative Implications

6. See attachments

Section 4 Treaty Obligations

7. See attachments.

Policy Implications

8. See attachments.

Recommendation:

1. *That NZC formally ratifies the following decisions made by email:*
 - a. *That NZC agree for NZC staff to seek the approval of the Minister for a Sea Run Salmon Licence Category for 2021.*

AND

2. *That NZC agrees for the Acting CE to contract with ESL for the administrative side of the sea run salmon licence.*

APPENDIX ONE

Addition of Sea Run Salmon Licence Category

New Zealand Fish and Game Council via email, to be ratified in August

Prepared by: Jack Kós, Senior Policy Advisor, NZ Fish and Game Council

Purpose

- 1 To recommend to Council the addition of a Sea Run Salmon Licence category to the 2021/22 licence categories.

Background

- 2 North Canterbury and Central South Island Fish and Game councils are both seeking to implement a season bag limit for the 2021/22 angling season.
- 3 NZC staff have been preparing the regulations to achieve this and have determined the best way to do so is by adding a licence category (with no fee) to the Sports Fish Licences Fees and Forms Notice 2021.

Analysis

- 4 There are two primary ways to host the regulations to achieve and administer a season bag limit:
 - a) Solely through the Anglers' Notice; or
 - b) Through the Licence Fees and Forms Notice and through the Anglers' Notice.
- 5 Because of what CSI and NC are seeking to action with the season bag limit option b) represents the most legally correct option and provides for a higher degree of compliance.
- 6 What NZC staff are proposing is the addition of a licence category entitled 'Sea Run Salmon Licence' that would have no fee attributed to it. Rather it would be purely an administrative step that would strongly simplify a number of steps for these regions.
- 7 This would operate akin to the backcountry licence system, which is an endorsement on an angler's licence that comes at no cost to the angler.
- 8 This licence category would solely be available through the CSI and NC regions and would have no impact on any other region (just as currently only seven regions offer backcountry licences, only two regions would offer Sea Run Salmon Licences).
- 9 This option would allow:

- a) More efficient and future proofed regulations.
- b) Integration of the distribution of salmon harvest cards through the licence sales system.
- c) Automatic population of licence database.
- d) Higher degree of enforcement.
- e) The ability to compel anglers to return their harvest cards.

Financial Implications

10 N/A

Legislative Implications

11 If approved, the addition of one licence fee category to the Sports Fish Licences Fees and Forms Notice 2021.

Section 4 Treaty Obligations

12 N/A

Consultation

13 Both Central South Island and North Canterbury Fish and Game councils, who are the only two regions to which this licence category would apply, have been consulted and are strongly in support.

Recommendations

- 1 *That NZC agree for NZC staff to seek the approval of the Minister for a Sea Run Salmon Licence Category for 2021.*
- 2 *That NZC agree to this via email and ratify the decision at the August 2021 meeting.*

Appendix Two

AGENDA ITEM No 4

Extraordinary Funding Bid NZC/CSI/NC

New Zealand Fish and Game Council Meeting August 2021

Prepared by: Jack Kos, Steve Doughty, Carmel Veitch, NZC Staff

Purpose

1. To seek approval for an extraordinary funding application for the New Zealand, North Canterbury and Central South Island Fish and Game Council for \$32,684 to provide for the licencing administration and distribution of the Season Bag Limit Card for sea run salmon.

Background

2. New Zealand's sea run Chinook salmon (henceforth, salmon) fishery is in crisis. Returns have fallen to record low levels in almost all rivers on the East Coast of the South Island.
3. The most significant recommendation from the National Sea Run Salmon Committee is that we need to significantly reduce the harvest of wild salmon in order to rebuild the wild salmon population.
4. After evaluating potential options fishery managers concluded the most appropriate tool to reduce salmon harvest would be to impose a season bag limit, restricting each individual angler's total harvest to a defined number of fish for the season.
5. Until recently, because of the drafting of the old Freshwater Fishery Regulations, Fish & Game did not have the ability to reduce salmon harvest using a seasonal catch limit. However, following application from Fish & Game, these regulations were amended in May 2021.
6. Both North Canterbury and Central South Island have recommended season bag limits to the Minister through the Anglers Notice, which requires the development of processes for the production and distribution of Season Bag Limit Cards.

Analysis

7. The only feasible option canvassed is to automate the distribution of Season Bag Limit Cards in the licence production and distribution system.
8. When an angler purchases an eligible licence, they will have the opportunity to endorse their licence with a Sea Run Salmon Licence.
 - a. When their licence is endorsed, a production order will be sent to Vertia who will produce and distribute the Season Bag Limit Card.

- b. In both instances their Salmon Licence receipt will have season bag limit entries to ensure anglers can fish immediately upon getting their licence endorsement.
9. There are two cost components to implementing the Salmon card:
- a. ESL need to amend the current licence system to add the salmon endorsement to a licence purchase and output a revised production order. The process could not be specified until the licence requirements were fully understood within Fish & Game and approval of the season bag limit creating a tight timeline and the need for this urgent action.
 - i. This will cost approximately \$18,000 (+GST) and is a one-off cost.
 - b. Lastly the printing and distribution of the salmon harvest card is another cost component serviced by Vertia.
 - i. This will cost approximately \$9,684 +GST (based on the estimated 3,600 salmon anglers across NC & CSI) and is an ongoing cost.
10. Accordingly, the total external cost for the administration and production of the Season Bag Limit Card will be circa \$27,684 + GST.
11. However, to offset the potential for requiring additional funding we are recommending an additional \$5k contingency to cover any unforeseen eventualities is allocated for a total funding application of \$32,684.
12. In effect, without the ability to efficiently issue a harvest card Fish & Game will not be able to implement an adaptive management strategy for sea-run salmon management.
13. If this application is not approved an application to amend the Anglers Notice to remove the season bag limit provisions for North Canterbury and CSI would need to be made to the Minister. Whilst this is legislatively feasible it would carry serious reputational risk for the organisation given the publicity and effort invested in putting this mechanism in place.

Financial Implications

14. If approved, North Canterbury and Central South Island Fish and Game Councils would each be approved to spend \$10,894 (+GST) from reserves.
15. A further \$10,894 (+GST) would be spent from NZC reserves.

Legislative Implications

16. As noted above if this application is not approved an application to amend the Anglers Notice to remove the season bag limit provisions for North Canterbury and CSI would need to be made to the Minister.

Section 4 Treaty Obligations

17. Nil.

Policy Implications

18. This application is consistent with NZC policy.

Recommendation:

1. *That NZC resolve that New Zealand, North Canterbury and Central South Island Fish and Game councils would each be approved to spend \$10,894 (including a \$5k contingency) from reserves.*

Legal/RMA Applications

New Zealand Fish and Game Council Meeting

August 2021 Prepared by: Carmel Veitch & Jack Kos, NZ Fish and Game

Council

Purpose

- 1 For NZC to approve outstanding legal/RMA applications.

Background

- 2 Each year NZC allocates \$ towards legal/RMA projects that have significance nationally and or regionally.
- 3 Regions who require RMA support apply to the Fund.
- 4 All funds for the 2020/21 have been fully Allocated – apart from \$60,000 for the NPS Freshwater that has been earmarked but not allocated.
- 5 In the 2021/22 budget round \$500,000 has been committed, with \$8,000 currently allocated to North Canterbury and \$40,000 to Nelson Marlborough.
- 6 Otago and Southland also have approved RMA legal costs that are coming from their reserves.
- 7 The NZC/Otago High Court Lindis River appeal is overspent by \$51,920.
- 8 The overspend will need to be funded from the unallocated 2020/21 fund or the 2021/22 fund.
- 9 Southland currently have an overspend of \$68,793 in the Southland Water and Land Plan (from their reserves) – this overspend plus any future anticipated future costs for the project need to be presented to the NZC for approval of spending from reserves.
- 10 Otago are now applying for \$60,000 total (\$40,000 legal, \$20,000 planning) for support during the redrafting of the Regional Policy Statement for Otago that will implement the new NPS-FM (see Appendices One and Two).

Analysis

- 11 There is presently \$60,000 unallocated from the NPS FM fund for the 2020/21 year.
- 12 In the 2021/22 budget there is currently \$452,000 unallocated.

Financial Implications

- 13 An overrun in spending for the Lindis appeal reduces NZC reserves. At present NZC reserves are forecast to be just at 20% by 31/8/22.
- 14 There is money available in the NPS/FM budget to cover this for 2020/21 or
- 15 The unallocated budget for the 2021/22 could be committed to this project.
- 16 For the Southland spending from reserves – it is impossible to forecast reserves positions if regions do not apply to use their reserves.

Legislative Implications

- 17 n/a

Section 4 Treaty Obligations

- 18 n/a

Consultation

- 19 The managers at the July managers meeting recommended to the NZC that the overspend of \$52,000 from the NZC/Otago High Court appeal be allocated from the RMA Budget.
- 20 The Managers also recommended that Southland apply for approval for use of reserves for the Additional costs associated with the SWALP.
- 21 The Managers have been consulted on the Otago application. At the time of writing this report 10 managers had replied and supported the application. In particular it was noted that this is the first RPS process and that there is national precedent value that necessitates Fish and Game's strong involvement.

Recommendations

- 22 *NZC allocate \$52,000 from:*
 - a. *the 2020/21 NPS FM budget for the overrun in the NZC/Otago High Court Lindis appeal; or*
 - b. *the 2021/22 RMA Budget for the overrun in the NZC/Otago High Court Lindis appeal*
- 23 *NZC request that Southland put in an application to use their reserves for the over budgeted SWALP and anticipated costs going forward.*

24 *NZC approve Otago \$60,000 funding from the 2021/22 RMA legal fund.*

6 August 2021

Otago Fish and Game Council

c/o nparagreen@fishandgame.org.nz

Dear Nigel

Central South Island Fish and Game (CSIFG) has reviewed the funding application being lodged by Otago Fish and Game (OFG) to secure funding from the legal/RMA pool reserve to undertake work on the publicly notified Otago Regional Policy Statement.

While the majority of the CSIFG Region lies within the Canterbury Region, the southern part of the CSIFG region extends into the Otago Region and includes important local fisheries such as the Kakanui River. The National Angling Survey states that the Kakanui River sustained 2,040 angling days in the first survey undertaken in 1994/95 and have dwindled considerably since that time. Water quality and water quantity has degraded over the last two decades and the health of the trout fishery is a matter that CSIFG is undertaking work on in the 2021/22 operational work plan.

How the NPSFM 2020 and the NESFW is interpreted through the regional policy statement process will set the direction for the regional and district plans that will be developed under it. How sports fish, game birds, mahinga kai and recreational values are recognised through these planning instruments will direct how fish and game values are provided for; therefore, strong advocacy and expertise in this process is critical. Additionally, the uncertainty that comes with implementing new national legislation is even more reason to have a strong presence in this process. Given the Otago RPS is the first regional policy statement to be considered under the new freshwater planning process, this is an important process to invest in.

CSIFG strongly supports the funding application proposed by OFG and offers its support in the case going forward to represent the interest that CSIFG has in the northern part of the Otago Region.

Ngā mihi

Angela Christensen

Resource Officer

Otago Fish and Game Council

Application for Legal/RMA Funding

30 July 2021

This application is for funds from New Zealand Council's dedicated legal reserve for Fish and Game involvement in the implementation of the National Environmental Standard for Freshwater (**NES-FW**) and the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management (**NPS-FM**) at the regional and district policy level. (NZC Minutes November 2019).

The application relates to the redrafting of the Regional Policy Statement for Otago which the Otago Regional Council is seeking to advance in its entirety through the Freshwater Planning Process.

The RPS is the first RPS to be notified since the NPS-FM and NES-FW became operative.

Background

Over-allocation of rivers in Central Otago via historic mining privileges (or deemed permits) has been an issue of concern for Otago Fish and Game for decades. In 1991, the Resource Management Act included provisions which cause all deemed permits to expire in October 2021. Continued irrigation requires replacement of privileges with RMA water consents. Our expectation has been that this transition would resolve over-allocation issues and set minimum and residual flows and allocation limits that properly provide for river ecosystems and amenity values. Unfortunately, this has not come to pass due in part to a deficient planning framework and Otago Regional Council's lack of technical preparation for the transition.

The Otago water planning framework was judged not fit for purpose through an external review in 2020 and the Minister for the Environment has required the urgent drafting of interim planning provisions (Plan Changes 7 & 8); a new Land and Water Regional Plan (LW&P); and the redrafting of the Regional Policy Statement for Otago.

Otago Fish and Game is heavily involved in these interim plan changes which have both been before the Environment Court and decisions are pending. The L&WP is due to be notified in 2023 and so our focus has shifted to the redrafting of the RPS.

NPS-FM (2020) and NES- FW(2020)

As the RPS case is the first to be notified since the national policies and regulations came into force in in September 2020 [NPS-FM (2020), NES Freshwater 2020] decisions will set national precedents on the new overarching concept of Te Mana o te Wai and the hierarchy of obligations within it.

The RPS is the first plan in a region which will interpret Te Mana o te Wai, and will set directions for implementation through long-term visions. As such, the document is of critical importance for implementing the NPS-FM.

The hierarchy of obligations is encapsulated in the NPSFM's single objective by setting the following priorities:

- (a) first, the health and well-being of water bodies and freshwater ecosystems
- (b) second, the health needs of people (such as drinking water)

(c) third, the ability of people and communities to provide for their social, economic, and cultural well-being, now and in the future.

The objective is supported by a series of policies including:

Policy 9: The habitats of indigenous freshwater species are protected.

Policy 10: The habitat of trout and salmon is protected, insofar as this is consistent with Policy 9.

Appendix 1A of the NPSFM lists compulsory values to be considered in the development of 'Freshwater Management Units' or FMUs. The first compulsory value is:

Ecosystem health

This refers to the extent to which an FMU or part of an FMU supports an ecosystem appropriate to the type of water body (for example, river, lake, wetland, or aquifer). There are 5 biophysical components that contribute to freshwater ecosystem health, and it is necessary that all of them are managed. They are:

- Water quality – the physical and chemical measures of the water, such as temperature, dissolved oxygen, pH, suspended sediment, nutrients and toxicants
- Water quantity – the extent and variability in the level or flow of water
- Habitat – the physical form, structure, and extent of the water body, its bed, banks and margins; its riparian vegetation; and its connections to the floodplain and to groundwater
- Aquatic life – the abundance and diversity of biota including microbes, invertebrates, plants, fish and birds
- Ecological processes – the interactions among biota and their physical and chemical environment such as primary production, decomposition, nutrient cycling and trophic connectivity.

In a healthy freshwater ecosystem, all 5 biophysical components are suitable to sustain the indigenous aquatic life expected in the absence of human disturbance or alteration (before providing for other values). (my underlining)

While the Ecosystem Health element of the NPSFM is a very positive step forward in waterway protection the final paragraph above (underlined) is problematic in that there is a perverse view emerging that a freshwater ecosystem cannot be healthy if trout are impacting on indigenous species. What follows is the argument that trout and salmon are not components of a healthy ecosystem and should not be provided for in flow recommendations. Instead, trout and salmon are seen as an element of the third priority social/cultural values. That view might apply where trout or salmon threaten a rare indigenous fish population with extinction but surely cannot apply to the normal interaction of species within a freshwater ecosystem.

The NPS-FM is only ever as strong as its regional implementation and therefore, these cases represent the first opportunity for Fish and Game to assert its interpretation of the NPS-FM at a regional level.

Importance of the Regional Policy Statement

The RPS is an overarching policy document for a region which guides the development of regional and district plans. Those plans must 'have regard' to the RPS objectives and policies which will cascade into lower order policies at the plan level.

Funding application

The case has national implications because it is the first RPS to be fully notified since the NPS-FM 2020 came into force. As NZC have correctly identified, it is important that these early cases

which seek to implement the NES and NPS-FM are well resourced and have the best chance of success.

The key focus will be the concept of Te Mana o te Wai; long-term visions; the hierarchy of obligations; and the interpretation of NPSFM policies 9 and 10, likely with relevance to the perverse interpretation of policy 10 with respect to the definition of a healthy ecosystem. Each of these topics will need to be explored again in the regions. From discussions and presentations at the Environmental Defence Society, it is clear that the rest of the country is looking to the Otago RPS as a test of the NPS-FM, Te Mana o te Wai and the Freshwater Planning Process.

In addition to the national (unofficial) precedent potential of the case, the Otago resource at stake is significant and because the decision will set a precedent for the interpretation of NPSFM provisions in lower order planning documents across the country being the first RPS to go before the Environment Court.

Because the national importance of the RPS to Fish and Game (and presumably other parties) we envisage that this case will be subject to added complexity and cost as professionals grapple with the new provisions. In addition, the importance of the ambiguous interaction between the hierarchy of obligations; Policies 9 and 10 and the ecosystem health value mean that there is a heightened chance of an appeal being required.

The use of the Freshwater Planning Process adds another component of complexity and uncertainty. It is not clear how the planning process will run in practice, as none have yet been run. In a presentation at the Environmental Défense Society in 2021, Professor Skelton confirmed that cross-examination, with leave from the commissioners, will be a part of the process. This may result in a process similar to Otago's Plan Change 7, with a large number of submitters and a wide scope of disagreement because it will be a first instance hearing.

In addition, it is clear that the intent of the Freshwater Planning Process is to encourage a full hearing in the first instance, rather than allowing parties to take a small component of information to a council hearing and a full suite of information to an Environment Court hearing. It is recommended by staff that the RPS case be detailed, so that no stone is left unturned. This will ensure that Fish and Game can put forward all of its praise or concerns with the NPS-FM 2020.

Because of the precedent, completeness, complexity and uncertainty anticipated to be associated with the RPS case, we propose that Fish and Game take a precautionary approach to funding. Fish and Game proposes that the legal costs associated with the RPS should be covered from the RMA legal pool fund, with The Otago reserve left whole to fund overspends.

Fish and Game should anticipate a heightened risk of appeal, despite the intention of the Freshwater Planning Process being to reduce appeals, simply because it is one of the first of these processes and it covers issues significant to Fish and Game and other parties. Should this eventually occur, we recommend that Fish and Game re-assess the national importance of the case and whether additional legal pool funding is required.

The Otago Fish and Game wishes to apply for \$60,000 from the RMA legal pool fund to cover costs of the RPS hearing. The Council holds \$60,000 in hand in a dedicated reserve for active participation in the RPS and it is proposed this amount be retained to fund a potential overspend, which is difficult to rule out due to the unknown nature of the Freshwater Planning Process. The funds will cover legal expenses and an expert planning witness. It is our intention to use Maree Baker-Galloway of Anderson Lloyd and Ben Farrell of Cue Environmental, who have both

indicated that they would be available. Both have done significant work for Fish and Game in the past and are well versed in our values and commitment to and interpretation of Te Mana o te Wai.

Primary Criteria			
	Question	Weighting	Supporting Material
1	Is there national precedent value in the proposed legal action?	<i>1 none, 2 low, 3 possibly, 4 probably, 5 yes</i>	5 Yes. The interpretation of Te Mana o te Wai; the hierarchy of obligations; Policies 9 and 10 and the definition of a healthy ecosystem are critical to protection of habitats of sports fish. In addition the RPS will guide regional and district plans and will have a bearing on the management of intensive winter grazing based on the NESFW
2	Is there regional significance in the issue for which legal action is being contemplated?	<i>1 none, 2 low, 3 possibly, 4 probably, 5 yes</i>	5. Yes. The RPS is the overarching policy for all lower order regional and district planning in Otago and will establish the context for land and water planning and the hearing of water consents replacing historic mining privileges
3	What would be the consequences of doing nothing?	<i>1 none, 2 low, 3 moderate, 4 high, 5 very high.</i>	5 Very High. The consequence of doing nothing is to risk the opportunity to set the narrative behind the NPS-FM and NESFW implementation within the RPS, which will have national and regional consequences.
4	What are the prospects of a negotiated settlement, or appeal to a higher court?	<i>1 none, 2 low, 3 possibly, 4 probably, 5 yes.</i>	3 Possibly. With direct referral to a Freshwater Planning Process it is unknown whether mediation is available. However, given the contentious nature of species interactions, and the desire of parties around the country to use it to exclude Fish and Game from planning processes, it is a possibility that Fish and Game will need to mount an appeal if a decision has been made incorrectly.

Comments

Secondary Criteria		
	Question	Answer
1	What is the <u>significance</u> to Fish & Game of the resource under challenge, including its current and potential use and value? For example: a. How many angler/hunter days does the resource support? b. Is it an important recruitment habitat?	The RPS will have an impact on most of central Otago's waterways including some significant fisheries including tributaries of the upper Clutha (31,000 angler days), the Manuherikia (2100 angler days) and the Taieri (23,000 angler days). The mainstems

	<p>c. What benefit could it have in the future?</p>	<p>are angling destinations and the tributaries are important for recruitment to these fisheries.</p> <p>Otago's fisheries are of national importance both as destinations (182,000 angler days noted in last NAS) and a contributor of revenue to the wider organisation. Otago has the highest fishing licence revenue of any region and pays one of the highest levies.</p> <p>The opportunity to improve the resource should also be noted. This is a once in a 100 year opportunity to restore flows to some seriously depleted central Otago waterways and assist in turning around declining water quality in Otago.</p>
2	<p>What is the <u>risk</u> to that resource of the proposed action being taken without Fish & Game contesting/supporting the proposed action? For example:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> What will be lost in terms of the resource? Would it affect license sales? Who uses the resource? 	<p>The risks to the resource, licence revenue and national and international anglers and hunters at stake cannot be understated. The waterways of Otago deliver licence sales revenue of over \$2m – the highest in the country. Due to the large levies paid, any loss in that angler and hunter opportunity and associated licence fees would have a direct impact on other regions.</p>
3	<p>What is the likelihood of Fish & Game succeeding in contesting/supporting the proposed action?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> To answer this question supporting advice needs to be supplied from legal and or RMA planning sources. 	<p>The Fish and Game position is closely aligned with other conservation and recreation NGOs, DoC, Forest and Bird, the two Iwi representative organisations, the Central Otago Environmental Society and Wise Response. The likelihood of a positive outcome is high given that the case is in support of new national water policies.</p>
4	<p>What are the other alliances could be considered in contesting/supporting the proposed action?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> To answer this question supply any approaches that have been made to other entities. 	<p>Otago Fish and Game is working alongside DoC, Forest and Bird, the two Iwi representative organisations, the Central Otago Environmental Society and Wise Response.</p>
5	<p>What is the likely dollar cost of any action by Fish & Game to first hearing/court level with a breakdown of costs for lawyers, expert witnesses and scientific support? Indicate the timeframe over which the costs will span.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> To answer this question supporting advice needs to be supplied from legal and or RMA planning sources. 	<p>See separate spreadsheet for anticipated costs</p>

6	<p>What is the likelihood of it being resolved at a particular level e.g. Council hearing, Environment Court, High Court, Appeal Court, i.e. the risk of it going to subsequent higher courts and the likely subsequent costs involved?</p> <p>a. To answer this question supporting advice needs to be supplied from legal and or RMA planning sources.</p>	<p>The Freshwater Planning Process is new, so it is unknown how robust a decision will be. Appeals on points of law should not be discounted.</p>
7	<p>Are there any alternative options (to court proceedings) to achieve the same outcome?</p> <p>a. To answer this question supporting advice could be supplied from legal and or RMA planning sources.</p>	<p>There are no alternatives. The notification of a new RPS in Otago has been directed explicitly by the Minister for the Environment.</p>
8	<p>Are there any alternative funding opportunities including shared costs?</p>	<p>Otago is already substantially funding planning cases (PC7&8) from its reserves and is willing to share costs with NZC in this instance through further use of its reserves in addition to NZC funds.</p>
9	<p>What is the region's ability to generate external funding to help cover financial costs?</p>	<p>We will be investigating funding arrangements with other parties; however, due to the need to investigate species interaction issues, it may be the case that no other parties are interested in this particular topic. Only Fish and Game and DoC share statutory responsibility for sports fish and DoC has stated explicitly at the national level that advocacy in this area is not their priority.</p>

Budget

Lawyer: Anderson Lloyd – Maree Baker-Galloway \$40,000

Planner: Cue Environmental – Ben Farrell \$20,000

Total \$60,000

NZC		
	Question	Answer
1	Which Regions have not supported the application and why?	This application will be circulated to the managers and their feedback summarised and sent to the NZC.
2	Has advice been sought by the NZC Office, and if so from whom, and what was that advice?	Advice has not been sought from the NZC office at this point. The reason for that is that the NZC has made a commitment to support the first few cases which seek to implement the NPS-FM and NESFW.

NZC Decision

Approved/Declined

Reasons:

2020 21 Financial Report Process and Sign off

New Zealand Fish and Game Council Meeting August 2021

Prepared by: Carmel Veitch, CFO, NZ Fish and Game Council

Purpose

- 1 For NZC to give approval for the NZC Chair to sign the 2020/21 NZC Performance report on behalf of the Council.

Background

- 2 31 August 2021 is the end of the financial year for the NZC.
- 3 The NZC next meet in December 2021 at which point the Audited 2020/21 Performance report will be presented to the NZC.

Analysis/Process

- 4 A draft performance report will be sent to the Council around mid October for discussion and comment.
- 5 The Auditors will be working on the NZC audit late October and early November.
- 6 Once the Auditors give clearance for the report, I will send an updated report to all of NZC for approval.
- 7 Upon receipt of approval from NZC, the Chair will sign the report on behalf of NZC.

Financial Implications – if approved

- 8 n/a

Legislative Implications

- 9 New Zealand Fish and Game Council is a Public Entity under the Public Finance Act 1989 (Schedule 4).
- 10 Financial Statements must be prepared in accordance with Section 153-6 of the Crown Entities Act 2004.

Section 4 Treaty Obligations

- 11 n/a

Consultation

12 n/a

Recommendations

- 1 *That, subject to the audited annual accounts being circulated to the Council members for approval and any queries satisfactorily explained, the Chairperson be authorised to sign the 2020/21 Performance Report on behalf of the Council.*

Annual Meeting and Budget Timetable 2021/2022

New Zealand Fish and Game Council Meeting August 2021

Prepared by: Carmel Veitch, Finance, NZ Fish and Game Council

Purpose

- 1 To propose to NZC the significant dates for meetings, budgets and submissions.

Background

- 2 The Fish and Game budgeting cycle is connected to the dates required to submit the licence fee submission to DOC and the Minister of Conservation.
- 3 Within the process NZC must consult with regions on the licence fee, budgets and levies.
- 4 The meeting timetable must take into consideration the time needed to consult with Regions.
- 5 The budget allows for three face to face meetings (one being a joint meeting with the managers) and 2 zoom meetings to complement the fee recommendation process.
- 6 The budget also allows for a Governors meeting – where the Chairs of each Regional council meet with the NZC.

Analysis

- 7 The proposed dates for these meetings are:
 - 7.1. December 4th 2021–**NZC** - this meeting was agreed last year and ties in with the presentation of the Annual report. This meeting will be the first meeting of the incoming New Zealand Council. This is a face-to-face meeting in Wellington (1st of 3 face to face)
 - 7.2. February 18th & 20th 2022– **NZC** – This is a face-to-face meeting in Wellington (2nd of 3 face to face)
 - 7.3. February 19th 2022– Governors forum – both NZC and Chairs for planning and training – in Wellington
 - 7.4. April 29th and 30th 2022- **NZC** – this meeting includes a joint meeting with Managers on the 29th where budgets are discussed. Face to Face meeting in Wellington. (3rd of 3 face to face)

- 7.5. June 16th – **NZC** – meeting by zoom to agree on the Licence fee for the following year.
- 7.6. August 23rd & 25th 2022 by zoom at 7-9.00pm
- 7.7. November 25th and 26th – **NZC** – face to face to face in Wellington (1st for new year 2022/23)
- 8. Manager's meetings have been set 2 weeks after each NZC meeting as well as a face-to-face meeting in the Budget meetings for 28th and 29th April 2022 in Wellington.

Financial Implications

- 9. \$45,000 is allocated to the 3 face to face meetings for the NZC
- 10. \$12,000 is allocated to the Governors forum – December 2021
- 11. \$12,000 is allocated to the Managers meeting in April 2022

Legislative Implications

- 12. n/a

Section 4 Treaty Obligations

- 13. n/a

Consultation

- 14. Regions will be consulted on this paper and asked for feedback.

2021/22 Annual Budget & Meeting Timetable – DRAFT

Colour Key:

	Public Holidays
	NZ Council Meetings
	Meetings of Managers
	NZGBHT Board
	Governors Meetings

Month	Date & Day	Subject
September 2021	1st Wednesday	New Financial Year for Fish & Game
October 2021	1st Friday	Sport Fishing Opening (Saturday for Eastern region)
	25th Monday	Labour Day
	26th Tuesday	New Councillors take office
November 2021	1st Monday	High country sports fishing opening (Otago)
	6th Saturday	High country sports fishing opening (North Canterbury and CSI)
	16th Tuesday	Last day to have new Council meeting
December 2021	4th Saturday	NZ Council meeting in Wellington – 1st meeting of the new Council
	16th Thursday	Managers meeting 10-12.30 by ZOOM
	25th Saturday	Christmas Day
	26th Sunday	Boxing Day
	27th Monday	Christmas Day observed
	28th Tuesday	Boxing day observed
	31st Friday	All Annual meetings must be completed
	31st Friday	All Variance report and Reserves Schedules to CV - Finance
January 2022	1st Saturday	New Year's Day
	3rd Monday	New Year's Day observed
	4th Tuesday	Day after New Year's Day
	21 nd Friday	CV to return summary of Variance Reports to Managers with queries
	28 th Friday	Final Day for regulation details from Fish & Game Councils for Game Notice
February 2022	2 nd Wednesday	World Wetland Day, release of 2022 Habitat Stamp
	4 th Friday	Final circulation of Variance Reports to Managers
	4 th Friday	Draft Game Notice submission to DOC officials
	7th Monday	Waitangi Day – observed
	18th to 20th Friday & Sunday	NZ Council meeting ZOOM in Wellington
	19th Saturday	Governors – NZC and Chairs. Planning morning and Governance training afternoon
	15 th Tuesday	Adjust submission following consultation with DOC & submit to MOC
	25 th Friday OR following week	Publish Game Notice in NZ Gazette
March 2022	3rd Thursday	Managers meeting 10-12.30pm by ZOOM
	10 th Thursday	Game Bird hunting licences go on sale
	14 th Monday	Magazine Out (Game)

Month	Date & Day	Subject
	23 th Wednesday	Final date for receipt of draft budgets and contestable fund applications
April 2022	8 th Friday	Circulation of budgets, contestable funding applications and budget summaries
	10 th Sunday	Mark-up or Pegging Day
	15 th Friday	Good Friday
	17 th Sunday	Easter Sunday
	18 th Monday	Easter Monday
	25 th Monday	Anzac Day observed
	28 th Thursday	Meeting of Managers in Wellington
	29 th Friday	Joint NZ Council & Managers Meeting in Wellington
	30 th Saturday	NZ Council Meeting in Wellington
May 2022		
	7 th Saturday	GameBird Season Opening
June 2022		
	6 th Monday	Queen's Birthday
	15 th Wednesday	Final date for receipt of Fish & Game regional responses to licence fee proposals
	16 th Thursday evening	NZ Council Meeting – ZOOM 7pm to 9pm
	20 th Monday	Draft licence fee submission to DOC officials
	24 th Friday	Final Day for regulation details from Fish & Game Councils for Anglers Notice
	24 th Friday	Matariki
	30 th Tuesday	Final Day for submissions for NZGBHT Grant applications
July 2022	1 st Friday	Draft Anglers Notice submission to DOC officials
	7 th Thursday	Managers meeting 10-12.30pm by ZOOM
	8 th Friday	Adjust Anglers Notice submission following DOC consultation & submit to MOC
	12 th Tuesday	Send out grant submissions to GBHT Board members
	20 th Wednesday	GBHT Board Zoom 11am
	26 th Tuesday	Publish Anglers Notice in NZ Gazette
August 2022	2 nd Tuesday	Carmel's Birthday
	18 th Thursday	Sports Fishing Licences go on sale
	26 th Monday	Magazine out (Fish)
	19 th Friday	GBHT Board Meeting in Christchurch
	23 rd & 25 th Tuesday & Thursday	NZ Council Meeting by Zoom 7pm to 9pm
	31 st Monday	End of Financial Year Fish & Game
September 2022		
	8 th Thursday	Managers meeting 10-12.30pm by ZOOM
October 2022	1 st Saturday	Sport Fishing Opening
	24 th Monday	Labour Day
November 2022		
	1 st Tuesday	Back country sports fishing opening (Otago)
	2 nd Wednesday	Jack's Birthday
	5 th Saturday	Back country sports fishing opening (North Canterbury and CSI)
	25 th & 26 th Friday - Saturday	NZ Council Meeting – Wellington
December 2022		
	8 th Thursday	Managers meeting 10-12.30pm by ZOOM

Recommendation:

That NZC:

1. *Agree that the proposed NZC meeting dates for 2021/22 become:*
 - *December 4th 2021 in Wellington*
 - *February 18th and 20th 2022 in Wellington*
 - *April 29th and 30th 2022 in Wellington*
 - *June 16th 2022 by zoom at 7.00-9.00pm*
 - *August 23rd & 25th 2022 by zoom at 7.00pm- 9.00pm*
 - *November 25th & 26th 2022 in Wellington*
2. *Agree that a Governors forum be held:*
 - *February 19th in Wellington – (NZC & Chairs)*
3. *Agree that that managers meeting be held:*
 - *28th April 2022 with joint meeting Friday 29th*
4. *Note: These dates may be subject to change due to the Review.*

Notes:

- The June dates of 16th June will require regional Fish and Game Council June meeting dates to fall prior to 16th June to feed into a NZ Council recommendation.
- That a licence fee submission to the Minister of Conservation should be prepared in anticipation of a 16th June recommendation and sent Friday 17th June.

Staff Development Grant Reserve

New Zealand Fish and Game Council Meeting August 2021

Prepared by: Carmel Veitch, CFO, NZ Fish and Game Council

Purpose

- 16 To recommend to NZC to consider setting up a Dedicated Reserve for a Staff Development Grant.

Background

- 1 The Staff Development Grant was first established from the National Budget.
- 2 \$10,000 each year was allocated to this fund annually and staff were encouraged to apply for the grant.
- 3 In the 2020/21 year the Staff Development Grant was not budgeted due to Covid, however it has been re-established in the 2021/22 year.
- 4 In the 2019/20 year the grant was offered to Helen Trotter for \$4,870 for a conference that was postponed due to Covid. Helen was able to obtain a refund for most of the funds.
- 5 The proposal is that this unused money becomes available for future staff grants and that any unallocated funds in a year accumulate towards future Grants via a Dedicated Reserve.

Analysis

- 6 Over the last 9 years \$86,212 has been granted to staff through the Staff Development Grant – an average of \$9,579 pa. The budget for the last 9 years has been 90,000 – so \$3,788 not allocated (with unallocated funds becoming part of NZC reserves).
- 7 In 2019/20 \$4,128 of Helen Trotters grant has not been spent (due to Covid) – this was refunded to NZC.
- 8 In the 2021/22 budget, there is a further \$10,000 to be applied for.

Financial Implications

- 9 At present any unallocated funds from the Staff Development Grant become general reserves for NZC

- 10 It is recommended the \$4,128 unspent grant becomes a Dedicated Reserve as at 31/8/21 and is available for future grants.
- 11 Any unallocated annual grants would be transferred to the dedicated reserve in future years.

Legislative Implications

- 12 n/a

Section 4 Treaty Obligations

- 13 n/a

Policy Implications

- 14 Update the Staff Development Policy.

Consultation

- 15 The Managers at the July Managers Meeting agreed with these recommendations to NZC .

Recommendations

- 1 *That NZC create a Dedicated Reserve for the Staff Development Grant Reserve as at 31 August 2021; and*
- 2 *That the refunded \$4,128 from the 19/20 year be transferred to the new dedicated reserve as at 31 August 2021; and*
- 3 *In future any unallocated funds from the \$10,000 budgeted will be transferred to the Reserve.*

Approval of NZC/NATIONAL 2021/22 Financial Budget

New Zealand Fish and Game Council Meeting August 2021

Prepared by: Carmel Veitch, CFO, NZ Fish and Game Council

Purpose

- 1 To approve the 2021/22 Statement of Financial Performance for the year ended 31 August 2021.

Background

- 2 In April 2021 at the 152nd NZC Meeting the NZC approved the OWP for the 2021/22 year.
- 3 The Public Finance Act 1989 requires that Council approve the Budget Statement of Financial Performance. While this does not change any aspect of the OWP or the way in which we operate, it is necessary to complete this process.
- 4 Proposed budget figures for the Statement of Financial Performance are directly obtained from the expenditure budget approved by Council in April 2021. The Budget Statement of Financial Performance is prepared in accordance to Tier 2 Public Benefit International Public Sector Accounting Standards – RDR (reduced disclosure).
- 5 There are a number of financial adjustments necessary to transition from the OWP to the Financial Statements Budget. These adjustments include levies, grants, asset replacement reserves/depreciation, any spending from dedicated reserves, and budgeted Capital purchases for the year. These items are not included in the Fish and Game budget (OWP), which is used to calculate licence fees.

Analysis

- 6 Approved Budgets were:

	2021/22
Approved Budget - NZC	(1,002,607.00)
Approved Budget - National	(1,692,536.00)
7 TOTAL BUDGET	(2,695,143.00)

- 8 Note: NZC budget has been increased by \$100k and the National budget decreased by \$100k. This relates to the RMA position, which, although

approved as a National budget for salary and associated costs for position, has been transferred to the NZC salaries as the RMA position will be paid via the NZC and this also ensures that the successful applicant retains privacy as to their salary.

- 9 Use of reserves approved for the 2021/22 year were \$63,785.
- 10 The Levies for the year were calculated at \$3,335,342 and Grants to regions at \$703,974.
- 11 In the 2020/21 year the website development budget was for \$200,000. As this project has not been fully completed in the current year only \$120,000 will fall in the 2020/21 year and the remaining \$80,000 will fall into the 2021/22 year. (Transferring remaining budget from 2021 to 2022.)

Financial Implications

- 12 Loss approved from the Budget round was \$63,785.
- 13 The transfer of the \$80k budget from the Website redevelopment will impact the Deficit for the year to \$143,785

Budget Reconciliation	
	2021/22
Approved Budget - NZC	(1,202,607.00)
Approved Budget - National	(1,492,536.00)
TOTAL BUDGET	(2,695,143.00)
Plus Levies	3,335,342.00
Less Grants	(703,984.00)
Less Website budget carried forward NATIONAL	(80,000.00)
Deficit for Year	(143,785.00)
Approved loss (use of reserves)for year per NZC Budget	(63,785.00)
Difference - Website budget	(80,000.00)
Adjusted Budget -National	1,572,536.00

- 14
- 15 Capital Purchases for the 2021/22 year are budgeted at \$43,500 (via the Asset replacement fund).

Capital Purchases	
Mitsubishi Triton 2.4 4WD	38,000.00
Replace Computer 2x	5,500.00
Total Purchases for year	43,500.00

- 16

Section 4 Treaty Obligations

17 n/a

Consultation

18 Budget/Licence fee consultation undertaken.

Recommendations

1. *That NZC approve the Financial Budget presented in the Statement of Financial Performance for the year ended 31 August 2021 of \$143,785 Deficit; and*
2. *That NZC approve Capital Purchases for the year of \$43,500*

Statement of Financial Performance - BUDGET

New Zealand Fish and Game Council For the year ended 31 August 2022

	NATIONAL	NZC	TOTAL COMBINED BUDGET	CHECK
INCOME				
Levies	-	3,335,342	3,335,342	-
Interest Income	-	5,911	5,911	-
Other income				
Advertising & Merchandise	30,000	-	30,000	-
Sundry Income	-	12,000	12,000	-
Magazine Contributions	180,000	-	180,000	-
Total Other income	210,000	12,000	222,000	-
Total INCOME	210,000	3,353,253	3,563,253	-
GRANTS TO REGIONS				
Grants to Regions	-	703,984	703,984	-
Total GRANTS TO REGIONS	-	703,984	703,984	-
OUTPUTS				
ADVOCACY				
Advocacy - Legal & Specialist Advice				
Advocacy - Legal	-	25,000	25,000	-
Advocacy - Specialist Advice	-	25,000	25,000	-
Total Advocacy - Legal & Specialist Advice	-	50,000	50,000	-
Advocacy for Fish & Game - NZC	-	8,000	8,000	-
Co-ordination National - Chairman Travel	-	6,000	6,000	-
National Public Awareness				
Public Awareness & Support	-	8,500	8,500	-
Public Awareness - National	8,500	-	8,500	-
Total National Public Awareness	8,500	8,500	17,000	-
National Magazine				
Other Publications	200,000	-	200,000	-
Total National Magazine	200,000	-	200,000	-
RMA/Legal				
Regional RMA	500,000	-	500,000	-
Total RMA/Legal	500,000	-	500,000	-
Total ADVOCACY	708,500	72,500	781,000	-
RESEARCH				
Research Programme	100,000	-	100,000	-
National Anglers Survey	30,000	-	30,000	-
Total RESEARCH	130,000	-	130,000	-
CO-ORDINATION				
Business Development & R3	22,000	-	22,000	-

	NATIONAL	NZC	TOTAL COMBINED BUDGET	CHECK
Marketing	60,000	-	60,000	-
Elections	45,000	-	45,000	-
Fish and Game Cookbook	26,086	-	26,086	-
Regulations	72,000	-	72,000	-
Information Technology- National	40,000	-	40,000	-
Maritime NZ Compliance	3,000	-	3,000	-
Manager Meetings	12,000	-	12,000	-
Staff Development Grant	10,000	-	10,000	-
Youth Education Programme	7,000	-	7,000	-
Website and Social Media	86,450	-	86,450	-
Website Development	80,000	-	80,000	-
Ranger Co-ordination	27,500	-	27,500	-
Licensing				
Licence Contract	245,000	-	245,000	-
Licence Working Party/CRM Database mngt	10,000	-	10,000	-
Licence Production	192,000	-	192,000	-
Licence Audit	6,000	-	6,000	-
Total Licensing	453,000	-	453,000	-
Total CO-ORDINATION	944,036	-	944,036	-
Total OUTPUTS	1,782,536	72,500	1,855,036	-
GOVERNANCE				
New Zealand Council	-	45,000	45,000	-
Governance Advice & Performance	-	20,000	20,000	-
Governors Forum	-	12,000	12,000	-
Regional Audit	-	10,000	10,000	-
Total GOVERNANCE	-	87,000	87,000	-
OVERHEADS				
Salaries & Contractors				
Salaries	-	902,403	902,403	-
Total Salaries & Contractors	-	902,403	902,403	-
Staff Expenses				
ACC Levy	-	1,800	1,800	-
Business & Financial Support	-	4,000	4,000	-
Health & Safety (OSH)	-	300	300	-
Staff Expenses	-	6,500	6,500	-
Staff payroll outsourcing	-	1,000	1,000	-
Staff Training	-	4,500	4,500	-
Total Staff Expenses	-	18,100	18,100	-
Office Premises				
Cleaning Office	-	2,000	2,000	-
Rent	-	55,200	55,200	-
Office Kitchen Supplies	-	1,100	1,100	-

	NATIONAL	NZC	TOTAL COMBINED BUDGET	CHECK
Repairs & Maintenance -Office	-	1,500	1,500	-
Power	-	3,000	3,000	-
Total Office Premises	-	62,800	62,800	-
Office Equipment				
Office Equipment Purchases (Under 2,000)	-	3,000	3,000	-
Total Office Equipment	-	3,000	3,000	-
Communications/Consumables				
Computer Expenses	-	7,000	7,000	-
Postage, Courier & Freight	-	3,000	3,000	-
Printing & Stationery	-	5,000	5,000	-
Telephone/Internet	-	11,000	11,000	-
Total Communications/Consumables	-	26,000	26,000	-
General (inc Insurance)				
Bank Charges	-	1,000	1,000	-
General Insurance	-	5,500	5,500	-
Subscriptions	-	4,500	4,500	-
Total General (inc Insurance)	-	11,000	11,000	-
Financial Audit Fee	-	14,000	14,000	-
Vehicle Expenses	-	9,000	9,000	-
Depreciation				
Depreciation	-	14,715	14,715	-
Total Depreciation	-	14,715	14,715	-
Total OVERHEADS	-	1,061,018	1,061,018	-
Total Expenses	1,782,536	1,924,502	3,707,038	-
Net Surplus/(Deficit)	(1,572,536)	1,428,751	(143,785)	-

North Canterbury Exceptional Funding Application

New Zealand Fish and Game Council Meeting August 2021

Prepared by: Carmel Veitch, CFO, NZ Fish and Game Council

Purpose

- 1 To recommend to NZC an exceptional funding application for North Canterbury of \$45,373 for monitoring salmon spawning in the North Canterbury rivers for the 21/22 financial year.

Background

- 1 At the last Budget round NCFGC supplied a budget for 21/22 at a level of \$945k. The approved budget they should have presented was \$775,672, (based on the previous year).
- 2 The only Contestable Funding Application received in the 21/22 budget round from NCFGC was for the CPI on salaries which was approved by NZC at \$7,728 (1.4% of 552,000)
- 3 NCFGC have now submitted a 21/22 budget that is at the NZC approved level of \$783,400. (Approved NZC Meeting 150).
- 4 NCFGC have also now presented the 20/21 budget at the approved level and have given notice that they will work within the NZC Approved budget of \$775,672.
- 5 See attached Exceptional Funding Application from NCFGC.

Analysis

- 6 NCFGC have now presented a balanced budget for the 21/22 year.
- 7 I, along with Richard O'Keefe and Debbie Oakley, have analysed the budget and are now happy that NCFGC will be able to work within this budget for the 2021/22 year.
- 8 The Chief Executive, Rasmus Gabrielsson, has also given assurance that NCFGC will work within this budget.
- 9 The managers were presented with the Contestable Funding Application on the evening of Thursday 12th August and met to discuss on the Tuesday 17th August.

Financial Implications

- 10 If approved:
- a. NCFGC budget will be increased by \$45,373 on a one-off basis for the 21/22 year. (Funded from NCFGC reserves)
 - b. If NCFGC work to the NZC approved 20/21 budget (\$775k) and the \$45,373 exceptional funding application is approved for the 21/22 year (from NCFGC Reserves) then NCFGC reserves be at 25% as at 31 August 2022. This is due to positive licence sales in this financial year. (Licence sales are \$191k ahead of the forecast sales) as well as NCFGC not employing a budgeted staff member for the 2020/21 year).
 - c. NZC will not be required to Top up the NCFGC reserves.
 - d. In the 2022/23 budget round the NCFGC will need to submit a CF application for ongoing funding of the monitoring programme from the licence fee.

Legislative Implications

- 11 n/a

Section 4 Treaty Obligations

- 12 n/a.

Consultation

- 13 Consultation was undertaken with the Managers in an extraordinary meeting, separate to the normal budget process.
- 14 There was general agreement that the \$45k was high and that savings could be sought within the monitoring programme in terms of flight times and areas covered.
- 15 The Managers have recommended the following:
- a. All managers (present in the meeting were CSI, NC, NM, Otago, Well, and WC) are in agreement that salmon monitoring is necessary.
 - b. They **agree** to support this application on a one-off basis from North Canterbury reserves for the 2021/22 year.
 - c. They also **recommend** that CSI and North Canterbury work together for the 2022/23 budget to come up with a joint plan for future monitoring plan that is economically sustainable.
 - d. A new contestable funding application must be put forward for the 2022/23 budget round for a set term (3 years?) so that the costs and value of the survey results can be evaluated.

Recommendations

- 1 *That NZC approves the exceptional funding application for \$45,373 for monitoring salmon spawning on a one-off basis from North Canterbury reserves.*

OR

That NZC does not approve the exceptional funding application for \$45,373 for monitoring salmon spawning

- 2 *NZC write to CSI and North Canterbury, regarding the formulation of an inter-regional monitoring plan for the 2022/23 years and beyond.*
- 3 *NZC request a new contestable funding application for the 2022/23 budget round.*

CONTESTABLE FUND APPLICATION	
For Budget year 2021 2022	
North Canterbury	App No.
Code: 1111	1910
Is this a New Project?	Existing Project
To continue monitoring salmon spawning in NC rivers in accordance with the methodology developed by Martin Unwin at NIWA.	
It involves counts from a helicopter as source data to apply an "Area Under the Curve" (AUC) estimate of the number of live salmon.	
	\$ 45,373
	\$ 45,373
Summary from 2019/20 Variance Report	
Budget 2019/20 for "B" level Project Category (Net Costs)	\$552,000
Actual Spend for 2019/20 "B " level project Category (Net Costs)	\$432,306
Variance to Budget -Under/(Over)	\$119,694
1. Variance - 2019/20 Y/E Rpt for 'B' level Project Category	78.3%
+ / - 10% CRITERIA MET / CRITERIA NOT MET (Circle)	
Total Budget 2019/20 (Direct Costs) (excluding ARF and Interest)	\$801,700
Actual Spend 2019/20 (per Variance report- Direct Costs)	\$628,123
Variance to Total Budget - Under/(Over)	\$173,577
2. Variance - 2019/20 Y/E Rpt Total Expenditure	78.3%
+ / - 10% CRITERIA MET / CRITERIA NOT MET (Circle)	
Reserves Information	
Total Reserves over 30%	\$ -
Total Reserves over 50%	\$ -
SUMMARY	
Contestable Funding Application \$ - Direct Cost	\$ 45,373
(Less) Anticipated Income	\$ -
Net Funding Applying for	\$ 45,373
Funding sought for 2021/22 (One Off)	\$ -
Funding sought as increase to Base Fund (Ongoing)	\$ 45,373
Funding from Reserves (R) or Licence Fee (L)?	Reserves
FUNDING RECOMMENDATION TO NZC (4 Essential for Whole organisation or one off from Council Reserves, 3 Essential to Council, 2 recommended but not essential, 1 Good to do but not essential)	

CONTESTABLE FUND APPLICATION -Additional Information	
For Budget year 2021 2022	
North Canterbury	<i>App No.</i>
Code: 1111	1910
Additional Information Re Funding request - Justification for Funding	
<p>The South Island salmon populations are in significant decline and have been described by F&G as "in crisis". NC and CSI F&G Councils have resolved to adaptively manage the East Coast sea-run salmon fishery, and as soon as allowable implement a season bag limit. Cabinet recently approved amendments to the Freshwater Fishery Regulations allowing F&G to implement a season bag limit for sea-run salmon, and NC and CSI FG Councils have now resolved to do so in the 2021/22 season. As annual monitoring of salmon spawning, and harvest is required to adaptively manage the setting of a justifiable season bag limit up or down there is an expectation from both licence holders and the Minister of Conservation that NCFG will be able to undertake quantitative monitoring of salmon spawning in accordance with the methodology developed by NIWA, and as specified in the adaptive management plan for the East Coast Sea-Run salmon Fishery agreed to by both NC and CSI Fish & Game Councils. NCFG has a continuous 20+ year record of salmon spawning in the Rakaia and Waimakariri Rivers, but in recent years have not been able to follow the AUC method developed by Martin Unwin (NIWA) due to lack of funds. It is essential robust and quantitative monitoring of salmon spawning numbers is allowed to be revived. The external costs for helicopter time has been estimated at \$45,373.</p>	
Explanation for Variance at level "B" +/- 10%	78%
Explanation for Variance - Total Budget +/- 10%	78%

Exclusion of the Public: Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987

New Zealand Fish and Game Council Meeting August 2021

That the New Zealand Fish and Game Council:

(a) pursuant to the provisions of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 exclude the public from the following part of the proceedings of this meeting, namely:

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
Confirm Public Excluded minutes for meeting 152 & 153	Section 9(2)(i) OIA The withholding of information is necessary to enable a Minister of the Crown or any department or organisation holding the information to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities.	Section 48(1)(a)(ii) That the public conduct of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist.
	Section 9(2)(h) OIA The withholding of information is necessary to maintain legal professional privilege.	
	Section 9(2)(f)(iv) OIA	Section 48(1)(a)(ii) That the public conduct of

	<p>The withholding of information is necessary to protect the confidentiality of advice tendered by Ministers and officials</p>	<p>the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist.</p>
	<p>Section 9(2)(i) OIA The withholding of information is necessary to enable a Minister of the Crown or any department or organisation holding the information to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities.</p>	<p>Section 48(1)(a)(ii) That the public conduct of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist.</p>
	<p>Section 9(2)(i) OIA The withholding of information is necessary to enable a Minister of the Crown or any department or organisation holding the information to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities.</p>	<p>Section 48(1)(a)(ii) That the public conduct of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist.</p>

	<p>Section 9(2)(f)(iv) OIA</p> <p>The withholding of information is necessary to maintain the constitutional conventions which protect the confidentiality of advice tendered by Ministers of the Crown and officials.</p>	<p>Section 48(1)(a)(ii)</p> <p>That the public conduct of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist.</p>
	<p>Section 9(2)(f)(iv) OIA</p> <p>The withholding of information is necessary to maintain the constitutional conventions which protect the confidentiality of advice tendered by Ministers of the Crown and officials.</p>	<p>Section 48(1)(a)(ii)</p> <p>That the public conduct of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist.</p>
	<p>Section 9(2)(i) OIA</p> <p>The withholding of information is necessary to enable a Minister of the Crown or any department or organisation holding the information to carryout, without prejudiceor disadvantage, commercial activities.</p>	<p>Section 48(1)(a)(ii)</p> <p>That the public conduct of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist.</p>

(b) And that staff remain to provide advice to the Council on all items.

Chairs Report

New Zealand Fish and Game Council Meeting 26-27 August 2021

Prepared by: Ray Grubb

Introduction

1. This is the last meeting of our election cycle, so a brief summary is appropriate.
2. It is hard to believe that 3 years have passed since the last election. Since April last year we have had Covid lockdown for a year, bubbles created and burst, virtually no overseas anglers and hunters and adjustments to budgets to manage shortfalls. On top of that there is significant structural reform of environmental legislation, new initiatives on freshwater management through the NPS FM 2020, the introduction of a game changer in Te Mana o Te Wai, the Ministerial Review of Fish and Game, a strategic financial review of our budgeting and planning systems, pheasant preserves. And there is the small matter of 3 Chairs and 3 Chief Executives in 18 months and an office re-structure, problems with the licensing contract, changes to the regulations to allow season bag limits, challenges to our integrated budgeting from a Region. We felt busy, it seems we were!!
3. The involvement and support from you as Councilors has been terrific. I have felt that I can rely on you to challenge perspectives and debate issues thoroughly to reach good decisions. Fish and Game has been well served and you deserve the thanks of the wider licence holder network. I encourage you to stand again, and wish you well in the elections.
4. I wish to have us acknowledge the contribution Paul Shortis made. His handling of the Covid induced financial situation and his leadership there was exceptional. On taking on the role of Acting Chief Executive we divided up the roles with me taking on the external relationships and him managing the National Office and relationships with Regions, the latter a full time job on its own. Again Paul managed a challenging role with skill at some personal cost. We are indebted to him.
5. My personal thanks to our Executive team and to Bill O'Leary who provided wise counsel during the departure of Martin Taylor and subsequently as Deputy Chair.
6. Finally our staff. Carmel provides outstanding financial advice, Brian, Jack, Steve and Richie have all been under huge pressure to deliver this year and have done so. Brian has taken on the job of backing me up and has my respect and thanks. Di is managing priorities and workloads with skill and is I believe a little fascinated by the huge range of work we perform.
7. These are what I see as our key successes:

- Managing the turmoil of changes of leadership and emerging a stronger and more capable unit
- Establishing credibility with the Politicians and Organizations that are important to us
- Re-building relationships with the Regional Managers and staff
- Handling a huge and at times daunting workload in an extraordinary year and still having a big picture perspective on where we need to go
- Working our way through a potentially de-stabilising Ministerial review

CEO Role and Delegations under Standing Orders

8. When a new CE is appointed, it is appropriate to review delegations and roles. Ms Taylor is the employer of the staff. We have discussed a number of reporting and recording matters and in the CE report there will be notes on managing time in lieu and reporting on liabilities.
9. Separately, we have reviewed delegations and interface between those budget items which are general admin and things like advocacy, which includes commitments by the Chair. I recommend that the CE hold the same level of delegation as previously for expenditure within budget at \$10,000 and outside of budget at \$2,500. Any commitments suggested by the Chair will as appropriate be actioned by the CE through her budget; eg work by Helen Marr on RMA reform
10. Reporting; the CE will now report by line item at each Council meeting on the exercise of delegations

Interface with Politicians

11. There is yet to be a formal meeting with Minister Allen, although I had one meeting with Acting Minister Verrall. Minister Allen and I had a brief meeting at EDS Conference and she requested a follow up. While the lack of meetings could be seen to be a vote of confidence in our management we have reached a point where Ministerial endorsement is important.
12. Meetings should be regular (every 3 months) and I have once again requested that.
13. There have been meetings with Jacqui Dean, and informally with Scott Simpson, Eugenie Sage, and Rachel Brooking of the Environment Select Committee. Brian is setting up more structured meetings with the members of the Select Committee before the first NBEA hearings. It is important to have a longer-term strategy to build relationships there with our positions under the RMA and Conservation Law in question

Natural and Built Environment Bill

14. The first draft of that Bill has been through a formal process of analysis. We contracted Helen Marr to identify issues; a response was then prepared largely by Nigel Paragreen with Jack Kos; there was peer review by Helen and the submission lodged on 4 August. We will appear at Select Committee supported by Helen and Nigel. Our intention is to first stress the legislative position of Fish and Game over the last 150 years and then segue into the current Bill.
15. The draft Bill does not contain the same place for sports fish as in 7 (h) of the RMA, and we need to argue for trout and salmon as a valued introduced species.
16. The submission prepared by Nigel and Jack is first class and NZ Council should endorse that. The submission has been circulated to you

Conservation Act reform

17. EDS has prepared an issues book on the plethora of Conservation Law and the need for reform. The book contains several gratuitous comments and a photo attacking sports fish and reflects the increasingly popular personal view of the author on the relationship between trout and indigenous species. It also clearly reflects ignorance of the fact that any significant issues arise from habitat degradation which places the interaction under threat.
18. We have a significant fight on our hands here. We need to develop a set of objectives/end results we want from the process, to assess the issues and do the research over the next year. I am asking for discussion and support for a report to the December meeting which would set out our plan

NPS FM and NES in Regional Land and Water Regional Council Policy statements

19. There are three matters to brief you on here.
20. The NPS FM 2020 was intended to be given regard to in any planning activity by Regional Councils. The Northland and NM Councils have refused. Sarah Ongley acted for DOC in the Northland case. In the NM case Rhys Barrier advised that the purpose of the NMRC in refusing was to allow substantial irrigation from the Pelorus to increase dairy in the Rai valley area. EDS are seeking a declaratory judgement, we have provided around \$40K from the Legal/RMA budget, and I understand the case has the support of Ngai Tahu. I hope to provide further information at the meeting
21. The NPS FM will be progressively rolled out in Regional Council Land and Water plans across the country. Effectively the same arguments will need to be advanced in every case, including the building up of a core case history around the key element of Te Mana o Te Wai. It makes sense to have a lead person from our regional RMA team handle the development and presentation of all submissions with the support of the rest of the RMA group as time and availability allows; at this stage we are considering individuals. This is a specific project, and our judgement is that the RMA co-ordinator will have more than enough to do without taking on this discrete body of work

22. RMA Team. One of my objectives is to pull together the specialist skills we have in our Regions. Nigel Paragreen suggested to Paul and I that we set up regular co-ordination of the RMA specialists across the country to compare notes, assist with cases, and keep up to date rather than the traditional working in silos. Monthly zoom meetings are held and there is a central database for building documents. This is a successful initiative which Di Brian and Jack are assisting and involved with
23. Our regional managers and specialist staff have made a huge contribution to the NPS and NES. Zane Moss has led work on intensive winter grazing, Ben Wilson on Wetlands. Co-ordination with the other Regions has been highly valued. My grateful acknowledgement for their on-going high-quality work

High Country Advisory Group

24. The bookends to the current meeting 12 August is a couple of reports from ECan which show that c.7,000ha has been intensively developed in the last 30 years, with fodder crops and intensive grazing occurring as well as transformation of tussock land and river bed into irrigated and fertile paddocks.
25. A second report shows that many of the HC lakes are near tipping point for nutrients.
26. We will be making a formal request for this intensification to stop
27. Secondly the CPLA Bill has been reported back from Select committee. The Minister has refused to make a Supplementary Order paper to place a higher priority on environmental protection than farming profitability. I understand that EDS may further contest that using the King Salmon case as support.
28. And finally, the CPLA contains a provision that access may be reviewed on change of lease for HCPL properties. I have asked an SOP include wording on the lines of "access for recreation shall not be unreasonably denied". The Minister expressed cautious support as did the HC Accord. Urgent drafting and negotiation are under way

NZ Landcare

29. The Trust has around \$2m to initiate and support Catchment groups. These are seen as a primary toolkit in the Government's toolbox for freshwater reform. It seems to me that this is a coalition of the willing type of scenario, where when farmers are motivated to form groups they happen but the recalcitrant ones where improvement is most needed don't.
30. I am interested in NZC views on whether catchment groups are a good system, whether they are working, how we can assist if they are seen to be desirable, how results should be measured.

EDS Conference

31. This focused on freshwater reform. Speakers were well prepared and examined most of the current issues. I was a member of discussion groups on NPS FM and on the High Country. 5 of our Regional Managers attended.

FIG

32. Minister Parker attended the last meeting. Progress on the implementation of the freshwater reforms is in my view painfully slow, with key issues like Te Mana o Te Wai definition, reluctance of Regional Councils to enforce rules and not having enough pace or attention paid to them. Nadeine Dommissse, the Deputy Secretary at Mfe, will address this meeting.

33. We have two major matters to comment on by 12 September: farm plans and stock exclusion. Regional staff are preparing responses to the discussion papers and I hope to have them to you before our meeting. An excellent paper prepared by Forest and Bird is in the correspondence folio.

34. I have a particular concern that Regional Councils will not adopt in whole the recommendations from the Freshwater Panels and we could once again be embroiled in costly legal action. I have suggested an alternative process to Minister Parker which requires a Regional Council to answer to the Environment Protection Agency.

35. As a sideline the Groundswell movement has placed some of the Farmer agencies that support reform in a difficult position. It was interesting to note that one of the Groundswell founders attended the National Party conference.

CEO Operations Report

New Zealand Fish and Game Council Meeting August 2021

Prepared by: Dianna Taylor, Acting Chief Executive, NZ Fish and Game Council

Resource Management Act Review and Conservation Law Reform

We completed the Fish and Game NZ submission to the RMA, Nigel Paragreen lead the consolidation of the Resource Manager Advisors feedback, Helen Marr and Jack Kos reviewed the response and it has been submitted to the Minister for feedback. Personally, I was extremely impressed with the quality of the response and the level of collaboration.

Freshwater farm plans and stock exclusion

MFE consultation has now commenced on proposed changes, and submissions are required by 12th September 2021. We have repeated the model above by way of engaging the Resource Manager Advisors and appointed Zane Moss to lead the consolidation of responses on the grounds that he already has an active prosecution case. A full update will be provided at the next NZC meeting.

Accommodation

Due to unforeseen delays with the upgrade of lighting and air conditioning our move into the new office is delayed by at least 6-8 weeks.

New NZC Staffing

We have been actively progressing the recruitment and for the vacant Resource Coordinator/Advisor role, initial interviews have concluded and unfortunately, we have not identified a clear preferred candidate at the time of authoring this report. Hopefully by the time we meet I will be able to provide a more accurate update.

We have successfully recruited an Office Administrator/Finance support role, and Anne Kingsbury joins us (25-30 hours per week) on Monday 30th August 2021.

Realigning staff capability and position descriptions

The realign work is now complete and I am working with all the NZC team to create workplans, prioritise their work and ensure that they have agreed performance measures.

Strategic Planning and Governance training

In February 2022 I will working with the new NZ Council to conduct a 2-day strategic planning session, that will include (but not exclusively) governance training, succession planning, strategic outcomes, and organisational delivery model that reflects the recommendations of the Ministerial review.

Upon completion of this work, I will then run a session with all the Fish and Game Council chairs, to share the outcomes of the planning sessions and conduct governance training too.

NZC Finance Report

New Zealand Fish and Game Council Meeting August 2021

Prepared by Carmel Veitch, CFO, NZ Fish and Game Council

Purpose

- 1 The purpose of the paper is to update the NZC financial position to the period ended 31 July 2021.

Background

- 2 This report includes:
 - 2.1 Table 1: Income & Expenditure for the 11 months ended 31 July 2021 – Combined Budgets (NZC & National)
 - 2.2 Table 2: Balance Sheet as at 31 July 2021
 - 2.3 Table 3: Aged Receivables Summary as at 31 July 2021
 - 2.4 Table 4: Aged Payables Summary as at 31 July 2021
 - 2.5 Table 5: NZC Income & Expenditure for the 11 months ended 31 July 2021.
 - 2.6 Table 6: National Income & Expenditure for the 11 months ended 31 July 2021.

Analysis

- 3 **Income and Expenditure to 31 July 2021** –YTD deficit of \$81,217
- 4 **Total income YTD** is \$2,908,207 which is 99% of the Budgeted income. The forecast for the year end is that we will reach our targets for income in all areas.
- 5 **Grants to regions** have been invoiced in July and due to pay in August. This budget is over budget for the year due to the top up to North Canterbury of \$71,226 (which relates to the 20% level as at 31 August 2020).
- 6 **Outputs**, we are 11/12^{ths} through our Financial year 92% – YTD expenses are at 89%.
- 7 **Explanation of outlying expenses:**
 - 7.1 **Advocacy** – the total Advocacy budget is \$608,000. Note, I have moved the costs and budget for the Chair's travel into this area from co-ordination (as all costs were associated with the advocacy role of

NZC). There are 4 budgets within Advocacy, and all are under budget for the year.

7.1.1 Advocacy for Fish and Game - includes external contractors and costs associated with staff and the Chair in their role advocating for Fish and Game. Of the total budget of \$73,500 \$53,808 is spent to date.

7.1.2 National Public Awareness - 64% of budget spent. The main costs within this area relates to the Fuseworks reporting (\$7K).

7.1.3 National Magazine - \$96k spent YTD. This budget will be fully spent at year end as costs associated with the fish magazine are yet to be accounted for.

7.1.4 The budget for RMA/Legal is \$314,000. YTD \$231,130 has been spent (refer RMA report for details). Note all of the \$314,000 is committed and any unspent funds are included in the RMA/Legal reserve – which is a liability to NZC.

7.2 **The Research** programme is another budget (like RMA/legal) that has committed funds, but where the costs may not be incurred until future years. Any underspent budget is transferred to the Research reserve. Only \$300 spent YTD.

7.3 **The Coordination** budget is the largest and represents the budgets that NZC hold on behalf of regions (so part of the National Budget) or budgets that have been allocated to NZC for coordinated projects. The total coordination budget is \$942,640, of which only 76% has been spent YTD.

7.3.1 Regulations – 47% of budget spent YTD – the costs for the Fishing regulation guides are still to be accounted for.

7.3.2 Licencing - \$424k of the \$443K budget – 96% - this area will go over budget for the year for 2 reasons:

7.3.2.1 Increased licence sales – we are charged per licence sold and licences are ahead of budget, and

7.3.2.2 Increase in postage costs. This increase occurred post the budget setting process. Steve is currently working with our provider to reduce these costs going forward.

7.3.3 Website and social media will exceed budget for the year, as there was an issue with the EDM system in January/ February that was costly to rectify (\$5K).

7.3.4 The Website development budget of \$200k has to date only \$77K spent – this budget will be fully spent, however, some of

the costs will fall into the new financial year – due to timing of the project. \$120,000 will be spent in the 2020/21 and the remaining \$80,000 will fall into the 2021/22 year.

7.4 The **Governance budget** of is made up of four projects. This budget has had significant pressure during the year due to employment issues and the advice required to ensure the Council acted as a good employee, as well as safeguarding the Council.

7.4.1 New Zealand Council expenses are the expenses incurred in preparing and attending NZC meetings. These include the airfares, accommodation & meals, printing and sending of agendas and any reimbursements to New Zealand Councillors. To date there have been 3 face to face meetings, in November 2020 and April 2021 and June 2021. Each face to face meeting costs around \$15,000. The costs associated with the August meeting are yet to be accounted for. In this year there have also been additional costs for the review (Nov 20) and gifts for past chair. Forecast is that this budget will be \$15,000 over budget – due to additional face to face meeting held.

7.4.2 The biggest costs incurred by the New Zealand Council have been towards Governance Advice and performance. \$46,993 YTD vs a budget of \$20k. \$15,000 of this relates to the Resource allocation project and the remainder for legal support and employment advice.

7.4.3 The Governors forum budget of \$12,000 has not been used as the April meeting was cancelled and we were able to secure refunds in flights and accommodation. The remaining budget in this area will offset the New Zealand Council meeting overspend.

7.4.4 No regional Audit will take place in the 20/21 year. The budget of \$10,000 will not be spent.

7.5 **Overheads** are ahead of budget \$4,706.

7.5.1 Salaries and wages as at 31 July 2021 are \$806,787. At year end this budget is projected to be over budget due to employment related issues by approximately \$63k.

7.5.2 Staff Expenses are \$50,270 compared to a budget of \$15,310. This overrun relates to employment costs for recruiting a new CEO, RMA position and Admin position. A further cost related to the recruitment of the RMA position is still to be invoiced on the signing of the contract.

7.5.3 Vehicle expenses are high this year – 103% of the budget spent YTD. This was a timing issue with a service in

September 2020 that should have occurred in the previous month – the vehicle expenses for 2020-year end were under spent by \$5k last year.

7.5.4 All other overheads will meet budget for the year. A small saving will be made within Office premises as we move offices over the next month. Our new office is in the same building, on the same floor, however, it is smaller and has better access to our filing system.

- 8 Balance Sheet as at 31 July 2021** - see attached on Table 2.
- 9** Cash and cash equivalents as at 31/7/21 are \$515,669k with a further \$1.27m in term deposits.
- 10** Accounts Receivable is \$803,153, refer to supporting report for the Aged Receivables (Table 3). This is normal for the July period with levies owing.
- 11** Accounts Receivable- Other of \$5,309 – this is the amounts still to be invoiced to DOC and regions for items paid on behalf – e.g. – review costs.
- 12** Accounts Payable as at 31 July \$279,593 – refer Table 4 Aged Payables.
- 13** Accruals and prepaid Licences of \$153,101 are made up of the monthly accruals for the 2021 Election costs and Audit fees for 2021.
- 14** Employee entitlements of \$55,024 is the current liability for the staff leave accrued. All except one staff member are within their annual entitlement. One staff member is over their entitlement and there is a plan in place to reduce this liability.
- 15** Reserves reflect the current commitment for RMA of \$391,432 and Research of \$260,637.
- 16 NZC and National Split**
- 17** NZC accounts are split by National budgets and NZC budgets. The National Budget is the budget NZC coordinate on behalf of the Regional Councils. The NZC budget represents budgets that are for the running of the NZC.
- 18** Tables 5 & 6 split the combined budget into National and NZC budgets. The split between the 2 budgets are:

July 2021 Split NZC and National Budgets		
	Actual YTD	Budget
Table 5 NZC	853,320	903,702
Table 6 - National	(934,537)	(1,390,640)
TOTAL AS per Table 1	(81,217)	(486,938)

19

Financial Implications

- 20 The forecast deficit for the end of year is around \$482k (deficit) against a Budget Deficit of \$486k. This assumes the Website costs are \$120k at year end. The budget for the website is \$200k – so a further \$80k will fall into the 2021/22 year.

Legislative Implications

- 21 N/A

Section 4 Treaty Obligations

- 22 N/A.

Policy Implications

- 23 N/A.

Consultation

- 24 N/A.

- 25 N/A.

Recommendations

- 1 *The NZC Finance Report for July 2021 be accepted.*

Table 1: Profit and Loss - NZC Meeting

New Zealand Fish and Game Council For the 11 months ended 31 July 2021

	YTD 2020 21	TOTAL BUDGET 2020 21	REMAINING BUDGET	% OF BUDGET SPENT
INCOME				
Levies	2,767,958	2,767,958	-	100%
Interest Income	11,191	11,099	(92)	101%
Other income	122,579	146,500	23,921	84%
Donations - Water Quality	6,480	-	(6,480)	-
Total INCOME	2,908,207	2,925,557	17,350	99%
GRANTS TO REGIONS				
Grants to Regions	796,025	724,799	(71,226)	110%
Total GRANTS TO REGIONS	796,025	724,799	(71,226)	110%
OUTPUTS				
ADVOCACY				
Advocacy for fish and game	53,808	73,500	19,692	73%
National Public Awareness	13,410	21,000	7,590	64%
National Magazine	96,823	199,500	102,677	49%
RMA/Legal	231,130	314,000	82,870	74%
Total ADVOCACY	395,171	608,000	212,829	65%
RESEARCH				
Research Programme	300	70,000	69,700	0%
Total RESEARCH	300	70,000	69,700	0%
CO-ORDINATION				
Business Development & R3	320	12,000	11,680	3%
Business & Financial Support	1,816	2,000	184	91%
Elections	41,250	45,000	3,750	92%
Regulations	34,064	72,000	37,936	47%
Information Technology- National	39,451	46,000	6,549	86%
Licensing	424,098	443,500	19,402	96%
Manager Meetings	9,233	12,000	2,767	77%
Maritime NZ Compliance	952	5,000	4,048	19%
Marketing	23,236	30,000	6,764	77%
Ranger Co-ordination	19,214	27,500	8,286	70%
Staff Development Grant	(2,065)	-	2,065	-
Youth Education Programme	6,037	7,000	963	86%
Website and Social Media	41,861	40,640	(1,221)	103%
Website Development	76,908	200,000	123,092	38%
Total CO-ORDINATION	716,376	942,640	226,264	76%
Total OUTPUTS	1,111,847	1,620,640	508,793	69%
GOVERNANCE				
New Zealand Council	49,272	45,000	(4,272)	109%
Governance Advice & Performance	46,993	20,000	(26,993)	235%

Table 1: Profit and Loss - NZC Meeting

	YTD 2020 21	TOTAL BUDGET 2020 21	REMAINING BUDGET	% OF BUDGET SPENT
Governors Forum	526	12,000	11,474	4%
Regional Audit	-	10,000	10,000	-
Total GOVERNANCE	96,791	87,000	(9,791)	111%
OVERHEADS				
Salaries & Contractors	806,787	813,880	7,094	99%
Staff Expenses	50,270	15,310	(34,960)	328%
Office Premises	58,489	68,060	9,571	86%
Office Equipment	2,096	3,000	904	70%
Communications/Consumables	24,155	28,236	4,081	86%
General (inc Insurance)	7,377	11,800	4,423	63%
Financial Audit Fee	12,826	14,000	1,174	92%
Vehicle Expenses	9,309	9,000	(309)	103%
Depreciation	13,452	16,770	3,318	80%
Total OVERHEADS	984,762	980,056	(4,706)	100%
Total Expenses	2,989,424	3,412,495	423,071	88%
Net Surplus/(Deficit)	(81,217)	(486,938)	(405,721)	17%

Table 2: Balance Sheet

New Zealand Fish and Game Council As at 31 July 2021

	31 JUL 2021	31 AUG 2020
Assets		
Current Assets		
Cash & Cash Equivalents		
NZ Fish and Game Council	170,834	381,507
NZ Fish and Game Council - Sav	46,032	93,354
Serious Saver	303,825	704,473
Credit Cards	(5,022)	(6,131)
Total Cash & Cash Equivalents	515,669	1,173,203
Receivables		
Accounts Receivable	803,153	164,024
Accounts Receivable - Other	5,309	74
Interest Receivable	-	4,024
Total Receivables	808,462	168,122
Term Investments	1,271,274	1,361,703
Prepayments and Accrued Income	-	97,500
Total Current Assets	2,595,405	2,800,529
Non-current Assets		
Property, Plant & Equipment	47,222	50,395
Funds Advanced to NCFG	147,025	147,025
Provision for Doubtful Debt	(147,025)	(147,025)
Term Deposits >12mths	170,000	170,000
Total Non-current Assets	217,222	220,395
Total Assets	2,812,628	3,020,924
Liabilities		
Payables		
Accounts Payable	279,593	298,807
Accruals and Prepaid Licences	153,101	130,208
PAYE Clearing	-	-
GST	65,724	65,849
Credit Card RG (\$3k)	459	-
Total Payables	498,877	494,864
Employee Entitlements	55,024	66,623
Rounding	-	-
NZGBHT - Stamp Programme	13,843	133,337
Total Liabilities	567,745	694,824
Net Assets	2,244,883	2,326,100
Equity		
Accumulated Funds		

Table 2: Balance Sheet

	31 JUL 2021	31 AUG 2020
Accumulated Funds	1,538,380	1,442,292
Transfer (To)/From Reserves	110,876	(337,663)
Net Surplus/(Deficit)	(81,217)	433,751
Total Accumulated Funds	1,568,040	1,538,380
Reserves		
Asset Replacement Reserve	24,775	24,139
RMA/Legal Fund Reserve	391,432	562,644
Research Reserve	260,637	200,937
Total Reserves	676,843	787,720
Total Equity	2,244,883	2,326,100

Table 3 : Aged Receivables Summary

New Zealand Fish and Game Council

As at 31 July 2021

CONTACT	CURRENT	< 1 MONTH	1 MONTH	2 MONTHS	OLDER	TOTAL
Auckland/Waikato Fish & Game Council	33,918	-	-	-	-	33,918
Carmel Veitch Accounting Services	549	-	-	-	-	549
Central South Island Fish and Game Council	192,577	-	-	-	-	192,577
Eastern Fish and Game Council	49,654	-	-	-	-	49,654
Eyede Solutions Limited	-	-	5,060	-	-	5,060
Hawke's Bay Fish and Game Council	8,791	-	-	-	-	8,791
Kilwell Sports Ltd	414	-	-	-	-	414
New Zealand Walking Access Commission	-	-	-	-	949	949
North Canterbury Fish and Game Council	163,769	46	-	-	-	163,814
Otago Fish and Game Council	204,644	-	-	-	-	204,644
Southland Fish and Game Council	142,784	-	-	-	-	142,784
Total	797,099	46	5,060	-	949	803,153

Table 4: Aged Payables Summary

New Zealand Fish and Game Council As at 31 July 2021

CONTACT	CURRENT	< 1 MONTH	1 MONTH	2 MONTHS	OLDER	TOTAL
Aged Payables						
2degrees	197	-	-	-	-	197
ACC Workplace Cover	1,148	-	-	-	-	1,148
Air New Zealand Travel Card	5,369	-	-	-	-	5,369
BP(DD)	176	-	-	-	-	176
Department of Internal Affairs	4,590	-	-	-	-	4,590
Eastern Fish and Game Council	114	-	-	-	-	114
Elana Geddis Barrister	3,191	-	-	-	-	3,191
Evolve Outdoors	55	-	-	-	-	55
Eyede Solutions Limited	23,862	1,315	-	-	-	25,177
Ferret Software Ltd	374	374	-	-	-	748
Fuji Xerox New Zealand Limited	72	-	-	-	-	72
Gemtech Solutions Limited	806	-	-	-	-	806
Hothouse Communications Limited	59,354	-	-	-	-	59,354
Instep	259	-	-	-	-	259
New Zealand Couriers- Wellington	76	-	-	-	-	76
New Zealand Document Exchange Ltd (DX Mail)	54	-	-	-	-	54
Northland Fish and Game Council	86,960	-	-	-	-	86,960
Otago Fish and Game Council	321	-	-	-	-	321
Redstripe Limited	3,062	-	-	-	-	3,062
SWR Group NZ Limited	5,750	-	-	-	-	5,750
Taranaki Fish and Game Council	49,410	-	-	-	-	49,410
Taxicharge New Zealand Limited	157	-	-	-	-	157
Wellington Fish and Game Council	644	-	-	-	-	644
West Coast Fish and Game Council	31,713	-	-	-	-	31,713
West Plaza Hotel	140	-	-	-	-	140
Windcave New Zealand Limited	50	-	-	-	-	50
Total Aged Payables	277,904	1,689	-	-	-	279,593
Total	277,904	1,689	-	-	-	279,593

Table 5: Income & Expenditure - NZC only

New Zealand Fish and Game Council For the 11 months ended 31 July 2021

Region is NZC.

	YTD NZC 2020 21	NZC BUDGET	% OF BUDGET	REMAINING BUDGET
INCOME				
Levies	2,767,958	2,767,958	100%	-
Interest Income	11,191	11,099	101%	(92)
Other income	13,118	6,000	219%	(7,118)
Total INCOME	2,792,266	2,785,057	100%	(7,209)
GRANTS TO REGIONS				
Grants to Regions	796,025	724,799	110%	(71,226)
Total GRANTS TO REGIONS	796,025	724,799	110%	(71,226)
OUTPUTS				
ADVOCACY				
Advocacy	53,808	73,500	73%	19,692
National Public Awareness	5,744	14,000	41%	8,256
Total ADVOCACY	59,552	87,500	68%	27,948
CO-ORDINATION				
Business & Financial Support	1,816	2,000	91%	184
Total CO-ORDINATION	1,816	2,000	91%	184
Total OUTPUTS	61,369	89,500	69%	28,131
GOVERNANCE				
New Zealand Council	49,272	45,000	109%	(4,272)
Governance Advice & Performance	46,993	20,000	235%	(26,993)
Governors Forum	526	12,000	4%	11,474
Regional Audit	-	10,000	-	10,000
Total GOVERNANCE	96,791	87,000	111%	(9,791)
OVERHEADS				
Salaries & Contractors	842,413	813,880	104%	(28,533)
Staff Expenses	14,643	15,310	96%	667
Office Premises	58,489	68,060	86%	9,571
Office Equipment	2,096	3,000	70%	904
Communications/Consumables	24,155	28,236	86%	4,081
General (inc Insurance)	7,377	11,800	63%	4,423
Financial Audit Fee	12,826	14,000	92%	1,174
Vehicle Expenses	9,309	9,000	103%	(309)
Depreciation	13,452	16,770	80%	3,318
Total OVERHEADS	984,762	980,056	100%	(4,706)

Table 5: Income & Expenditure - NZC only

	YTD NZC 2020 21	NZC BUDGET	% OF BUDGET	REMAINING BUDGET
Total Expenses	1,938,946	1,881,355	103%	(57,591)
Net Surplus/(Deficit)	853,320	903,702	94%	50,382

Table 6: Income & Expenditure - National only

New Zealand Fish and Game Council For the 11 months ended 31 July 2021

Region is National.

	YTD NATIONAL 2020 21	NATIONAL BUDGET	% OF BUDGET	REMAINING BUDGET
INCOME				
Other income	109,461	140,500	78%	31,039
Donations - Water Quality	6,480	-	-	(6,480)
Total INCOME	115,941	140,500	83%	24,559
OUTPUTS				
ADVOCACY				
National Public Awareness	7,665	7,000	110%	(665)
National Magazine	96,823	199,500	49%	102,677
RMA/Legal	231,130	314,000	74%	82,870
Total ADVOCACY	335,618	520,500	64%	184,882
RESEARCH	300	70,000	0%	69,700
CO-ORDINATION				
Business Development & R3	320	12,000	3%	11,680
Marketing	23,236	30,000	77%	6,764
Elections	41,250	45,000	92%	3,750
Regulations	34,064	72,000	47%	37,936
Information Technology- National	39,451	46,000	86%	6,549
Maritime NZ Compliance	952	5,000	19%	4,048
Manager Meetings	9,233	12,000	77%	2,767
Staff Development Grant	(2,065)	-	-	2,065
Youth Education Programme	6,037	7,000	86%	963
Website and Social Media	41,861	40,640	103%	(1,221)
Website Development	76,908	200,000	38%	123,092
Ranger Co-ordination	19,214	27,500	70%	8,286
Licensing				
Licence Contract	221,335	245,000	90%	23,665
Licence Working Party/CRM Database mngt	5,458	10,000	55%	4,542
Licence Production	191,805	182,500	105%	(9,305)
Licence Audit	5,500	6,000	92%	500
Total Licensing	424,098	443,500	96%	19,402
Total CO-ORDINATION	714,560	940,640	76%	226,080
Total OUTPUTS	1,050,478	1,531,140	69%	480,662
Total Expenses	1,050,478	1,531,140	69%	480,662
Net Surplus/(Deficit)	(934,537)	(1,390,640)	67%	(456,103)

National Finance Report to 31 July 2021

New Zealand Fish and Game Council Meeting August 2021

Prepared by: Carmel Veitch, CFO, NZ Fish and Game Council

Purpose

- 1 The purpose of this paper is to update the New Zealand Council on the YTD expenditure by each Council against budget as at 31 July 2021.

Background

- 2 The New Zealand Council approved the 2020/21 Budgets/Levies and Grants on 27th July 2020. These Budgets also included each Council making at least a 10% loss for the year. Refer Table 1 for the Approved Budget/Levy/Grants and Budgeted Deficits for each Council for the 2020/21 year.

Region	Net Total Licence Income	Approved Budget	Less use of Reserves 10%	Levy/ (Grant)	Forecast Surplus/(Deficit)
Northland	\$152,238	\$508,200	53,495	(\$302,470)	(\$53,493)
AucklandWaikato	\$811,735	\$795,379	81,619	\$117,976	(\$101,619)
Eastern	\$1,131,483	\$1,071,572	112,797	\$172,709	(\$112,798)
Hawkes Bay	\$359,956	\$368,127	38,750	\$30,579	(\$38,750)
Taranaki	\$149,130	\$357,970	37,764	(\$171,861)	(\$36,979)
Wellington	\$544,418	\$762,502	80,263	(\$137,820)	(\$80,264)
Nelson-Marlb	\$383,149	\$444,491	45,352	(\$2,343)	(\$58,999)
Nth Canterbury	\$1,264,526	\$775,672	80,776	\$569,630	(\$80,776)
West Coast	\$194,753	\$346,448	35,889	(\$110,306)	(\$41,389)
Central SI	\$1,259,743	\$673,164	69,544	\$668,622	(\$82,043)
Otago	\$1,572,186	\$961,612	101,222	\$711,804	(\$101,229)
Southland	\$1,072,580	\$643,699	67,758	\$496,639	(\$67,758)
NZC inc Research & RMA	\$0	\$2,525,557	240,379	(\$2,043,159)	(\$482,398)
3 TOTAL	\$8,895,898	\$10,234,393	\$1,045,607	(\$0)	(\$1,338,495)

Analysis

- 4 With 11 months of the year completed (92%), the total YTD expenditure across all Councils is 82% (refer Table 2). Councils fall within 67% to 98% of spending to Budget.
- 5 Hawke's Bay has only spent 67% of their budget as at 31 July 2021. Whilst NZC are at 98% of their budget. This is attributed to NZC Council

expenses, salaries and employment expenses exceeding budget as well as the top up of reserves paid to NCFGC.

- 6 The National Budget is only at 67% as some major project budget will not be spent until the end of the year. With one large budget (Website redevelopment) being underbudget at year – end – this project will fall into the 2021/22 budget.
- 7 In general Councils are operating within their Approved Budget YTD.

Table 2: National Fish & Game Financial Report					
As at 31 July 21 Year to Date Expenditure against Total Approved Budget					
Council	Total Budget (inc from Reserves)	Net Expenditure to 31 July 2021	YTD %	% of Reserves to Budget 31/8/20	Excess \$\$ General Reserve (Inc Dedicated reserves) over 30%
Northland	508,203	446,794	88%	71%	194,829
Auckland/Waikato	795,379	683,059	86%	43%	69,435
Eastern	1,071,572	818,284	76%	48%	162,584
Hawkes' Bay	368,127	245,825	67%	140%	394,805
Taranaki	357,970	313,841	88%	23%	0
Wellington	762,502	586,632	77%	64%	234,502
Nelson/Marlborough	444,491	393,090	88%	33%	0
North Canterbury	775,672	610,874	79%	11%	0
West Coast	346,448	282,424	82%	62%	99,985
Central South Island	673,134	628,538	93%	95%	411,876
Otago	961,604	798,269	83%	93%	577,475
Southland	643,699	501,950	78%	105%	462,425
NZC	1,134,917	1,116,372	98%	41%	192,157
National inc RMA & Research	1,390,640	934,537	67%		
Total	10,234,358	8,360,488	82%		2,800,073
11 months of the year completed, with		92% of the year			

Financial Implications

- 9 All regions will work within their approved budget.

Legislative Implications

- 10 n/a

Section 4 Treaty Obligations

- 11 n/a.

Consultation

12 n/a.

Recommendations

- 1 *The New Zealand Council Accept the National Financial report as at 31 July 2021.*

RMA/Legal Update

New Zealand Fish and Game Council Meeting August 2021

Prepared by: Carmel Veitch, CFO, NZ Fish and Game Council

Purpose

- 1 To update NZC on committed funds in the RMA Legal Fund as at 31 July 2021

Background

- 2 Each year NZC puts in a Contestable Funding application for the RMA/legal fund.
- 3 In the 2020/21 year \$314,000 was budgeted to RMA Funding. This amount was fully allocated.
- 4 The table attached outlines the current position of each project that has been allocated.
- 5 Three projects are currently being funded out of regional reserves: two from Otago – Transitional Mining \$150k and Plan Change \$120k – and Southland are also funding the Southland Water & Land Plan (SWALP) appeal from reserves.
- 6 In the April budget Round NZC allocated \$500,000 to RMA/Legal for the 2021/22 year (8k has already been allocated got NCFGC for Selwyn District plans).

Analysis & Financial Implications

- 7 At present the balance of the RMA/legal fund is \$391,431. This represents the commitment that NZC have to Regions for their RMA/legal projects as at 31 July 2021
- 8 Funding was approved in August 2020 for the NPS FM (\$150,000). Of this, \$50k has been committed to Otago and \$40k to Nelson Marlborough (meeting 153) for the District plan. The balance of \$60k is uncommitted.
- 9 Of the 3 regional commitments, the SWALP is over-spent by \$68,793 as at 31 July 2021.

Consultation

- 10 RMA funding is applied for by the regions and managers are included in the approval process. Refer Agenda 10 – Legal RMA Applications for the current applications.

Recommendations

1. *That the report be received.*

RMA /Legal Fund Reserve

LIVE and Approved Legal/RMA Fund Applications									
As at 31 July 2021									
Region	Project Name	Date Approved	Total Approved	Source	Total Spent to Date	Withdrawn	Under/Over Spent to date	Committed Funds	Status Update
Auck/Wai	Healthy Rivers	22-Aug-20	\$110,000	NZC Fund	6,025.00	-	\$103,975	\$103,975	
Auck/Wai	Whangamarino Weir and Waikato Regional Council	11-Nov-17	\$50,000	NZC Fund	\$0	\$0	\$50,000	\$50,000	
Nel Mar	Tasman DC Plan Change 52	7/06/2019	\$7,000	NZC Fund	\$854	\$0	\$6,146	\$6,146	Ongoing - \$ required 2021
Nel Mar	Marl Envi Plan Appeal	22/11/2019	\$15,000	NZC Fund	\$9,284	\$0	\$5,716	\$5,716	Ongoing - \$ required 2021
Nel Mar	2 nd Generation Pol Stat	04-2015/16	\$96,404	NZC Fund	\$89,791	\$0	\$6,613	\$6,613	Ongoing - \$ required 2021
Nel Mar	Taman DC Plan Change from NPS \$ NZC	27/04/2021	\$40,000	NZC Fund	-	\$0	\$40,000	\$40,000	
North Canterbury	Selwyn District Council District plan hearings	Jun-20	8,000.00	NZC Fund	-	\$0	\$8,000	\$8,000	approved in advance from the 21/22 budget
NZC	NPS FM	Aug-20	\$150,000	NZC Fund	\$89,855	\$0	\$60,145	\$60,145	\$50k to Otago, \$40k NM TOTAL committed \$90K
NZC	Lindis River Appeal	22/11/2019 & August 2020	200,000.00	NZC Fund	\$251,920	\$0	-\$51,920	\$0	Report Completed
Otago	Transitional Mining Consents-Exceptional	11-Nov-17	\$150,000	Otago Reserves	\$132,463	0	\$17,537	\$17,537	
Otago	Priority Plan Change	16-Feb-21	\$120,000	Otago Reserves	\$78,702	0	\$41,298	\$41,298	
WGTV	Wairarapa Water Project	07-2016/17	\$20,000	NZC Fund	\$19,249	\$0	\$751	\$751	
WGTV	GW Natural Resource Plan	24/11/2019	\$40,000	NZC Fund	\$19,616	\$0	\$20,384	\$20,384	
WGTV	One Plan Change 2	23/11/2019	\$38,000	NZC Fund	\$3,300	\$0	\$34,700	\$34,700	
Southland	Southland Water & Land Plan appeal	23/Nov/18	84,000.00	Southland Reserves	\$152,793	\$0	-\$68,793	\$0	
Southland	Southland Water & Land Plan appeal - NZC meeting 147	21/Aug/20	\$55,000	NZC Fund	\$0	\$0	\$55,000	\$55,000	

TOTAL ACROSS ORGANISATION									
			Live and Approved Applications		Spent to Date	Withdrawn	Under/Over Spent to date	Committed Funds	NZC Legal/RMA Fund 2019/20
Totals - includes closed projects			\$3,752,681		\$3,445,491	\$297,610	\$9,580	\$450,265	
Less RMA out of Regions Reserves			\$885,320		\$980,373	\$4,858	-\$99,911	\$58,835	
Total Committed from National Budget			\$2,867,361		\$2,465,118	\$292,752	\$109,491	\$391,431	\$562,643

Movement in Reserves since 31/8/20

-\$171,212

Recommendation: RMA/Legal report be accepted with committed funds of \$391,431 as at 31 July 2021

Research Fund Update

New Zealand Fish and Game Council Meeting August 2021

Prepared by: Carmel Veitch, CFO, NZ Fish and Game Council

Purpose

- 1 To update the Council on committed funds in the Research Fund as at 31 July 2021

Background

- 2 Each year the NZC allocates funding towards Research for the whole of Fish and Game to utilise.
- 3 In the current year \$70,000 (pre Covid this was \$120k) was allocated to the research fund.
- 4 The research fund **was** split between Mallard research and Other research – with \$30,000 allocated to Mallard research each year.
- 5 In meeting 147(Aug 2020) the motion to rescind the mallard research contribution was carried, and it was agreed to consider mallard research applications on their merit as funds allow.
- 6 Funds are allocated to projects each year and any uncommitted funds are held in the Research Fund reserve for future projects.
- 7 In the 2021/22-year (April 21 meeting 152) NZC have allocated a further \$30,000 to the research programme. The Budget for 2021/22 and ongoing is now \$100,000 in total.
- 8 A further \$30,000 was approved (April 21) to the National Anglers Survey (NAS) on annual basis from the 2022 year. This will ensure the fund will build over the next 7 years to \$210,000.
- 9 At the 152nd NZC meeting the NZC approved uncommitted funds of \$89,733 to be transferred to the National Anglers Survey in the 2020/21 financial year.
- 10 NZC also agreed to separate the NAS fund into its own dedicated reserve as at 31 August 2021.

Analysis & Financial Implications

- 11 At present the balance of the Research fund is \$260,637.

- 12 \$175,999 of this balance relates to the NAS.
- 13 Uncommitted projects totalling \$27,976. These uncommitted funds are tagged to Mallard Research.
- 14 The Survey (NAS) that starts this year has been quoted at \$176k. This is now fully funded.

Consultation

- 15 Regions have provided updates on research projects and funding requirements.
- 16 At year end the NAS fund will be separated out as a dedicated reserve.

Recommendations

- 1 *That the report be received.*

**New Zealand Fish and Game Council - Research Fund
As at 31 July 2021**

28.1

Project Ref	Project Name	Coordinator	Council	Date Approved	Total Approved	Total Spent to Date	Withdrawn/ \$ not required	Commitment	Comments
51	Grey Teal Monitoring	Phil Teal	Wellington	May-14	4,400	-	-	4,400	Funds needed for presenttion for publication
55	Mallard Research - Captive Reared Mallards		NZC	Sep-14	5,000	5,000	-	-	Completed Doc to review
56	Game Harvest Survey Analysis	Matthew Mc Doug	Eastern	May-13	3,000	2,368	-	632	Ongoing \$500 budget every yr
57	NAS -National Anglers Survey (includes committed funds to Sept '21 10k per yr) plus \$89 k from uncommitted funds per meeting 152	Helen Trotter	NZC	May-13	289,717	113,718	-	175,999	Total committed to 2021
59 &66	Trophic interactions and potential use of food-web manipulation in the resotration of two eutropic Central Otago Lakes	Helen Trotter	Otago	May-15	10,000	10,000	-	-	All Payments made HT to complete work
61	Mallard Research -Duck Management Units	Andy Garrick	Eastern	Sep-15	3,000	655	-	2,345	Waiting on band locations from Regions
67	Mallard Research General			May-16	19,700	4,724	-	14,976	UNCOMMITTED
67.2	Mallard Research -Cat GPS pilot study	Zane Moss	Southland	May-16	9,300	7,617	-	1,683	
68	Environmental DNA to identify spawning & establish protocols	Phil Teal/Adam Canning	Wellington	May-17	50,000	41,290	-	8,710	Massey Sequenincing DNA, trial continues next spring spawning
69	NIWA Didymo study to expore water Chemistry	Rhys Barrier	N/Marl	May-17	20,000	8,767	11,233	-	Withdrawn by N/M at managers meeting 4/3/21
70	Liminological variables on food web dynamics in Lake Tarawera	Matt Osborne	Eastern	May-17	15,000	6,065	-	8,936	Fieldwork progressing
72	Fighting for the public good (over 3 years 10k12k,12k)	Jack	NZC	May-17	34,000	28,603	-	5,397	2021 completion date
75	Native Fish/Sports interactions	Phil/Adam Canning	Wellington	Apr-18	50,000	29,050	-	20,950	Fieldwork progressing
76	Mallard Research - Brood Habitat selection and use	David Klee	Akld/Waik	Jul-18	21,000	17,391	-	3,609	Fieldwork progressing
76.1	Mallard Research -Uncommitted 18/19			Apr-18	13,000	-	-	13,000	UNCOMMITTED
	Uncommitted funds - withdrawn project 69						11,233	-	Transferred to NAS
77	Uncommitted funds Other Reseach 2018/19 (bal of \$100 k)			Apr-18	9,500	-	9,500	-	Transferred to NAS
78	Uncommitted funds Other Research 2019/20 (bal of \$70k)			Apr-19	9,500	-	9,500	-	Transferred to NAS
79	Mallard -Uncommitted funds 2019/20 no funds committed this year			Apr-19	-	-	-	-	
80	Uncommitted funds Other Research 2020/21 (bal of \$70k)				59,500	-	59,500	-	Transferred to NAS
	TOTALS							\$ 260,637	

Recommendation: Accept Research Fund of \$260,637 as at 31 July 2021

Summary of Uncommitted Funds

Total Mallard Research uncommmited Funds

27,976

Total Other Research uncommmited Funds - t/f to NAS

-

Total Uncommitted Funds

27,976

Net Committed Funds to Research

232,660

Licence Sales Update

New Zealand Fish and Game Council Meeting August 2021

Prepared by: Steve Doughty

Purpose

1. To inform NZC of progress on licence sales year to date.

Analysis

Fishing Licence Sales

2. Fishing licence sales continue to be strong at \$1.412M above budget at 31st July and .8% overall above sales for the previous year for the same period.
3. This strong growth in domestic sales has exceeded the loss of \$1.09M in non-resident licence sales. The growth has been balanced across whole and part season licences with winter licences comparable year to date indicating low switching from winter to full season.
4. A survey was undertaken out of a group of over 17,000 first time licence purchasers and reactivated purchasers after a break of 3 years during the summer growth period of licence sales. Key findings were:

a. What influenced your decision to buy a fishing licence this year?

I acquired some fishing gear.	18.23%
I acquired a boat.	7.15%
I was encouraged by family or friends to go fishing.	36.26%
Fishing was easily added on to my holiday plans.	29.94%
I learned of opportunities to fish that I was not aware of before.	9.40%
I moved to an area where there are good freshwater fishing opportunities.	16.69%
Fewer overseas anglers were fishing this season.	4.91%
I wanted to take the kids fishing.	18.09%
I watched a video on freshwater fishing.	4.07%
I have more time to spend fishing due to a reduction in other commitments.	20.06%
I just wanted to give it a go.	28.82%
I attended a Fish & Game event (i.e. Take A Kid Fishing or a fishing clinic)	1.12%
Other (please specify)	10.38%

b. How many days did you go fishing?

None - I didn't fish at all.	2.45%
One day	20.90%
Two to three days	29.94%
Four to 10 days	29.10%
More than 10 days	17.60%

c. What type of water did you fish?

Lakes	58.06%
Rivers	60.38%
Streams	16.90%
Backcountry rivers	10.10%
Canals	20.69%

d. What method of fishing did you use? (can include multiple methods)

Spinning	64.52%
Soft baiting	25.74%
Fly fishing	37.31%
Bait fishing	17.11%
Trolling and harling	23.98%
Jigging	14.87%
Harling	0.00%

e. Were you satisfied with your fishing experience?

Very satisfied	25.53%
Satisfied	43.55%
Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	21.95%
Dissatisfied	6.94%
Very dissatisfied	2.03%

This is a high level of satisfaction with the highest motivators in the survey being enjoying the outdoors, escaping stress and time with friends and family. The lowest motivations were catching big fish and harvesting for the table.

f. Will you buy a fishing licence next season?

Yes	51.72%
No	5.19%
Maybe	41.56%

This indicates that 50% of our growth this year will be retained and that with a campaign focussed on reactivation we can draw back a good percentage of the 41% that are considering giving fishing another try next summer.

Game Bird Licence Sales

5. Game bird sales exceeded budget by 4.7%, last year's sales by 6.9% and equivalent to 2019's sales.

6. This represents a static game bird hunter population with an over budget performance on a conservative budget based not knowing if we would recover full sales from the COVID reduction in 2020. last year.

Financial Implications

7. Fishing sales above budget and NZC forecast
Game bird sales above budget and equal to 2019 sales.
A stronger finish to the 2020/2021 financial year than anticipated.

Summary

8. This paper is to inform the NZC of sales year to date in comparison to the same period in previous years.

Recommendation:

1. *That this report be accepted*

National Fish Licence Sales YTD to 31 July 2021

	Channe I	National Fish Licence Sales YTD to 31 July 2021																	Total Fish	Fish LEQ	Fish Var	Fish \$	Inc/Dec		
		FWF	FWA	FWNA	FSLA	FLAA	FWIA	FLBA	FSBA	FDA	FDNA	FWJ	FWNJ	FDJ	FDNJ	FWC	FWNC	FDNC							
TOTAL	Direct	6,412	8,958	4,012	1,288	1,840	1,359	193	2,128	9,990	5,168	1,609	111	1,034	129	-	74	84	44,389	\$28,467		\$3,292,281			
	Retail	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	\$0		\$0			
	AOL	11,195	16,225	1,990	3,424	2,781	893	193	1,796	6,030	4,004	2,455	103	866	164	-	73	126	52,318	\$41,417		\$4,790,005			
2019-2020	Total	17,607	25,183	6,002	4,712	4,621	2,252	386	3,924	16,020	9,172	4,064	214	1,900	293	-	147	210	96,707	69,884		\$8,082,286			
	Direct	8,540	12,283	464	1,726	2,218	1,276	143	3,014	12,874	765	2,118	26	1,370	17	-	19	14	46,867	\$31,697		\$3,665,832			
	Retail	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	\$0		\$0			
	AOL	10,901	16,138	204	3,608	2,585	1,125	119	2,023	6,766	183	2,433	8	928	9	-	5	4	47,039	\$38,769		\$4,483,761			
2020-2021	Total	19,441	28,421	668	5,334	4,803	2,401	262	5,037	19,640	948	4,551	34	2,298	26	-	24	18	93,906	70,466		\$8,149,593			
<i>National Variance against 2019/20 YTD</i>																									
																				582	0.8%	\$67,307	\$67,307	Budget	
																								58579	\$6,774,768
																								19/20 Sept sales	\$37,890
																								120.3%	\$8,149,593
																								Var to budget	\$1,412,715

National Game Licence Sales YTD to 31 July 2021

North Is Regions	Channe I	National Game Licence Sales YTD to 31 July 2021					Total	Game LEQ	Game Var	Game \$	
		GWA	GWJ	GWC	GDA	GDJ					
TOTAL	Direct	8,176	818	359	553	37	9,943	8,455	\$691,079		
	Retail	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	\$0		
	AOL	21,543	1,849	750	279	17	24,438	21,974	\$1,796,123		
2019-2020	Total	29,719	2,667	1,109	832	54	34,381	30,429	\$2,487,203		
	Direct	5,911	625	279	632	20	7,467	6,166	\$503,997		
	Retail	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	\$0		
	AOL	25,860	2,227	934	277	10	29,308	26,367	\$2,155,179		
2020-2021	Total	31,771	2,852	1,213	909	30	36,775	32,532	\$2,659,177		
<i>National Variance against 2020 YTD</i>											
							2,104	6.9%	\$171,974	Var to budget	\$118,869

National Game Licence Sales YTD to 31 July 2019

TOTAL	Direct	5,273	525	205	665	18	6,686	5,517	\$446,149
	Retail	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	\$0
	AOL	26,975	2,270	915	474	31	30,665	27,537	\$2,226,900
2018-2019	Total	32,248	2,795	1,120	1,139	49	37,351	33,054	\$2,673,049

National Fish Licence Sales YTD to 31 July 2021

Channe l	FWF	FWA	FWNA	FSLA	FLAA	FWIA	FLBA	FSBA	FDA	FDNA	FWJ	FWNJ	FDJ	FDNJ	FWC	FWNC	FDNC	Total Fish	Fish LEQ	Fish Var	Fish \$	Inc/Dec	
TOTAL Direct	6,412	8,958	4,012	1,288	1,840	1,359	193	2,128	9,990	5,168	1,609	111	1,034	129	-	74	84	44,389	\$28,467		\$3,292,281		
TOTAL Retail	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	\$0		\$0		
AOL	11,195	16,225	1,990	3,424	2,781	893	193	1,796	6,030	4,004	2,455	103	866	164	-	73	126	52,318	\$41,417		\$4,790,005		
2019-2020 Total	17,607	25,183	6,002	4,712	4,621	2,252	386	3,924	16,020	9,172	4,064	214	1,900	293	-	147	210	96,707	69,884		\$8,082,286		
2019-2020 Direct	8,540	12,283	464	1,726	2,218	1,276	143	3,014	12,874	765	2,118	26	1,370	17	-	19	14	46,867	\$31,697		\$3,665,832		
2019-2020 Retail	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	\$0		\$0		
AOL	10,901	16,138	204	3,608	2,585	1,125	119	2,023	6,766	183	2,433	8	928	9	-	5	4	47,039	\$38,769		\$4,483,761		
2020-2021 Total	19,441	28,421	668	5,334	4,803	2,401	262	5,037	19,640	948	4,551	34	2,298	26	-	24	18	93,906	70,466		\$8,149,593		
National Variance against 2019/20 YTD																							
																			582	0.8%	\$67,307	\$67,307	Var to budget \$1,412,715

National Game Licence Sales YTD to 31 July 2021

North Is Regions	Channe l	GWA	GWJ	GWC	GDA	GDJ	Total	Game LEQ	Game Var	Game \$
TOTAL Direct		8,176	818	359	553	37	9,943	8,455		\$691,079
TOTAL Retail		-	-	-	-	-	0	0		\$0
AOL		21,543	1,849	750	279	17	24,438	21,974		\$1,796,123
2019-2020 Total		29,719	2,667	1,109	832	54	34,381	30,429		\$2,487,203
2019-2020 Direct		5,911	625	279	632	20	7,467	6,166		\$503,997
2019-2020 Retail		-	-	-	-	-	0	0		\$0
AOL		25,860	2,227	934	277	10	29,308	26,367		\$2,155,179
2020-2021 Total		31,771	2,852	1,213	909	30	36,775	32,532		\$2,659,177
National Variance against 2020 YTD										
							2,104	6.9%	\$171,974	Var to budget \$118,869

National Game Licence Sales YTD to 31 July 2019

TOTAL Direct	5,273	525	205	665	18	6,686	5,517		\$446,149
TOTAL Retail	-	-	-	-	-	0	0		\$0
AOL	26,975	2,270	915	474	31	30,665	27,537		\$2,226,900
2018-2019 Total	32,248	2,795	1,120	1,139	49	37,351	33,054		\$2,673,049

Action List

New Zealand Fish and Game Council Meeting 26-27 August 2021

Action	Person	Due Date
Communicate w/NC re internal audit	Ray/Carmel	DONE
NZC to undertake national internal audit of ARF	Carmel	
Remove total unspent/unallocated research reserve	Carmel	
Consultation Register to go to NZC	Jack	DONE
NZC delegation to meeting with DOC&GCA	Ray	DONE
Send out NRL consultation paper	Carmel	
Managers to review NCFG 20/21 & 21/22 budgets & NZC to examine need to external review	Managers	
Correspondence register to NZC more regularly	Admin	
NZC to research reserve topup and provide an update to NZC for approval by circulation?	Carmel	To be presented in August
That NZC staff work with regions to produce a proposal on a game bird guide's licence subsequent to the completion of the sports fishing guides licence process.	Jack	2022
That NZC staff circulate Ranger Policy to regions for consultation and bring back to NZC.	Jack	In progress
Staff to seek update on NM research report and to seek comment from Wellington on native/sports fish interactions.	Jack	In progress

Consultation Register

New Zealand Fish and Game Council Meeting August 2021

Prepared by: Jack Kos, NZ Fish and Game Council



Fish & Game New Zealand Consultation Register

Governance Consultation

Eastern Opening Day Letter – Comment due 13/08/21

Sent 28/04/21: [Eastern Opening Day Letter Request for Feedback](#)

- | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Northland: | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Auckland/Waikato: | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Eastern: | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Hawke's Bay: | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Taranaki: | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Wellington: | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Nelson/Marlborough: | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| West Coast: | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| North Canterbury: | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Central South Island: | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Otago: | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Southland: | <input type="checkbox"/> |

CSI NSRSC Letter – Comment due 13/08/21

Sent 28/04/21: [CSI NSRSC Letter Request for Feedback](#)

- Northland:
- Auckland/Waikato:
- Eastern:
- Hawke's Bay:
- Taranaki:
- Wellington:
- Nelson/Marlborough:
- West Coast:
- North Canterbury:
- Central South Island:
- Otago:
- Southland:

Change Freeze – Comment due ASAP

Sent 25/05/21: [Change Freeze](#)

- Northland:
- Auckland/Waikato:
- Eastern:
- Hawke's Bay:
- Taranaki:
- Wellington:
- Nelson/Marlborough:
- West Coast:
- North Canterbury:
- Central South Island:
- Otago:
- Southland:

Operational Consultation

Licence Data MOU – Comment due 26/02/21

Sent 27/10/20: [Licence Data MOU](#)

- | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Northland: | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Auckland/Waikato: | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Eastern: | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Hawke's Bay: | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Taranaki: | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Wellington: | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Nelson/Marlborough: | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| West Coast: | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| North Canterbury: | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Central South Island: | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Otago: | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Southland: | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Email Security and Access MOU – Comment due 26/02/21

Sent 11/12/2020: [Email Security and Access MOU](#)

- | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Northland: | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Auckland/Waikato: | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Eastern: | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Hawke's Bay: | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Taranaki: | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Wellington: | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Nelson/Marlborough: | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| West Coast: | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| North Canterbury: | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Central South Island: | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Otago:

Southland:

Note: Agreed to, but to be revised as we roll out second factor authentication

Huinga Kupu Mō Fish & Game

Vocabulary For Fish & Game

Fishing and Hunting

Hāmana – salmon
He kaihao ahau – I am an angler
He kaiwhakangau ahau – I am a hunter
Hī ika – to fish
Hōta – shot, as used in a shotgun shell
Kakānau – black swan
Kaihao - fisherperson
Kaiwhakangau – hunter
Kuruwhengi – shoveler duck
Mahi manu – to hunt for birds
Pā – fishing lure
Pārera – grey duck
Peihana - pheasant
Pū – firearm
Pupuhi – to fire a gun
Pūtakitaki – paradise duck
Rakiraki – duck, particularly mallard.
Raihana – licence
Wāna – swan
Taraute – trout
Tautara – fishing rod

Geographic/Environmental Descriptions

Awa – river
Kūkūwai - wetland
Maunga – mountain
Moana – Sea
Puke - hill

Roto - lake
Taiao – environment/natural world
Wai - water

Work Speak

Ae – Yes
He pātai tāku – I have a question
Hui - meeting
Kanohi ki te kanohi – face to face
Kāo/Kāore - No
Ka rawe - awesome
Kaupapa – topic/policy
Kōrero – talk, speak

Greetings

Ata mārie – good morning
Pōmārie - goodnight
Kei te pehea koe? – How's it going
Kei te pai au – I'm good
Kaore au i te pai – I'm not good
Kei te ngenge au – I'm tired
Kei te harikoa au - I'm happy

Mihi - Introduction
Ngā mihi – acknowledgements

Glossary of common acronyms found in Fish & Game papers

AOG but can	All of Government (largely applies to a discounted purchasing system refer to an AOG response i.e. Covid-19)
CEO	Chief Executive Officer
CFA	Contestable Funding Application
CFO	Chief Financial Officer
COI	Conflict of Interest
CRM	Customer Relationship Management
DOC	Department of Conservation
DPMC	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet
ECan	Environment Canterbury (Regional Council)
EDC	Environmental or Ecological district report
EDM email)	Electronic Direct Mail (system for sending direct to licence holders via email)
EDS	Environmental Defence Society (NGO)
EIANZ	The Environment Institute of Australia and New Zealand
ENGO's	Environmental non-governmental organisation/s
EPA	Environmental Protection Authority
ESL	formerly known as Eyede – the F&G Licencing system provider
FIG	Freshwater Implementation Group
GETS	Government Electronic Tender Service
H&S	Health & Safety
IP trademarks,	All intellectual property rights and interests, including copyright, designs, patents, and other proprietary rights, recognised, or protected by law.
IWP	Intensive Winter Grazing
LEQ	Licence Equivalent
LWP	Licence Working Party
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
MPI	Ministry for Primary Industries
MfE	Ministry For Environment
NAS	National Anglers Survey (undertaken approx. every seven years)
NES	National Environmental Statement

NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
NIWA	National Institute of Water & Atmospheric Research Limited
NPS	National Policy Statement
NPS-FM	National Policy Statement-Freshwater Management
NZFFA	NZ Federation of Freshwater Anglers
NZFSS	NZ Freshwater Sciences Society
NZPFGA	NZ Professional Fishing Guides Association
NZSAA	NZ Salmon Anglers Association
OIA	Official Information Act
OIO	Overseas Investment Office
ONL	Outstanding Natural landscape
ORC	On-road costs OR Otago Regional Council
PCBU's	Persons Conducting a Business or Undertaking
PCO	Parliamentary Council Office
PDU	Provincial Development Unit
PGF	Provincial Growth Fund
PSF	Pressure Sensitive Fisheries
R3	Recruit, Retain and Reactivate programme
R&D	Research and Development
RAP	Resource Allocation Project
RFQ	Request for Quote
RFP	Request for Proposal
SDC	Selwyn District Council
SFC	Standing Finance Committee
SOP	Standard Operating Procedure
WCO	Water Conservation Order
WRG	Website Reference Group