

One hundred and forty-ninth meeting of the  
**New Zealand Fish and Game Council**  
4.30-6.43pm Tuesday 16 February  
4.30-6.05pm Thursday 18 February  
6.30-8.35pm Sunday 14 March  
Zoom

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**PRESENT**

**NZ Councillors:**

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

**NZC Staff:**

Paul Shortis, Acting Chief Executive, Carmel Veitch Finance, Brian Anderton Senior Advisor.

**Guests:**

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**1. Welcome and Chairperson's Introduction**

**2. Apologies received**

- No apologies Tuesday.
- Greg Duley and Andy Harris Thursday

**3. Conflicts of Interest**

- Cr Isbister noted a potential conflict on the ORC appeal and winter grazing
- Cr Coll noted a conflict on the North Canterbury letter  
Cr Paul Shortis declares he will not be attending this meeting in his capacity as a New Zealand Fish and Game Councillor. Instead, he will be there as Acting CEO.  
He will not vote

**4. Approve minutes for meeting 148**

*That the minutes of meeting 148 held in Nov 2020 be approved*

**Moved: Cr Dan Isbister / Cr Greg Duley**

Cr Oakley, Cr Coll, Cr Karalus, Cr Paul Shortis abstained

**Matters arising from minutes**

Chair noted that NZC had not yet approached MPI and others on trout farming.  
Upland game preserves policy is still under discussion with DOC.

**5. Health and Safety**

*That the report be received.*

**Moved: Cr Bill O'Leary / Cr Nigel Juby**

Abstained: Cr Paul Shortis

**6. Additions to agenda**

It was agreed that the North Canterbury Letter and the Chair report and advocacy report would be added to the agenda.

## **7. Report on the first NPS test case – plan change 7 & 8 ORC**

Report on first NPS test case – plan change 7 & 8 ORC. Question was raised if it is the first test case or not. Questions asked if there has been regional consultation. NZC agreed that the first test case is important.

- 1. Agree to provide retrospective approval for the \$120,000 from its Otago reserves to part fund the two plan change cases.**
- 2. Approve \$50,000 from the RMA/Legal fund (NPS -test case fund of \$150,000) \$25,000 for each of the two plan changes.**

**Cr Dave Harris / Cr Nigel Juby**

Abstained: Cr Paul Shortis, Cr Isbister and Cr Coll (Cr Coll was not present for part of the discussion)

## **8. NES – wetlands and maimai. Adopt NZ advocacy position**

NZC supported the advocacy position. Special thanks were given to the Auckland / Waikato staff for their work on the proposal. Mischa Davis's work was superb.

**That NZC adopts the wetlands and maimai positions as an advocacy position and the acting chief executive be delegated to finalise the advocacy position with regional fish and game managers.**

**Cr Nigel Juby / Cr Dave Harris**

Abstained: Cr Paul Shortis

## **9. NES – Winter grazing – adoption of NZ policy position**

Questions were asked if we should just focus on environmental issues not animal welfare issues. However, after debate it was agreed to support the proposal.

**That NZC adopts NES – Winter grazing position as an advocacy position and the acting chief executive be delegated to finalise the advocacy position with regional fish and game managers.**

**Cr Ray Grubb / Cr Bill O'Leary**

Abstained: Cr Paul Shortis, Cr Juby and Cr Isbister

## **10. Proposal Subcommittees: membership and portfolios**

It was noted that Cr Ray Grubb, as Chair is ex-officio a member of all committees.

**That the Executive Committee membership and terms of reference be confirmed as:**

- **Executive Committee (National Office, CEO, NZC performance reviews, Audit and Risk, National Policies review)**
- **Bill O'Leary (Deputy Chair NZC), Noel Birchall, Dan Isbister**

**Moved Cr Ray Grubb / Cr Nigel Juby**

Abstained: Cr Paul Shortis

**That the Standing Finance Committee membership and terms of reference be confirmed as:**

- **Standing Finance Committee (Budget cycle, Financial Management,)**
- **Debbie Oakley Chair, Dave Harris, (co-opted Richard O'Keefe)**

**Moved Cr Dan Isbister / Cr Andy Harris**

Abstained: Cr Paul Shortis

**That the Organisational Structure and Strategic Planning Committee membership and terms of reference be confirmed as:**

- **Organisational structure and Strategic Planning Committee (Resource Allocation, Ministerial Review, Strategy)**
- **Paul Shortis Chair, Dave Coll, Nigel Juby**

**Moved Cr Ray Grubb/ Cr Greg Duly**

Abstained: Cr Paul Shortis

**That a Licence Working Party (LWP) be reformed with responsibility for the implementation and management of functional aspects of the licence system provided by ESL and that the Licence Subcommittee be disestablished.**

**That Steve Doughty will continue to manage the relationship with ESL until the appointment of an permanent CEO to co-ordinate the actions of the LWP and report regularly to NZC.**

**That the LWP will consist of Steve Doughty ( NZC co-ordinator), Ian Hadland, Jay Graybill, Phil Teal, Kate Thompson and Carmel Veitch (financial).**

**Moved Cr Nigel Juby / Cr Bill O'Leary**

Abstained: Cr Paul Shortis

## **11. 2021 Fish & Game Elections**

NZC debated and agreed to enter into the contact to run the next Fish & Game elections.

**Agree to enter into a contract with ElectionNZ for the provision of the 2021 Fish and Game elections.**

## Cr Noel Birchall /Cr Gerard Karalus

Abstained: Cr Paul Shortis

The Acting CE noted the proposed amendments in the paper could save around \$60,000. It was proposed they should go out for regional consultation while asking DOC if amendments can be progressed in time. Staff noted that the first proposal to remove the requirement for notice of the election and the results of the election to be advertised in all major daily newspapers was the better proposal. Staff view was the second proposal to remove the requirement to provide every eligible voter with a voter pack by mail was less likely to be able to be progressed in time and would be more controversial. After debate, NZC decided not to progress any changes to the election regulations at this time. However, Council requested the acting CE add to the work plan and follow-up in 12 months.

### 12. Exclusion of the Public: Local Government Official

*Recommendation:*

1. *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:*

<b>GENERAL SUBJECT OF EACH MATTER TO BE CONSIDERED</b>	<b>REASON FOR PASSING THIS RESOLUTION IN RELATION TO EACH MATTER</b>	<b>GROUND(S) UNDER SECTION 48(1) FOR THE PASSING OF THIS RESOLUTION</b>
Confirm Public Excluded minutes for meeting 148	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 9(2)(h) OIA The withholding of information is necessary to maintain legal professional privilege.	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.
CE Report Report on Future Management of NZC	Section 9(2)(i) OIA The withholding of information is necessary to enable a Minister of the	Section 48(1)(a)(ii) That the public conduct of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of

Budget Review February Reserves Policy	Crown or any department or organisation holding the information to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities.	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 except for the item Report on Future Management of NZC.*

**Moved: Cr Debbie Oakley / Cr Dave Harris**

Abstained: Cr Paul Shortis

Meeting to be continued 15 March 4.30pm (moved to 14 March through other commitments)

### **13. Exclusion of the Public: Local Government Official**

*Recommendation:*

*2. 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:*

<b>GENERAL SUBJECT OF EACH MATTER TO BE CONSIDERED</b>	<b>REASON FOR PASSING THIS RESOLUTION IN RELATION TO EACH MATTER</b>	<b>GROUND(S) UNDER SECTION 48(1) FOR THE PASSING OF THIS RESOLUTION</b>
	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

	Section 9(2)(h) OIA The withholding of information is necessary to maintain legal professional privilege.	exist.
NCFGC Loan and Budget	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.
Discuss possible legal action	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.

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

**Moved: Cr Debbie Oakley / Cr Dave Harris**

Abstained: Cr Paul Shortis

14. Move out of Public Excluded:

**Moved: Cr Gerard Karalus / Dave Coll**

Abstained: Cr Paul Shortis

15. Resolutions moved out of Public Excluded:

**Approval of public excluded minutes**

*Motion: That the minutes be approved subject to the correcting public attendees.*

**Moved: Cr Bill O'Leary / Cr Greg Duly**

Abstained: Cr Paul Shortis, Cr Oakley, Cr Coll, Cr Karalus

### **Chair report to council**

Motion: *That the report be received*

**Moved: Cr Ray Grubb / Cr Dave Harris**

Abstained: Cr Paul Shortis

### **CEO Report**

Motion: *That the report be received*

**Moved: Cr Ray Grubb / Cr Nigel Juby**

Abstained: Cr Paul Shortis

### **Budgets**

Motions:

1. *Removal of Martin Taylor as signatory and authoriser on all Bank Accounts held by New Zealand Fish and Game Council and*
2. *Add Rainsford J Grubb and Paul Shortis as signatories and Authorisers on all Bank Accounts held by New Zealand Fish and Game Council*
3. *Maintain authority rule "any two signatories to sign"*

**Moved: Cr Nigel Juby / Cr Gerard Karalus**

Abstained: Cr Paul Shortis

Motion: *That NZC recommend to regions that the Budget for 21/22 be on the same basis as 20/21 and with the same proportion of total budget for 20/21*

**Moved: Ray Grubb/ Debbie Oakley**

Abstained: Cr Paul Shortis

Motion: *Establish settings for a budget round, including a contestable fund round in April, and look for a second contestable funding round later in the financial year based on the known outcome.*

**Moved Cr Ray Grubb / Cr Dan Isbister**

Abstained: Cr Paul Shortis

### **Asset Replacement fund**

Motion: *The paper from Carmel go out to regions for consultation and be raised at the Managers' meeting.*

**Moved Cr Debbie Oakley / Cr Noel Birchall**

Abstained: Cr Paul Shortis

### **Displacement project**

Motion: *Commission a study of the social and economic impacts of non-residents and look at the licence structure and duration for non-residence licences.*

**Moved: Cr Debbie Oakley / Cr Ray Grubb**

Abstained: Cr Paul Shortis

Meeting to be continued 15 March 4.30pm (moved to 14 March through other commitments)

### **North Canterbury Fish and Game Loan and Budget**

Motion: *That the NCFGC Loan of \$145,000 remain until there is a clear resolution with respect to NCFGC budgets.*

**Moved: Cr Ray Grubb / Cr Debbie Oakley**

Abstained: Crs Paul Shortis & Dave Coll

Motion: *That the Chair and Cr Dan Isbister visit NCFGC Chair as soon as practical to discuss the principles underlying the Fish and Game budgetary system with NCFGC Chair.*

**Moved: Cr Ray Grubb / Cr Dave Harris**

Abstained: Crs Paul Shortis & Dave Coll

## **20/21 Budget Cycle Recommendations**

Motions:

1 *NZC agrees the LEQ for the 2021/22 year to be 68,245 for Fish and 30,500 for Game licences (equating to \$9,918,347) for the purposes of establishing budgets.*

**Moved: Cr Ray Grubb / Cr Daniel Isbister**

Abstained: Crs Paul Shortis & Noel Birchall (Received paper late).

2 *NZC Agrees the Contestable funding for the year to be capped at \$885,000 (this does not include CF's from regional Reserves).*

**Moved: Cr Debbie Oakley / Cr Gerard Karalus**

Abstained: Crs Paul Shortis & Noel Birchall (Received paper late).

3 *Permanent and ongoing CFA's (eg CPI Increases) need to be capped at \$298k (the surplus between forecast income and Baseline budget).*

**Moved: Cr Dave Harris / Cr Bill O'Leary**

Abstained: Crs Paul Shortis & Noel Birchall (Received paper late).

4 *Agree that all regions must have an ARF budget.*

**Moved: Cr Ray Grubb / Cr Greg Duley**

Abstained: Cr Paul Shortis

5 *NZC defers a decision on licence fees to the April NZC meeting.*

**Moved: Cr Dave Coll/ Cr Daniel Isbister**

Abstained: Cr Paul Shortis

6. *NZC adopts Option 2 for the basis of the 21/22 budgets.*

**Moved: Cr Debbie Oakley / Cr Greg Duley**

Abstained: Cr Paul Shortis

## **Non-Resident Levy Fund**

Motion: *That NZC rescind the previous motion on Non-Resident Levies which stated NZC agree that the Non-Resident Levy be treated as licence income for budgeting purposes and that all Non-Resident Levy Reserves become general reserves in the regions in which they are currently held and that this be put out for consultation to the regions.*

**Moved: Cr Debbie Oakley / Cr Greg Duley**

Abstained: Cr Paul Shortis. Against: Cr Noel Birchall

## **New Zealand Financial Reports**



Motion: *That the report be accepted*  
**Moved: Cr Ray Grubb / Cr Dave Harris**  
Abstained: Cr Paul Shortis

**National Finance Report**

Motion: *That the report be accepted*  
**Moved: Cr Noel Birchall / Cr Bill O’Leary**  
Abstained: Cr Paul Shortis

**Signing Authority by acting CEO**

Motion: *The acting CEO asked NZC to confirm that it was comfortable for the acting CEO to sign on behalf of NZC.*  
**Moved: Cr Ray Grubb / Cr Dave Harris**  
Abstained: Cr Paul Shortis

The meeting closed at 8.35 pm.