

CENTRAL SOUTH ISLAND FISH AND GAME COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting of Central South Island Fish and Game Council held in the Boardroom, 32 Richard Pearse Drive, Temuka, on Thursday 30 January 2025 at 7:00 pm.

Present:	P Centofanti	Callum McKenzie
	W Duley	Craig McKenzie
	L Koevoet	Andrew Simpson (Chair)
	V May	John Henry (Ngai Tahu)

In Attendance:

CSI Staff: S McKnight (CE), B Harper, N Dellaway, H Stevens, R Adams.

25-001 APOLOGIES:

None.

25-002 COUNCILLOR INTEREST REGISTER:

CE queried if Councillors had any new interests to add to the register; or considered that the business of today's meeting would give rise to any actual or perceived conflict with their interests? None were advised.

25-003 HEALTH & SAFETY:

CE pointed out exit points of the building and assembly point for evacuation of the premises in case of an emergency.

25-004: 2025 ANNUAL GOVERNANCE CALANDAR:

Chair introduced the governance calendar for Councillors to refer to throughout the year to keep track of the main items of work coming up for this Council to consider noting the next Council meeting includes the Operational Work Plan (OWP). He advised that if Councillors have something they wish to bring to the table, they need to bring it up well ahead of the decision meeting. This is because Council's decisions need to be scientifically defensible, with evidence to support them. It follows that staff need to be given the opportunity and time to identify the options and gather the arguments and evidence for and against the options, for Council to consider.

25-005 CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT:

005.1 CSI Gamebird Hunter Values (5.1)

CE presented his report explaining that Ministers require consultation and robust justification for regulation changes, particularly where a change reduces opportunity for our licence holders. For example he was aware of some wishing to look at the 50-bird bag limit for CSI and advised Council currently has no justification based on population sustainability to warrant a change. Staff propose a hunter values survey be completed alongside the game bird harvest survey for the 2025 season whereby the preferences and values of a random selection of CSI game bird hunters would be captured. Its primary focus would be to quantify hunters bag limit preference, use of public and private land, and species preference and motivations. H Stevens explained a similar survey was undertaken previously which resulted in the summer duck season being introduced.



Councillors discussed the issue with varying opinions coming forward, however it was felt a survey was important to undertake with H Stevens clarifying that a phone survey is the best way to capture all spectrums. It was noted that the hunter values survey would require a decrease of 80 hours ranging.

Resolved (P Centofanti/Craig McKenzie)

25-001

- 1. THAT COUNCIL DIRECT STAFF TO UNDERTAKE A HUNTER VALUES SURVEY DURING THE 2025 GAME SEASON UNDERSTANDING THAT IT COMES WITH AN ADDITIONAL COST OF \$500 TO THE BUDGET AND A DECREASE OF 80 RANGING HOURS.**
- 2. THAT STAFF PREPARE A REPORT TO COUNCIL ON THE OUTCOME OF THE HUNTER VALUES SURVEY BY SEPTEMBER 2025.**

005.2 Triennial Game Gazette Review (5.2)

CE reported that no submissions were received for Game Gazette Review so therefore NZC would be advised that there will be no change to conditions that control the harvest of gamebirds in the CSI region for 2025/26.

Resolved (V May/L Koevoet)

25-002

THAT COUNCIL RESOLVE THERE BE NO CHANGES TO THE 2025/26 GAME SEASON CONDITIONS.

Council discussed the timing of the Triennial Game Gazette Review being held at the beginning of a Council term. Council noted this doesn't allow much lead in time for Councillors, particularly those new to CSI, to have input. It was felt the timeframe would be better suited to have these reviews a year after a new Council takes office. The Chair requested that the Chief Executive please bring to a future Council meeting options for adjusting the timing of future triennial reviews so as to enable new members to have stronger input.

005.3 Hydro Canal Fishery Management Strategy 2025-2027 (5.3)

R Adams presented his paper with options for implementing the Hydro Canal Fishery Management Strategy and responded to general queries and comments. Council complimented R Adams on this report and it was:

Resolved (L Koevoet/V May)

25-003

- 1. THAT COUNCIL ADOPT THE HYDRO CANAL MANAGEMENT STRATEGY 2025-2027 NOTING PROJECTS 1.1, 3.2, 5.4 , 4.4, AND 4.19 AS "TOP FIVE" PROJECTS TO PRIORITISE FOR THE PERIOD 2024-2027.**
- 2. THAT COUNCIL DIRECT STAFF TO INCLUDE AT LEAST TWO "TOP FIVE" PROJECT IN THE 2025/26, 2026/27 and 2027/28 OPERATIONAL WORK PLANS.**



3. THAT COUNCIL DIRECT STAFF TO INCLUDE A THREE-YEAR REVIEW OF THE HYDRO CANAL FISHERY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY IN THE 2027/28 OPERATIONAL WORK PLAN.

005.4 Upper Ohau River Spring Season 2024 – Review of Controlled Period Ballot, Angler Survey, Spawning Surveys (5.4)

R Adams presented his paper with recommendations which are essentially to commit to the established 2023 and 2024 management frameworks to create management consistency which will enable the most robust comparisons and trends of catch, angler satisfaction and spawning monitoring – not withstanding any matter of urgency arising. Council thanked Rhys for an excellent report and general queries on the report were responded to.

Resolved (P Centofanti/Craig McKenzie)

25-004

- 1. THAT THE 2025 SPRING SEASON BALLOT SCHEDULE IS A REPEAT OF THE ESTABLISHED “2023 AND 2024” SCHEDULE AS SET OUT IN SCHEDULE 1.**
- 2. THAT THE ESTABLISHED “2023 AND 2024” BALLOT SCHEDULE IS REPEATED INDEFINITELY TO MAINTAIN CONSISTENT ANGLER USE IN THE LONG TERM, UNLESS A MATTER OF URGENCY IS IDENTIFIED THAT COMPELS AN ADJUSTMENT TO THE BALLOT SCHEDULE.**
- 3. THAT REVIEW OF LONG-TERM SUSTAINABILITY IS DECOUPLED FROM THE TRIENNIAL REVIEW PROCESS, HONOURING THE SPRING SEASON’S LOW-RISK MANAGEMENT APPROACH OF ASSESSING SUSTAINABILITY ON AN ANNUAL BASIS.**

005.5 Installation of Solar Panels for the Office (5.5)

CE sought Council approval for the installation of solar panels at the CSIFGC office as he felt Council needed to be taking steps to promote sustainable practices both internally and externally. As such, the installation of solar panels at the office has been identified as a practical step toward reducing operational costs and minimising the council’s carbon footprint. Council discussed the pros and cons of the options provided and it was:

Resolved (A Simpson/V May)

25-005

THAT COUNCIL APPROVE THE INSTALLATION OF THE SOLAR ONLY SYSTEM (WITHOUT BATTERY) AT A COST OF \$15,241 FROM GENERAL RESERVES.

005.6 Windermere Drain Erosion 2024 (5.6)

CE advised that CSI have worked with the community to put weirs in Windermere Drain to create habitat. Over time flooding events have created erosion issues downstream. As the consent holder CSIFGC have as a condition an obligation to remediate the erosion. In this case the landowners have agreed to pay for 50% so CSIFGC’s obligation is to pay the other 50%.

Resolved (L Koevoet/Callum McKenzie)

25-006

THAT THE CSI FISH & GAME COUNCIL CONTRIBUTE HALF OF THE COSTS (UP TO A MAXIMUM OF \$5,500) FROM THE CSI HABITAT RESERVE TOWARDS THE EROSION REPAIRS AT THE WINDERMERE DRAIN.

005.7 Audit Completion Report for Year Ended 31 August 2024 (5.7)

CE presented a summary of key findings and conclusion from the Audit Completion Report provide by BDO Invercargill.

005.8 Risk Matrix Review-January 2025

CE report that Risks 1, 8, and 10 have been updated.

25-006 NZFGC MATTERS:

L Koevoet updated Council on general NZC matters advising that there hasn't been any further updates on HPIA issue. He encouraged Councillors to read the NZC Annual Performance Report.

Chair requested that in addition to circulating NZC CE's general report on NZC matters he would like our representative, L Koevoet, to in future please provide a report to Council on how the decisions made impact CSIFGC and our region, at each CSI meeting following an NZC meeting.

25-007 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES:

Resolved (Craig McKenzie/L Koevoet)

25-007

THAT THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 14 NOVEMBER 2024 BE ACCEPTED AS A TRUE AND CORRECT RECORD SUBJECT TO J HENRY'S NAME BEING ADDED TO APOLOGIES.

Resolved (V May/L Koevoet)

25-008

THAT THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 10 DECEMBER 2024 BE ACCEPTED AS A TRUE AND CORRECT RECORD SUBJECT TO J HENRY'S NAME BEING ADDED TO APOLOGIES.

Resolved (P Centofanti/Craig McKenzie)

25-009

THAT THE PUBLIC EXCLUDED MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 14 NOVEMBER 2024 BE ACCEPTED AS A TRUE AND CORRECT RECORD.

25-008 BUDGET & FINANCE:

Resolved (A Simpson/Craig McKenzie)

25-010

THAT COUNCIL RECEIVES THE FINANCIAL REPORTS AND RATIFIES THE SCHEDULES OF PAYMENTS FOR NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER 2024 IN THE GST INCLUSIVE AMOUNTS OF \$371,345.11 AND \$83,639.99, RESPECTIVELY.



NEXT MEETING DATE:

Council Meeting: Thursday 13th March 2025 at 7 pm.

Meeting closed: 9:05 pm.

Signed 

Date 13 / iii / 2025