

CONFIRMED MINUTES

HB FISH & GAME COUNCIL MEETING

At the **HBFGC Meeting December** on **10 Dec 2024** these minutes were **confirmed as presented**.

Name:	Hawke's Bay Fish & Game Council
Date:	Tuesday, 12 November 2024
Time:	6:00 pm to 9:45 pm (NZDT)
Location:	Hawkes Bay Fish & Game , 22a Burness Road Jervois town Napier
Board Members:	Blair Slavin, Callum Slavin, Gary Bowcock, Greg Duley, Henry Melville, Jeff Niblett, Bruce Bates (Chair), Peter Coles, Steve Evans, Karl Goodchild, Dan Jones, Glenn Morgan
Attendees:	Corina Jordan, Kerry Meehan, Sam Robinson

1. Opening Meeting

1.1 HBFGC Meeting

1.2 Confirmation of Agenda & General Business

Peter Coles will discuss the river survey that is being conducted with Hastings anglers club & F&G

1.3 Apologies & Conflict of Interests Register

Apologies for Greg Duley

Dan Jones what is the process if councilor breaches code of conduct or conflict of interest? Can be asked to leave by the Chair. May be excluded from the room during discussions and decisions.

Council will sign the declarations at the next meeting

Jeff, how long term is Governance advisor needed? Chair has discussed with Sam and after the following meeting and be available on as when needed basis. Council are free to contact Sam for advise when needed, especially new Councillors. Contact office for details.

1.4 Confirm Minutes

HB Fish & Game Council Meeting 24 Sept 2024, the minutes were confirmed as presented.



Confirm minutes

That the minutes of the meeting held on the 24th September were true and correct record of the meeting.

Decision Date: 12 Nov 2024

Mover: Gary Bowcock
Seconder: Henry Melville
Outcome: Approved

1.5 Hawkes Bay Risk Register

Risk register was not discussed.

1.6 Public Enquiries

No enquiries received.

2. Discussions & Decisions

2.1 Election of Officers



Election of Chairman

1. HFBGC elects Bruce Bates as Chairperson for Hawke's Bay Fish & Game Council.

Decision Date: 12 Nov 2024
Mover: Jeff Niblett
Seconder: Henry Melville
Outcome: Approved

Nominations - Jeff nominated Bruce bates second Henry

No other nominations. Bruce accepts chair position.

Chairman states chair is not a 3 year term and is happy to run for 12 months and revisit. Council can be change at any time.

Peter Coles, next 12 months is vital for changes to FG and continuity is important for next 12 months. Would have felt necessary to abstain as not knowing other Councillors. Would like to re visit in 12 months.

NZC Rep

Chairman endorses Greg Duley with his experience working with NZC

Bruce Bates nominates Greg Duley.



Greg Duley is nominated as the NZC Rep

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Decision Date: 12 Nov 2024
Mover: Bruce Bates
Seconder: Henry Melville
Outcome: Approved



HFBGC will revisit the nominations of chair and NZC rep in 12 mon...

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Decision Date: 12 Nov 2024
Mover: Peter Coles
Seconder: Jeff Niblett
Outcome: Approved

2.2 Regional Business Governance

Manager gave a run down as F&G as a statutory organisation reporting to the minister of hunting and fishing. Much more engaged than previous conservation ministers. minister works with FG & DOC and takes advise.

HB works through NZC to advise minister on regulations.

HBFGC employ manager and team and work through the manager. Also responsible for health and safety. F&G insurance. Treaty partnership responsibility.

Governance training will be ongoing through Sam Robinson and NZC. NZC hold a budget for training.

Governance policies. being reviewed across the organisation. need updating some typos NZC to HB. have been taken from NZC policies and there are regional changes.

Standing orders. NZC are working on consistent standing orders across the organisation. Some leeway will be given to make sure the job is being done properly. Chair will be lenient in some areas.

2.3 Annual Meeting & Budget Schedule

Decision on finalizing 2025 meeting dates deferred to December 10th meeting.

Peter away 10th December requests leave of absence rather than apologies.

Sam away 10 December

3. Regional Business

3.1 Health & Safety Report



Health & Safety Report

Hawke's Bay Fish & Game Council

1. Receives the information
2. Accepts the Health & Safety report.

Decision Date: 12 Nov 2024
Mover: Karl Goodchild
Seconded: Gary Bowcock
Outcome: Approved

3.2 Gamebird Regulations

Staff need to propose 2025 regulations at Dec meeting. Request licence holder feedback and discussions on time limits for hunting. Would 7pm be acceptable to council? Does the level of light make a difference to shooters? Bowcock the use of thermal will affect night shooting. Melville does limited light affect being able to shoot birds humanely? B Slavin 7pm could be abused by bad hunters. Also consider DOC land restrictions to hours, after darkness.

HBFGC propose 6.15am-6.30pm

Changes to swan, john proposing a relaxed limit in areas with high population concentration. Bates what affect will that have on overall numbers in the wider region? More regional & national population assessments needed. Lake levels are a lot lower this year than previous. Survey is through Eastern, HB, Wellington for swan parries.

Pukeko, Niblett are other regions are having issues with birds in urban areas? mostly horticultural but HB unique with mixed land use. How to get control bird numbers if you cant shoot those areas. Staff request to align season to waterfowl season as market gardeners are starting to sow crops &

pest controllers must only use methods acceptable under Game bird regulations. Historically staff have issued permits in season which isn't allowed and shooting with rifles. C Slavin - growers were not sending recording numbers back. Staff historically not reporting back to council. Don't want to limit opportunity by limiting season to 8 weeks from 16 weeks. Possible solution to establish problem areas with special conditions. Change regs to issue permits during season.

Staff think about shooting hours. Bowcock, is horseshoe lake being studied? Provide historical data before next meeting.



2025 Gamebird Regulations

Staff need to propose 2025 regulations at Dec meeting. Request licence holder feedback and discussions on time limits for hunting.

HBFGC propose 6.15am-6.30pm

Changes to swan, staff to do more population monitoring & liaise with other regions on population status. Report back to Council at next meeting.

Pukeko, staff provide report to council on population monitoring & recommendations on solutions to issues being raised.

Bowcock, is horseshoe lake being studied? Provide historical data before next meeting.

Due Date: 10 Dec 2024

Owner: John Lumsden

3.3 Operations Report

Discussion on Tranche 2. Chair explained process of the case with landowners wanting to take large amounts of water from an unverified source of water. Money was used from dedicated reserves. They couldn't define how much water is there to take. HBRC have not conducted proper studies on the Manganuku stream and opinion was it was so degraded that more degradation wont make much difference. No invertebrate or water quality studies were undertaken. Spring fed stream.

Bowcock - Predator control. Letter from HBRC to pest controllers about predator traps being given away. Staff to investigate.

Nursery Te Ngahere has now taken over the nursery. PD workers will be doing some recapturing of native seedlings. Had issues with scoping and smoking drugs on site. Report back to council on PD workers.

Ranging, 2 teams out on opening weekend. trying to multi task and do other work to make most of opportunities and efficiency. Access point issues, Matariki forest, walker road, staff in discussions with HBRC. Tukituki access points Smalls and Rowe road.

Add an access report to operations report. New charter from minister on access for hunting and fishing. Staff bring paper to next council meeting.



Staff Follow Ups

Bowcock - Staff to follow up with HBRC on predator control traps.

Report back to council on PD workers.

Access point issues, matariki forest, walker road, staff in discussions with HBRC. Tukituki access points Smalls and Rowe road.

Add an access report to operations report. Staff bring paper to next council meeting.

Due Date: 10 Dec 2024

Owner: Corina Jordan

3.4 Finance Reports



Approve Payments

That the payments for 1 September to 30 September 2024 totaling \$111,029.29 be approved.

Decision Date: 12 Nov 2024
Mover: Gary Bowcock
Seconder: Henry Melville
Outcome: Approved

3.5 Licence Report

Steve - where does agent nominate region, or is it automatically selected?

4. General Business

4.1 General business

Peter Coles Tukipo Stream study. Hastings anglers club embarked on project to adopt the Tukipo stream. Doing river health surveys and liaising with land owners to improve stream water quality. Doing invertebrate studies to look at water health. Russell Death assisting with training club and methodology. Data if properly gathered for tranche 2 to use as evidence. Death pointed out black algae and is very prevalent through stream. Studies of tissue samples from eels have shown toxin levels due to this type of algae. No study on trout. some funding from council may be needed for proper studies to be undertaken. Liaising with other clubs. HB river systems are on the brink and if drought the river is in danger of collapse. studying invertebrates as some will disappear sooner than others. if water levels drop toxicity worsens. pH testing, water flow and temperature. HBRC data? Tukipo catchment scheme? Funding bid will be submitted by club. Does it build in ducks, yes can potentially. Botulism monitoring also related to water quality issues. duck populations in Auckland Waikato due to declining water quality issues.



Enrolling in election

Manager to NZC re-investgate all licence are automatically in electoral roll when purchasing licence.

Decision Date: 12 Nov 2024
Mover: Callum Slavin
Seconder: Karl Goodchild
Outcome: Approved



Electoral Roll

Manager to NZC re-investgate that all licence should be automatically enrolled on the electoral roll when purchasing a licence.

Due Date: 17 Feb 2025
Owner: Corina Jordan

4.2 Ministers letter

Q1 What opportunities are there to make efficiencies, reduce duplication and ensure economies of scale across Fish and Game (e.g. shared services) to improve value for money for licence holders? How could these be best achieved?

Working with other regions to make better use of monitoring. accounting systems, audits, one

audit for NZ or internal audits. \$7k per region. RMA. more functions from NZC. National co-ordination for studies. Follow fed farmers model to apply to F&G. Centralise systems like payroll etc.

2. What do you think about the Governance Review recommendation to merge regions, and on what basis would this be appropriate?

Financially viable or a cost benefit to do it. More centralization for functions regions. Difficult to get constructive agreement between regions. Workability issues.

3. What would better support you as Councillors and as Fish and Game generally:

a. would a reduced number of Councillors on each council improve effectiveness and decision making?

b. would a modest honorarium for Councillors recognise and support your voluntary role? NZC rep and NZC chair should be paid positions due to level of commitment involved. Not at a regional level. Will attract people not passionate about sport.

c. how can the relationship between your Council and the NZC be improved to support the organisation and licence holders? Is the current way of nominating your representative to the NZC working? How can there be stability for the NZC over the whole term?

NZC rep yes works well and standing orders allow change at any time, advantage that they are known at a local level. Concern that NZC would have more members from one region with larger voter base. Also support for national voting as NZC is working for national not regional. Regional issues with how many people can be available to take on the roll. Support for a governance advisor.

d. what other measures would support your Council to be more effective and trusted (e.g. wider eligibility to stand and vote in elections, a fit and proper person test)?

e. should the criteria under which the Minister currently has the power to remove elected members be reviewed?

It would be easier for the regions if regions had the authority to remove extremely dysfunctional councillors. Possibly Nzc evaluation and final decision.

4.3 Huia Update



Huia loan

Staff investigate options for loaning for a museum and bring a paper back to next council meeting.

Due Date: 10 Dec 2024

Owner: Kerry Meehan

Birds are not covered by F&G statute. Council should not use licence money to fund insurance costs. Can we find a separate benefactor to fund security and insurance of birds? Covered by separation of educational charitable trust?

5. Public Excluded Session

5.1 New Agenda Item



Move to public excluded session.

To move into committee to discuss staff matters

Decision Date: 12 Nov 2024

Mover: Blair Slavin

Seconder: Gary Bowcock

Outcome: Approved

6. Close Meeting

6.1 Close the meeting

Next meeting: HBFC Council Annual General Meeting - 10 Dec 2024, 7:00 pm

New Actions raised in this meeting

Item	Action Title	Owner(s)
3.2	2025 Gamebird Regulations Due Date: 10 Dec 2024	John Lumsden
3.3	Staff Follow Ups Due Date: 10 Dec 2024	Corina Jordan
4.1	Electoral Roll Due Date: 17 Feb 2025	Corina Jordan
4.3	Huia loan Due Date: 10 Dec 2024	Kerry Meehan

Signature: _____

Date: _____