



CORANZ 12th Annual General Meeting **Sunday 13th September 2009**

Held at Evans Bay Yacht Club, 501 Evans Bay Parade Wellington, 10.00 am– 3.15pm

Meeting Minutes

Co-Chairman Ken Sims opened the meeting, and welcomed delegates at 10.00 am

1. Present:

Ken Sims Co-Chair, CORANZ, (NZFWA); Hugh Barr Secretary CORANZ, (PANZ)); Steve Veail, Co-Chair, CORANZ (NZFFA); Alec McIver (President, NZ Deerstalkers' Assn); Dianne Brown (CEO, NZ Deerstalkers Assn), Max Wheatley (NZ4WD Assn), Peter Vahry (NZFWD Assn); John Henderson (Marlborough Rec Fishers); Clive Workman (Vice President, Jet Boating NZ) Teleconf: Alan McMillan (Chair, Public Access NZ), Trish Rea (Option4).

2. Apologies:

Ron Stuart (President, NZ Salmon Anglers' Assn), Tim Ellis (Past President, NZSAA); Ian Rodger (President, NZFFA), Tony Orman (Marlborough Rec Fishers Assn); Lloyd Hansen (President, Marlborough Recreational Fishers' Assn); Strato Cotsilinis (NZFFA) CORANZ Treasurer; Ross Denton (Jet Boating NZ).

Moved: (McIver/Brown) That the apologies be accepted. **Carried.**

3. Minutes of 2008 AGM (Circulated):

Moved: (Barr/Veail) That the Minutes of the 2008 AGM be accepted as a true and correct record. **Carried.**

4. Matters arising from the Minutes not on the Agenda:

Poteriteri Wilderness. CORANZ has yet to write to DOC opposing the Poteriteri Wilderness.

Action 1: Hugh Barr.

5 CORANZ Annual Report:

Hugh spoke to the Report, saying that privatisation of outdoor resources was a constant threat eg with water, sea fish (already largely privatised to fishing companies by the Quota Management System), the foreshore and seabed (presently being discussed). Many of these privatisations are the major issues for outdoor recreation of our time, especially with a National Government back in power.

Issues such as hydro dams (Mokihinui, Wairau, Arnold, Nevis, Matakītaki, Matiri etc) and water irrigation rights (Central Plains, Waitaki River) are about who had the right to make money out of the resource, and control it. Pastoral lease tenure review is an area where privatisation via covenants has been proposed by the new National Government. The recently formed Wild Rivers Coalition was a recreational and conservation response to these privatisations.

Ken Sims mentioned the Bill to recognise trout as a non-commercial species was still stalled in Parliament. Other notable events were the Crown purchase of St James, the largest pastoral lease, and DOC's

consultations on its future use, which looked to be more recreation and tourism, rather than preservation – a good thing.

With recreational hunting, aerial 1080 continued to be a major concern. A Big Game Hunting Council Establishment Committee had proposed a complicated ministerially appointed Game Animal Council, involving many groups not directly associated with hunting. This was of concern, as recreational and commercial interests needed to appoint their own representatives, and have close ties with them.

The Walking Access Commission had now been set up with no representatives from Fish and Game or CORANZ members. This showed how easy it was to control membership to exclude those directly involved in public access issues – hunters, dog owners, and those seeking vehicular or horse access. It was very valuable that the terms of the Commission had been widened to include these matters.

Regarding Option4's Kahawai legal Challenge Appeal, which was heard during the year by the Supreme Court, this showed the difficulty of progressing matters through the Courts, with a decision that did not adequately acknowledge recreational fisher rights

In discussion Hugh raised the matter of more regular teleconferences. Peter Vahry and Clive Workman said that they had used Skype video conferencing successfully. It needed a web cam and good broadband. CORANZ should trial it.

Action 2: It would be valuable to have more teleconferences, if cost can be kept low.

Action 3: Peter and Hugh to test the idea with up to 4 people, and if successful, implement. www.skype.com. Note also that both Telstra-Clear and Telecom have 3-way calling at much lower rates, where this is an option. Hugh has used the Telstra-Clear system, which has a minimal extra cost.

6. Treasurer's Report:

Hugh presented this for Strato. Subs were paid up, and there was a slight surplus for the year. Peter Vahry said that the Outdoor Recreation party was winding up.

Moved (Barr/Veail): That the CORANZ Annual Accounts for the year ending 30 June be approved. **Carried**

7. Teleconference 11 am – 12 noon:

Alan McMillan (PANZ) and Trish Rea (option4) joined the Meeting by teleconference at 11 am.

T2.1 Public Access matters:

T2.1.2 Walking Access Commission and improving public access

Alan spoke about the last Walking Access Commission meeting. In terms of the proposed Walking Access Code, he had concerns about how obstructions across public rights of way were dealt with. The public had a right to clear the obstruction, but this was not mentioned. Alan said PANZ favoured a change to the Trespass Act to allow the public to proceed round an obstruction. WAC is in the process of re-creating cadastral maps that show more access ways than the previous cadastral maps.

There was also the issue of access over Maori land. This was just private land and the same rules applied for all types of private land. Alan said that farm tracks in place before 1978 on Crown land were deemed to be public roads, under the Local Govt Amendment Act 1978, and that these should be identified, and made public.

Alan said PANZ was currently working with Ruapehu District Council to re-open a public road through Erua State Forest, to allow public, including recreational hunter, use. Alan recommended Brian Hayes' publication "**Roading Law as it applies to Unformed Roads**" (February 2007) available from the WAC. Hayes has also written "Elements **of the law on movable water boundaries** (2007).

Alan said that gaining provisions for public access in District Plans was important. John Henderson pointed out that access with a firearm was always more difficult, as it was governed by the Wild Animal Control Act, and made use of a firearm without landowner permission a criminal offence.

Nevis River: PANZ is also involved in supporting the Water Conservation Order on the Nevis River, a tributary of the Kawarau, along with NZFFA, CORANZ and F&G. PANZ believes the historic heritage of the area, including the gold-mining and Chinese associations need protection too. Pioneer Generation which owns two pastoral leases, wants to build a hydro dam that would flood many sites, and destroy the free-flowing river.

T 2.2 Recreational Sea Fishing Issues:

Trish Rea spoke of Option4's work, including a wide-ranging coalition of twelve recreational, Maori and conservation interests. These had come together to oppose Ministry of Fisheries' hollow and meaningless "Vision 2030" with few if any measurable outcomes, apart from increasing the number of species in the privatised Quota Management System. There were concerns much of this increased commercial quota would come from the recreational quota.

The MFish Vision was supposed to set out where the New Zealand Fishery should be in 2030. However its main goal seemed to be even greater economic return, regardless of whether this was sustainable. The Coalition put forward a sustainable Alternate Vision with much more detail, and more appropriate goals. CORANZ has strongly supported the Alternate Sustainable Vision. The Coalition is likely to continue to work together for a sustainable fishery.

Regarding the Kahawai Challenge, the Minister of Fisheries will be reviewing the Kahawai total allowable catch, and the recreational allowable catch next year.

T2.3: Joint Wild Rivers Campaign: It was noted that an email vote of Councillors in May had supported, without dissent, CORANZ joining the Campaign.

The Teleconference finished at 12 Middy, with Trish and Alan being thanked for their contributions.

Discussion returned to the Annual Report.

5.1. Annual Report and Issues (Contd)

Foreshore and Seabed issues, Meridian's Mokihinui River Dam proposal, and the opposition of the West Coast Ngai Tahu hapu, the Wild Rivers Coalition, of which CORANZ and NZFFA are members, the St James consultation and proposed Management Plan and changed Government policies on pastoral leases were discussed briefly.

5.3. Toxins - 1080 and Brodifacoum

Public concern about aerial 1080 use has increased in many rural areas during the year, including opposition by Westland and Taupo District Councils. This has been helped substantially by the Graf Boys' DVD, "Poisoning Paradise, Ecocide in New Zealand, about the risks to native birds and native ecosystems, and about the cowboy nature of this deadly poison. CORANZ needs to think hard about how to capitalise on this to get a permanent reduction in aerial 1080.

Brodifacoum use eg by DOC on Rangitoto and Motutapu Islands in the Hauraki Gulf, has highlighted that it is even worse than 1080 in its killing power, especially on birds and fish, as well as mammals, killing at rates of one part per four million parts of body weight. It is also almost indestructible in animals poisoned, with danger periods of 3 years. Only about 4 kg of brodifacoum, a second generation anti-coagulant, was used in the 140 tonnes of rat poison dropped at 32 kg per Ha on the two Islands. Many fish and birds died.

John Henderson mentioned phosphorous uses on pigs, and zinc phosphide as other unacceptable poisons. He said the need to re-poison every 4-6 years, far more frequently than one would have expected from natural population growth-rates, showed the poisons were not as effective as claimed.

5.4. SPARC's Outdoor Recreation Strategy disappoints

This had come from Labour's Outdoor Recreation Strategy, and taken three years to be transferred from DOC to SPARC. The Strategy had few specific goals or policies, and was mainly waffle. In comparison SPARC's 5-year strategy had some details. But it seemed that SPARC was most interested in promoting full-time staff, something most volunteer outdoor recreation associations did not have funds for, and found difficult to manage. It may be best for CORANZ to get on with Outdoor advocacy for its national associations, and not bother about SPARC. NZDA, who is a member of Outdoors NZ, will keep a watching brief.

Moved: (Brown/Vahry) That the CORANZ Annual Report be received. **Carried**

7. Relations with DOC – CMSs etc

It was agreed that CORANZ and its member bodies would share submissions around, so that where there was common interest, members would be more aware of them. Peter said continued lobbying by FWD clubs on the West Coast CMS had greatly improved the opportunities for FWD in the CMS, and so on the ground. FWD relations with DOC are "quite good", Peter said. Alec said too that it was important to talk to DOC.

Action 4: CORANZ and members circulate submissions for support from other members.

Hugh encouraged member associations to make use of the two-monthly DOC-national NGO meetings. Issues could be raised, and DOC had to respond, which often gave rise to additional information, with the views of other national NGOs as well as ours being put forward.

Peter raised the issue of appointments to conservation boards. He had written to the Minister, but received little satisfaction. Associations need to nominate appropriate people with the time available to attend meetings (about 10 days/year).

8. Big Game Hunting Council Establishment Committee

CORANZ was invited to attend the August stakeholder meeting. The initial draft report had adopted a model of having a majority of non-recreational hunting interests, some, such as Federated Farmers, being usually opposed to hunter needs such as access, not using aerial 1080 etc. Proposed ministerial appointment cut across having members represent their stakeholder group.

A National Recreational Hunting Advisory Committee in 1979, had similar characteristics, and the Minister appointed people sympathetic to NZ Forest Service views, to the major disadvantage of recreational hunting interests. Meetings were secret from stakeholder groups. The EC's proposed new name, Game Animal Council highlighted the major change from the democratic elective approach of a "Fish and Game" type model of hunters managing hunting, as proposed in CORANZ's 2008 Election Charter (Policy 1.4.1 Seek management by a statutory recreational hunter body).

The final consultation document is due at the end of September.

9. CORANZ 2008 Election Charter – Review

Alec expressed concern that the Section on settlement of Treaty Claims was too harsh. Hugh said the version printed had been significantly modified since. Peter Vahry raised the matter of the new S 4.3A Management of Four-Wheel Drive access to the Public Estate, and its policies, which had also missed the print deadline for the 2008 Charter.

Action 5: Hugh to circulate the updated electronic copy of the 2008 Charter, with the two additions/modifications discussed above.

9.1 NZFWD concerns: Peter said that NZFWD Assn had concerns about getting FWD people onto conservation boards. He said relations with DOC West Coast were good, with DOC listening to what FWD Clubs were saying.

NZFWD Association is concerned about the Auckland Regional Council (ARC) actively campaigning to ban all vehicle use on Auckland beaches. There are less confrontational approaches NZFWD Assn believes.

9.2 Jet Boating NZ concerns: Further water abstraction on the Wairau River in Marlborough. Trustpower's proposal is causing JBNZ concern. An option would be to take them to court to get 3-5 recreational days/year. JBNZ opposes the Hurinui Water project, and favours the National Water Conservation Order. JBNZ is also concerned about damming and abstraction on the Matakītaki River.

10. CORANZ Annual Subscriptions:

Moved: (Brown/Workman) That the CORANZ Subscriptions remain the same as last year. Carried **Annual subscriptions therefore are set at;**

National Associations: **\$350**; Regional members and Clubs: **\$100**; Individual Members: **\$25**

Clive suggested CORANZ should consider applying for funds where a case could be made.

Action 6: Hugh

11. Election of Officers:

Co-Chairs: Ken Sims, Tony Orman – Nominated: Barr (PANZ)/Brown (NZDA) Carried unanimously

Secretary: Hugh Barr – Nominated Vahry (NZFWD)/Brown (NZDA) Carried unanimously

Treasurer: Strato Cotsilinis – Nominated Barr (PANZ)/Brown (NZDA) Carried unanimously

Appointment of Auditor: A S Collison was re-appointed Honorary Auditor

Steve Veail was thanked for his significant contribution to CORANZ for the last four years as Co-Chairman, and previously.

12. Marlborough Sounds Blue Cod recreational fishery closure:

John Henderson, on behalf of Marlborough Recreational Fishers asked CORANZ to send a letter and critique with the Minister of Fisheries regarding the adverse consequences of the closure of the recreational cod fishery in the Marlborough Sounds, in terms of caught cod being damaged, but being returned to the water and dying.

New research contradicts NIWA and MFish's research and shows the stupidity of the present Blue Cod recreational ban, especially when commercial fishers were allowed to take cod right up to the Sounds boundary. Enormous waste from damaged cod being put back in the water, as they can't be taken by rec fishers. 20-30 cod caught per hour on tarakihi small (nibbler) hooks. Enormous mortality when they are put back. MFish refuse to change. There is no shortage of cod.

Moved (Workman/Mclver) That CORANZ file a critique for the Marlborough Recreational Fishers with the Minister of Fisheries. **Carried** unanimously.

Action 7: Hugh and Tony Orman to write letter

13. Building CORANZ's future:

Last year's priorities for CORANZ were:

The eleven priorities from 2008 were:

1. Stop the privatisation and commercialisation of outdoor sports
2. Clean & healthy flowing rivers
3. Restore our grossly overfished sea fisheries to sustainability especially for recreation
4. Continue Pastoral Lease Tenure Review:
5. Stop large scale spreading of Toxins for "pest" control. Instead introduce harvesting regimes, where the animal has a market value.
6. Improve public access to the countryside – Walking Access Act
7. Management of Deer, Chamois, tahr and feral pigs as a valued resource
8. Development of an Outdoor Recreation Strategy with SPARC.
9. Methods of allocation of fresh water
10. DOC's commercial carbon sequestration programme
11. Re-orienting DOC to recreation

Clive said priorities common to most members were: 1, 2, 6, 8, 11.

Sea fishing associations: Priority 3: Option4, JBNZ, Salmon Anglers Assn, Marl Rec Fishers

Priority 4: Pastoral lease tenure review: NZDA, NZFFA, PANZ, NZFWD,

Priorities 5, 7, 10: Stop spreading toxins/Manage big game/DOC carbon sequestration: NZDA, Bowhunters.

Priority 9: Allocating fresh water: NZFFA, NZSAA, JBNZ, PANZ?

Also endeavour to have more Skype or other tele-links, and mutually undertake and support submissions where possible.

14. CORANZ Website and Logo

CORANZ does not have a logo and needs one. Also CORANZ needs its own website, as the community website we are using via Ken Sims is no longer available. When CORANZ gets a website we will also need to find a person to maintain and update it.

Action 8: Peter and Hugh to investigate.

The meeting closed at 3.15 pm, with thanks by the Chair to those attending.

Hugh Barr
Secretary

Confirmed as a true and correct Record: _ K.Sims_ _ _ _ Chair: _ _ _ _ _ Date:10 /3 / 2010

Actions completed:

5. Hugh to circulate updated electronic copy of the 2008 Charter, Done with these draft Minutes.
7. Letter opposing Marlborough Sounds recreational Blue Cod ban: Sent 23 October.
8. Logo: Peter has circulated various possible logos. The most supported was CORANZ with a water reflection and a mountains and lake background.
CORANZ Website: www.coranz.org.nz reserved. Website constructed.

Actions outstanding:

1. CORANZ write to DOC Southland opposing the Poteriteri Wilderness.
2. More CORANZ teleconferences if costs can be kept low.
3. Peter and Hugh to investigate Skype teleconferences. www.skype.com
4. Ongoing: CORANZ and members circulate submissions for support from other members
6. Ongoing: Consider applications for funds.