



Minutes of the CORANZ 13th Annual General Meeting, Sunday 12th September 2010

Held at Evans Bay Yacht Club, 501 Evans Bay Parade Wellington, 9.50 am– 3.20pm

Co-Chairman Tony Orman opened the meeting, and welcomed delegates at 9.50 am

1 Present: **Tony Orman** (Marlborough Rec Fishers Assn) Chair; **Ken Sims** Co-Chair, CORANZ, (NZFFA); **Hugh Barr**, Secretary CORANZ, (PANZ)); **Strato Cotsilinis** (NZFFA) CORANZ Treasurer; **Steve Veail**, Immediate Past Co-Chair; **Max Wheatley** (NZ4WD Assn), Jim Hale (President, NZ Federation of Freshwater Anglers), **Tim Ellis**, (Past-president, NZ Salmon Anglers Assn), **Bill Benfield**, (Marlborough Recreational Fishers), **Tony Macklin** (Observer, Wellington Deerstalkers Assn). Teleconf: **Trish Rea** (Option4).

2 Apologies: Alan McMillan (Chair, Public Access NZ), Ron Stuart (President, NZ Salmon Anglers' Assn), Peter Vahry (NZFWD Assn); John Henderson (Marlborough Rec Fishers); Lloyd Hansen (President, Marlborough Recreational Fishers' Assn); Clark Marshall (Jet Boating NZ); Clive Workman (Vice President, Jet Boating NZ); **Moved:** Hale/Benfield That the apologies be accepted. **Carried.**

3 Notified delegates:

NZ Salmon Anglers Assn: Tim Ellis, Ron Stuart, Bruce Moody

NZ FWD Assn: Max Wheatley, Roger Seymour, Peter Vahry

Public Access NZ: Alan McMillan, Brian Turner, Hugh Barr

JBNZ: Clark Marshall, Clive Workman (Pres), Garth McMaster

NZ Freshwater Anglers Assn: Ken Sims, Jim Hale, Tony Orman

Option 4: Trish Rea, Jason Foord, Scott McIndoe

NZ Bowhunters Assn:

Marlborough Rec Fishers Assn: Tony Orman

NZ Deerstalkers Association resigned from CORANZ in October 2009 for unspecified reasons, possibly related to the proposed formation of a New Zealand Game Animal Council..

4 Minutes of 2009 AGM (Circulated): **Moved:** Barr/Sims That the Minutes of the 2009 AGM be accepted as a true and correct record. **Carried.**

5 Matters arising from the Minutes not on the Agenda:

- a) **Skype:** An audio conference call is possible and of good quality. But video calling is only for 1 to 1 communications. Needs broadband. **Action:** Steve and Hugh to organise a trial in the next two months.
- b) **CORANZ new logo.** This was approved initially by an email vote. The meeting confirmed acceptance of the new logo, developed by Peter Vahry. Many thanks Peter.

6 CORANZ Annual Report: This was worked through and discussed heading by heading.

6.1 Foreshore and Seabed: Hugh spoke to this issue, saying that it was a very divisive matter. The public was being misinformed. CORANZ had protested about the proposed, potentially massive privatisation, of the 100,000 sq km of foreshore and seabed to Maori tribal groups. He had

authored opinion pieces in the Herald and DomPost prior to the 30 April closing date for submissions. There has been a strong veil of secrecy by the Government, which seems only taking interest of Maori views.

For example the Summary of submissions has not yet been released, and is being withheld in spite of requests for it. Hugh is compiling a book, "*The Gathering Storm over the Foreshore and Seabed – Why it must remain in public ownership*".

Bill Benfield said it was disappointing that the Labour Party had gone to ground on the issue, even though Helen Clark's 2004 Act was a good one. Tim Ellis pointed out that there were no 100% Maori. Tony Orman said this could directly affect deerstalkers on Stewart Island, and salmon anglers, and that Fish & Game should be actively defending their licence-holders' interests. Parts of the Rakaia River mouth was Maori land.

Moved (Orman/Ellis): That CORANZ write to Fish & Game and NZDA warning them of the possible consequences of the Bill on public access on the Foreshore & Seabed etc. **Carried.**

6.2 Hydro proposals on recreationally significant rivers:

The Mokihinui, Arnold, Nevis (Tributary of the Kowarau) and Wairau rivers were under threat. Smaller rivers like the Matiri and Gowan (tributaries of the Buller) were also threatened.

Moved (Hale/Orman): That a letter of support be sent to Debs Martin (Forest & Bird, Nelson) re her sterling work on advocating for protecting the Mokihinui. **Carried.**

Moved (Orman/Barr) That CORANZ write to Otago Fish & Game (Niall Watson) supporting Otago F&G in their fight for the Nevis River. **Carried**

6.3 Walking Access Commission: This is now established, and working satisfactorily, though still not as an advocate. We need to tell CORANZ members to use their access mapping system, WAMS, accessible from their website. There is still no Commission member with a recreational hunting/fishing/public access background.

6.4 Pollution of fresh water: The inadequacy of the Fonterra voluntary accord on streams was mentioned. Light-handed (usually light-fingered) regulation doesn't work. The Manawatu River Accord, where Federated farmers refused to participate, was mentioned, and where non-farm human sewage, and wool-scour were also polluting the river.

Moved (Hale/Sims): CORANZ make a media release warning of the inadequacy of voluntary river accords. **Carried.**

Conference Call 11 am:

Trish Rea (Option 4) talked about Option 4's concerns, especially the need to stop purse seining of kahawai, and having "More fish in the Sea". The Kokianga Accord was operating well, with input by Greenpeace and Forest & Bird, in joint submissions. Putting seaweeds into the Quota Management System created high risks, because seaweed provided hiding places for small fish. So losing it by commercial harvesting could threaten the fish food-chain.

The issue of Blue Cod recreational restrictions was also of concern. Steve Veaill said the Blue Cod appeared to spawn on Marlborough's East Coast. Hugh mentioned the Walking Access Commission's public access maps to Trish as helpful to coastal access. Jason Foord may be interested in being an expert..

Moved (Orman/Sims) That CORANZ make formal submissions on the Blue Cod ban. **Carried.**

Trish felt that CORANZ served to broaden Option 4's reach and served a valuable purpose, in a similar way to the Hokianga Accord.

The Teleconference ended at 11.40 am.

6.5 Recreational Sea Fishing: Recreational fishers were being discriminated against through recreational set net bans for moki and butterfish, while commercial and customary fishers could use them. However setting set-nets overnight should be banned. Tony Macklin said set nets should be inspected every four hours.

There was concern that the NZ Rec Fishing Council was not effective at protecting recreational fishers interests, and was being captured by commercial fishers and MFish interests. Phil Heatley, the Minister had been disappointing, especially given his position in opposition. Forest & Bird appeared to want to turn the Marlborough Sounds into a marine reserve. Tory Channel is proposed as a Mataitai.

It was mentioned that recreational bodies can often get sabotaged by commercial interests as a way of getting them out of the way. Fish & Game, for instance, is being pressured by commercial trout and salmon farming, and pheasant preserves, as well as hydro contractors, some of whom get themselves elected, then sabotage the association.

Tim said that the salmon runs were reducing and were suffering from higher water temperatures. He said the Rakaia River mouth was mounding, and that floods could well bypass it.

6.6 Poisons and Toxins:

Aerial 1080 continues to be promoted by DOC and the so-called Animal Health Board. DOC have instigated "Operation Kaka" over a rectangular area of the Tararua Forest Park, between Otaki Forks and Holsworth Roadend, covering 22,000 ha of primarily the Otaki catchment, the Upper Ruhine, and part of the Waingawa. This will get 3-yearly aerial 1080 drops to encourage kaka and other native birds. The architect of the scheme, Ben Reddix, has now left to work for MAF Biosecurity.

Aerial 1080 drops continue in the Richmond range, though with no sign of Bovine TB, or of infected possums. Also on the West Coast. Brodifacoum, the anti-coagulant poison is also a problem, remaining for much longer in the environment, and being much more toxic to animals with blood than even 1080

6.7 National Government's anti-democratic actions:

This last year of the National Government, it made the anti-democratic decision to sack the elected Canterbury Regional Council, and appoint its own people to develop a Freshwater Allocation Plan favouring irrigators.

6.8 Pastoral Lease Tenure Review: Only a few leases now come forward each year. The game is very much in the lessees' hands. There is likely to be a shortage of funds. Soldiers syndicate Pastoral Occupation Licence has gone back into tenure review, with the expectation it will get some type of special lease. Tenure Review is a massive subsidy for pastoral lessees.

6.9 Heli-hunting and WARO:

Steve Veail said that DOC was not doing its job with regard to heli-hunting, where recreational users and relevant conservation boards opposed the cowboy activities of hunting from a helicopter. It certainly couldn't be called a recreational activity, or a sport. A Heli-hunting Action Group had been formed. Phil Wilson, a hunting guide was the convenor. Also, with WARO operations, DOC was not prosecuting WARO operators hunting in Rec Hunting Areas, places where WARO activities were prohibited. DOC was wilfully ignoring its job.

6.10 DOC reducing its emphasis on outdoor recreation: This is becoming explicit, as DOC's priorities become co-ordinating with industry, and promoting tourism. This is every much a National Government approach, and as befits Government Servants, it is left to DOC's DG and senior managers to develop and sell it.

CORANZ and other outdoor recreation advocacy groups need to develop strategies for countering this anti-recreation DOC Strategy.

Moved (Veail/Ellis) That the CORANZ Annual Report be received. **Carried.**

7 Treasurer's Report:

After Strato presented his Report, discussion it was

Moved (Cotsilinis/Sims) That the CORANZ Financial Accounts for 2009-10 be approved. **Carried**

Moved (Cotsilinis/Hale) That the annual subscriptions stay the same. **Carried.**

Thus the subs remain at: National members \$350/year; Regional members and Clubs: \$ **\$100**;
Individual Members: **\$25.**

8 CORANZ Elections:

The following had been nominated by member associations prior to the AGM, and were elected.

Co-Chairs: Tony Orman - nominated by NZSAA, PANZ, Peter Vahry Nominated by PANZ, NZFFA (Subject to his agreement)

Secretary: Hugh Barr - nominated by NZSAA, PANZ

Treasurer: Strato Cotsilinis - nominated by NZSAA, PANZ

Auditor: Alan Collison – confirmed.

9 FWD Policies on public land:

Max Wheatley said NZFWD Assn was developing policies for different types of land, about allowing FWD activities. He also said that the WAC Public Access maps (WAMS) were useful to FWD users, and NZFWD Assn was helping the WAC with EWD access info.

10 SPARC:

Ken said that SPARC “help” for recreational associations consisted of contracting the Association to do SPARC’s job for it. The latest recreational association was the NZ Sports Fishing Association. Under this SPARC system recreation associations had to spend more time doing SPARC’s work than doing what they wanted to do for their members.

SPARC had lots of highly paid “managers”. The question recreational users were asking was – is it helpful to waste time on SPARC objectives rather than their own.

11 CORANZ's Top Five Strategies:

Tony Orman said that since he became involved in outdoor recreation politics in 1969, there had been, in his view, very few victories. Bureaucracies had triumphed.

MMP provides a new system, of requiring the two major parties to form coalitions to gain a majority to be able to govern. Minor parties were working out how to use this situation to get key policies adopted. However the attempt to get an Outdoor Recreation Political Party had failed to get a seat or anything like the 5% of votes threshold.

Tony recommended that the public vote for appropriate minor parties that were recreation friendly. But there was a high risk, as shown by NZ First getting over 4% of the vote in 2008, but not getting into Parliament, that the risks of one’s vote not counting at all, were high. It was agreed that the Party vote, in this situation, was the most important vote. But the other parties knew this too, and competition for the party vote was always strong.

Top Five Strategies: Suggestions put forward were:

1 Keeping DOC honest regarding outdoor recreation, and managing public lands for the recreational public

2 Halting exclusive capture of Sorts Fish, Game-birds and Big Game Animals

3 Ensuring the Foreshore and Seabed remained in Crown ownership, for the benefit of all New Zealanders.

4 Fairer water allocation, management and pollution reduction. And no privatisation, or subsidies for water using industries

5 NZ is one country, and one people, and should have equal recreational rights for all.

6 Recreational Sea Fishery: Fairer recognition of recreational sea fishing and more equal management of NZ's sea fishery, not as now solely for the commercial and customary sectors.

7 More balance and less subsidies for lessees in Pastoral Lease Tenure Review

A central issue was ensuring the survival and growth of CORANZ as the original founders retired. The usual problems of getting younger people round the Council table, and giving them an understanding of the unsatisfactory treatment of outdoor recreation, and addressing strategies to change this.

Steve Veail pointed out that all councillors needed to encourage new groups to join CORANZ, as well as present members to be actively involved in outdoor recreation politics.

Moved (Barr/Hale) That the CORANZ Constitution be reviewed to allow regional recreational groups to have a vote, with, if possible, a Special General Meeting by February 2011. **Carried.**

12 CORANZ Charter for the 2011 Election:

Tony and Ken agreed to do an initial assessment of new policies. Also Tony wants to shorten and sharpen the Strategy to keep with fewer main proposals for change.

13 Vote of thanks to Wellington Deerstalkers' Association for use of the Evans Bay Yacht Club rooms. **Carried with acclamation.**

The meeting closed at 3.20 pm, with thanks by the Chair to those attending

Hugh Barr
Secretary

Confirmed as a true and correct Record: _ _ _ _ _ **Chair:** _ _ _ **Date:** / /
2011

Actions completed:

Actions outstanding: