



Minutes of the CORANZ 14th Annual General Meeting, Sunday 18th September 2011

Held at Evans Bay Yacht Club, 501 Evans Bay Parade Wellington, 9.55 am– 3.20pm

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

1 Present: **Tony Orman** Co-Chair, (Marlborough Rec Fishers Assn) Chair; **Bill Benfield**, Co-Chair, (Marlborough Recreational Fishers); **Hugh Barr**, Secretary CORANZ, (PANZ); **Strato Cotsilinis** Treasurer CORANZ, (NZFFA); **Steve Veail**, Immediate Past Co-Chair; **Jim Hale** (President, NZ Federation of Freshwater Anglers); **Ken Sims**, (NZFFA); **Tim (Neville) Ellis**, (Past-president, NZ Salmon Anglers Assn); **Bruce Moody** (NZSAA); **Andy Cockroft** (Observer, Tread lightly).
Teleconf: **Alan McMillan** (PANZ), **Peter Vahry**, (PANZ).

2 Apologies: **Ron Stuart** (President, NZ Salmon Anglers' Assn); **Lloyd Hanson** (President, Marlborough Recreational Fishers' Assn); **Clive Workman** (President, Jet Boating NZ); **Moved:** Barr/Ellis That the apologies be accepted. **Carried.**

Death of John B Henderson:

Tony asked for a minute's silence in honour of John, who passed away last March. John was an outstanding outdoor recreational hunter and advocate for half a century, with an encyclopaedic knowledge of deerstalking and the environment, a twice NZDA president, a life member of the NZ Deerstalkers' Association, and the second Chairman of the Save Manapouri Campaign.

He first introduced European scientific methods of assessing deer jaws and other methods, and was a keen analyst of recreational issues. He is an example to us all as to what can be achieved. He is sorely missed, but his inspirational approach lives on.

3 Notified delegates:

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

Public Access NZ: Alan McMillan, Peter Vahry, Hugh Barr

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

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

Option 4: Trish Rea, Jason Foord, Scott McIndoe

NZ Bowhunters Assn: Alan Metcalfe, Andrew Duncan

Marlborough Rec Fishers Assn: Tony Orman & Bill Benfield.

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

4 Minutes of 2010 AGM (Circulated): **Moved:** Hale/Sims That the Minutes of the 2010 AGM be accepted as a true and correct record. **Carried.**

5 Matters arising from the Minutes not on the Agenda:

5.1 Rakaia and Waimakariri minimum flows at the Mouth: Tim Ellis said that ECAN now measured the Rakaia minimum flow at the Rakaia Gorge, rather than further downstream. Consequently all the water pumped out by mainly dairy farmers downstream, did not get counted as being missing. Also, because of the abstractions much more gravel was building up in the Rakaia river bed. One couldn't see daylight under the SH1 bridges from downstream now.

Tim proposed ECAN should measure the minimum flow near the Rakaia Mouth of 60 cumecs. At present no minimum flow is required at the mouth. He said that floods were not washing the gravel out of the mouth, and so the Mouth was filling in. The Mouth had been closed for about a month last summer, stopping salmon return.

Moved: (Ellis/Sims) That CORANZ write to Environment Canterbury (ECAN), the Ministry of the Environment, MAFF, etc expressing concern about the buildup of gravel closing the Rakaia River mouth, and asking that there be a minimum flow for the Mouth of 60 cumecs. **Carried**

Bruce Moody said that the Waimakariri also had problems of low flow at the mouth. The flow was sometimes so low that the river couldn't adequately get out to sea and flooded the low lying river flats at high tide. Gravel build-up was not a problem, as it is easily extracted for Christchurch, next door.

Moved: (Moody/Ellis) That CORANZ write to ECAN and Government agencies, the similarly, there was gravel build-up at the Waimakariri Mouth, and that a minimum flow of 40 cumecs at the SH1 bridge should apply. **Carried.**

Tim said only 30 salmon had spawned up the Rakaia last summer. Tony said the Wairau (Marlborough) had a good salmon run. There were also Quinnant salmon on the West Coast.

6 CORANZ Annual Report:

Tony worked through heading by heading. He said that the adverse effects affected broad groups of outdoor recreationists, who were mainly volunteers.

The **CORANZ Outdoor Recreation Election Charter** had been shortened, and distributed to political parties, who had been asked to comment. Parties that had replied were – New Zealand First, Greens, Kiwi Party, United Future, and the Conservatives. National, Labour, ACT, Maori and Mana parties did not respond.

The longer (2008 version of the Charter is also still relevant, but requires updating. The main issue is privatisation of the outdoors, back to English feudalism. Charging for river access, coastal access, etc

Water abstraction and pollution is a major issue. Dairy farmers maximise their use to keep their entitlement, because they pay nothing extra for their water.

DOC and the PCE are pushing more 1080, latest result 7 of 9 tagged kea die during 1080 poisoning in Okarito-Waikukupa (Franz Joseph-Hari Hari area). Note Bill Benfield's new book all about 1080 and toxins ("The Third Wave" \$30 ea.) A mine of information on poisons.

The management of the sea fisheries is excessively pro-commercial, under this Govt. Presumably the Minister Heatley is instructed to help the commercial sector at the expense of the recreational sector. Article in this weekend's Sunday Star-Times shows the connection between Peter Goodfellow, president of the National Party and a major shareholder in Sanford Fishing/aquaculture company.

Population policy – NZ doesn't need more people. Having an emissions trading scheme puts pressure on damming rivers, etc.

This election (26 November) is very important to try to unseat the National Party. Expect National to fight strongly against this threat. Some members were concerned that, though we agreed that National was on the wrong path, there were dangers in asking member to vote against the Nats. This is a significant dilemma, and may yet work against us, in spite of NZ having 40% of swing voters.

Voters dissatisfied with a govt, often tend not to vote, rather than vote against their traditional party. The best strategy may be to point out what is wrong with what National and the Maori Party are doing, and what is good about what the other parties are doing. Then others can weigh the evidence. Few voters vote solely on their outdoor recreation concerns.

Moved: Sims/Hale That the Co-Chairs Annual Report be received. **Carried**

Matters arising:

6.1 Foreshore and seabed privatisation:

Hugh said that the National Government's Marine & Coastal Area (M&CA) Act, passed on 24 March, by 63 votes to 56, with Peter Dunne and the Maori Party voting in support, and Labour, the Greens ACT and various individual MPs voting against.

The Act provides for much of New Zealand's foreshore and seabed to be given away to iwi by secret back-room deals. Already four claims have been lodged, and 12 claims will carry over from the previous 2004 Act, and go to the High Court. It is legislation that is very unclear on meanings, with iwi "tikanga" (traditions) being defined by the applicant group.

Hugh said there is very good reason to question the legitimacy of iwi customary title, given the Maori sign of exclusive occupation is *ahi kaa*, keeping the home fires burning. Maori recognise a different god of the sea, Tangaroa, to the gods of the land. Equally British law, that New Zealand adopted in 1840, recognises the foreshore and seabed as a public common, held consequently under Crown ownership. This dates from the time of the Roman Empire at least.

Minister Finlayson is talking secretly to Northland iwi and assuring them that they will get Ninety Mile Beach. No claims are being considered before the Election. Which means that if National is not the Government after the Election, then these cases may at least have to proceed via the High Court. The Coastal Coalition is running a Citizens Initiated petition, to gain 10% of the voter roll, and initiate a referendum. Petition forms available from Hugh. Hugh has taken leave from the Coastal Coalition because he is a candidate for New Zealand First in the Ohariu Electorate in the November 26th Election. Alan Simmons and Doug Stevens are standing for United Future.

Free public access to fishing is under threat by wahi tapu (areas where the public is forbidden, and fines of up to \$5,000 can be imposed) which can be declared anywhere in a tribal group's customary area.

Teleconference Start 11.05 am:

This was held courtesy of Peter Vahry getting permission to use DataCom's audio-conferencing system for free outside business hours. This opens the way for CORANZ Council meetings using the system in future.

Alan McMillan Chair, PANZ, Dunedin:

Alan said that most PANZ public access issues involved obstructions on public roads. PANZ was considering asking the Walking Access Commission to approach Crown Law Office to give a legal opinion on the rights of the public to remove obstructions. The Police have been saying in some areas that this is a civil matter of no interest to them. Rural local authorities were sometimes reluctant to act.

Andy Cockroft said that in cases that he had been involved in (Upper Hutt unformed road) the police had been sympathetic. Police rarely take action themselves. Need to avoid creating a hazard by releasing stock.

Hugh said that an adverse legal opinion by Crown Law could be counter-productive. Crown legal opinions have no legal standing in any case. The WAC says its goal is to remove conflict and get access and property groups "working together". Hugh asked Alan what advantage a Crown Law legal opinion would provide.

Tim Ellis raised the matter of the road to Lake Sumner via Lake Taylor and Loch Katrine, where a local farmer controlled road access. Tim and PANZ agreed to look at this issue. **ACTION:** PANZ

A second matter PANZ sees as important is public access to Crown Forest Assets (the exotic forests formerly owned by the NZ Forest Service, and leased for 30-70 years by the Government in about 1990), and wants to work with CORANZ on this. Initially these forests had both public foot access (without a firearm) during the hours of daylight, and a few road accesses, also during the hours of daylight.

However, over the years, Exotic forestry companies have claimed there is danger to the public (eg fire, logging) or danger to the forest (fire, vandalism) which has led them to stop public access. Kaingaroa, the largest Crown Forest Asset has become a problem. Many of these forests are highly used by 4WD clubs, motor-sports, recreational hunters etc, and have significant recreational value.

Many of these exotic forests are being transferred to iwi as part of Treaty Claims, though the lease agreements still have 30 or so years to run, ie final cut of the forests.

Alan proposed that PANZ and CORANZ take public access to these forests as a joint project, together with other interested parties such as 4WD clubs, Federation of Freshwater Anglers etc.

Moved: (McMillan/Sims) That CORANZ and PANZ, FFA and FWD interests and any other interest groups, work together to regain better public access to Crown Exotic Forests. **Carried ACTION: PANZ, CORANZ**

Notes: 1) There is provision for consultation in the **Crown Forest Assets Act** for public access covenants (S 26 Variation & cancellation of easements, S 27 Consultation before public access easements varied or cancelled, S 28 Review of public access easement on return of land to Maori ownership). 2) There is also the **Central North Island Forest Land Collective Settlement Act 2008**, under which the Crown disposed of eight Crown forests to CNI Iwi.

Alan also mentioned that he had a 1977 aerial photo of Pilot's Beach, Taiaroa Head showing a disputed public road.

Peter Vahry (PANZ) then spoke from Auckland, and agreed with Alan of the importance of Forest access for FWD users. The NZFWD Association had talked to Hancock Forest Management, a major forest manager in the Central North Island, a few years ago. But the CEO left it to his managers to make public access decisions.

Peter considered that the withdrawal of NZFWD Assn was partly because new Exec members did not understand what CORANZ did. Peter favours the proposed changes in the CORANZ constitution to give regional voting membership.

Hugh thanked Peter for arranging the telephone link. **The Teleconference ended at 11.35 am.**

Discussion returned to the matters arising in the CORANZ Annual Report:

M&CA Act (Contd.):

There was concern that Fish & Game and the Recreational Fishing Council and other recreational fishing groups should have taken more interest, with sea-run trout, and wahi tapu areas being significant issues.

Tim explained that Canterbury Salmon Anglers worked closely with North Canterbury Fish & Game. They would raise the foreshore and seabed access with Canty F&G.

Tim and Bruce said they were very concerned at the major reduction in kahawai numbers around river mouths in recent years. Bruce said that kahawai at the Waimak River mouth had been in large shoals.

Moved Orman/Sims: That CORANZ write to the NZ Rec Fishing Council regarding our concerns about the Marine & Coastal Area Act, and about reduced public access to kahawai, and to NZ Fish & Game regarding their responsibility for sea-run trout near river mouths. **Carried:**

7 Correspondence:

Tony reported that NZ First, the Greens, the Kiwi Party, United Future and the (new) Conservative Party had written to CORANZ about their policies, responding to the CORANZ 2011 Election Charter. Neither Labour, National nor ACT had responded.

8 CORANZ Annual Accounts:

Strato presented the Annual Accounts, saying expenditure had been down, and that a surplus of \$1,282.38 was recorded. Total funds stood at \$10,220.78, almost the same as last year.

Moved: (Sims/Ellis) That the CORANZ Financial Accounts be approved. **Carried.**

Moved: (Barr/Hale): That the CORANZ Subscriptions remain the same as last year, namely \$350/year for full national membership; \$100 for associate membership, and \$25 for individual associate membership. **Carried.**

Tony thanked Strato and Carmen for their work for CORANZ.

Regarding national associations generally, Ken said volunteer associations were struggling. Successful associations had individual membership, and tended to be project-based, and Financial Appeal-based. They gave significant feedback to members on their projects, and encouraged members to write submissions/letters to Ministers etc. Ken asked whether CORANZ should encourage individual members, and newsletters on feedback etc.

Hugh said that CORANZ's membership of other associations meant that CORANZ relied directly on these organisations. For CORANZ to target individual members in these organisations was likely to create strain on these members. In any case, at present the CORANZ subscription income was very low, and unable to support a full-time person, usually needing \$60,000 or so, including a small office. At present CORANZ had a volunteer structure.

New member application: Sporting Hunters Outdoor Trust (SPOT): They are applying for CORANZ associate membership (non-voting, but AGM speaking rights). CORANZ only had the Bowhunters as a big game animal hunting member. So SHOT would be complementary to them. SHOT saw its role as a "ginger group" to promote deerstalking and other big game recreational hunting.

Moved: (Barr/Sims) That the Sporting Hunters Outdoor Trust become an Associate member of CORANZ. **Carried.**

It was noted that the CORANZ Constitution referred to "Charitable Trusts" and the "Charitable Trusts Act 1957". Charitable trusts are now covered by the Charities Act 2005. The 1998 CORANZ Constitution should be updated to include reference to this new Act.

Strato noted that option4 had not paid its sub for 20010-11. **Action:** Secretary.

12.40 - 1.20pm: Lunch

9 Amendments to the CORANZ Constitution to allow regional voting members:

The paper discussing these changes was previously circulated to Councillors for comment. No comments had been received.

The first step is to amend Rule 4 to allow Regional Voting members as follows (changes in red):

4 (a) *There shall be two classes of membership - full (voting) and associate (non-voting).*

4 (b) (i) **Full national and regional voting membership** of the Council shall be open to any incorporated national **or regional** Outdoor Recreation Association, Society or Charitable Trust, whose objects are compatible with those of the Council.

(ii) Regional branches or clubs or regional groupings of clubs of full national members cannot be full regional members. But they can be associate members (Speaking and attendance rights).

This is achieved by the following three Motions:

Motion 1: Moved (Barr/Hale) Add to Rule 4 (a) the word "(voting)" after "full" and "(non-voting)" after "associate". **Carried**

Motion 2: Moved (Barr/Sims) Add to Rule 4 (b) "(i)" after "(b)"; and after "Full" the words "**national and regional voting**"; and after "incorporated national" add "**or regional**" **Carried.**

Motion 3: Moved (Barr/Ellis) Add to Rule 4 (b) a new sub-rule (ii):

"(ii) Regional branches or clubs or regional groupings of clubs of full national members cannot be full regional members. But they can be associate members (Speaking and attendance rights)."

Carried

Regional member appointment and vote: Rule 6 is modified as in red:

6 EXECUTIVE

(a) The Executive shall consist of the officers of the Council who shall be-

two Co-Chairpersons, one Secretary, and a Treasurer - elected at the Council's Annual General Meeting

three Representatives of each full national member association which is financial, namely the President, or their delegate, and two additional representatives, from its governing body, appointed by the governing body of that association, and notified to the Council in writing one month prior to the Annual General Meeting

one representative of each full regional member association which is financial, namely the president or their delegate, notified to the Council in writing, at least one month before the AGM. Voting rights of regional member associations from the same outdoor activity are restricted by Rule 8 (g) below, as for AGMs.

This is achieved by **Motion 4: Moved** (Barr/Hale) Add to Rule 6 (a) after the paragraph starting “three Representatives of each full” the word “*national*”. Add at the end of this paragraph a new paragraph “**one representative of each full regional member association which is financial, namely the president or their delegate, notified to the Council in writing, at least one month before the AGM. Voting rights of regional member associations from the same outdoor activity are restricted by Rule 8 (g) below, as for AGMs.**”

In Rule 7, make the following two changes (in red) to ensure only Full national members have veto rights:

7 MANAGEMENT

(e) Each Officer of the Executive shall have one vote, except that when **a full national member** has less than its three representatives present, the remaining representative(s) can jointly exercise its additional vote(s). The goal of the Council is to promote the common interests of its member associations. To this end decisions of the executive shall be by consensus of the representatives of the member bodies present, (no dissenting associations), except that the Executive cannot veto a resolution of a General Meeting. To exercise a veto in other situations, all representatives of at least one full **national** member association must vote against a proposal.

Motion 5: Add to Rule 7 (e) Management – Voting: In the first sentence of (e) replace “an association” with “**full national member**”. In the last sentence of (e) add “national” after “all representatives of at least one full”.

Representation and Voting at General meetings: 8 GENERAL MEETINGS :

Amend Cl 8 (d), (e), (f), (h) as follows:

(d) Special General Meetings may be convened from time to time as the Executive sees fit, or shall be convened on a request in writing, stating particulars of business to be brought forward, from not fewer than three full **national** members, not less than one month after receipt of such request. Notice of such meeting, giving particulars of business shall be given to members within ten days of receipt of the request. At any such meeting the business to be transacted shall be **the only** ~~the~~ consideration of and if necessary taking action on, the matters referred to expressly, or by implication, in the request.

(e) Each financial full **national** member association may be represented at all General Meetings of the Council by three (3) delegates, **financial full regional members by one (1) delegate**, and associate member associations by one delegate. Members must inform the secretary of the names of their appointed delegates in writing before the General Meeting.

(f) Each financial full **national** member association may exercise three (3) votes, **and each financial full regional member one (1) vote, apart from when Rule 8 (g) applies**

(g) Where more than three full regional members undertake the same outdoor recreational activity, then their combined vote is capped at three votes (as for a national association), and each of the regional associations shares equally in its percentage of the three votes.

(h) The quorum at any General Meeting shall be seven (7) voting delegates or votes representing 30 % of the total full membership, whichever is the lesser.

(i) The annual subscriptions for full and associate members shall be set at the Annual General Meeting.

Motion 6: In Rule 8 (d) add after “three full” the word “*national*”. And after “shall be” add “*the*” remove the “*the*” after “only” (previous mistake).

Motion 7: In Rule 8 (e) add “national” after the first “full”; Add after “delegates”; add “*financial full regional members by one (1) delegate,*”

Motion 8: In Rule 8 (f) add “national” after “full” and add at the end “, *and each financial full regional member one (1) vote, apart from when Rule 8 (g) applies*”

Motion 9: Add a new Rule 8 (g) as follows and renumber the subsequent sub-rules as (h) and (i):

(g) Where more than three full regional members undertake the same outdoor recreational activity, then

their combined vote is capped at three votes (as for a national association), and each of the regional associations shares equally in its percentage of the three votes."

Moved: Motions 6-9 (Barr/hale) **Carried:**

Action: Hugh to prepare 91) an Application Form for regional Full Voting members. (2) Register the changed constitution with the Registrar of Incorporated Societies.

Moved: (Barr/Hale) That the Annual subscription for Full Member voting regional association be set at \$140/year, as recommended. **Carried.**

10 CORANZ Elections:

Chairmen (1 or 2 required): Nominations received: **Co-Chair Tony Orman**, and **Bill Benfield** nominated by NZSAA, PANZ - Tony and Bill were re-elected

Immediate Past Chair: Steve Veail remains in this position.

Secretary – Hugh Barr (PANZ, NZFFA, NZDA) nominated by NZSAA, PANZ. Hugh was re-elected subject to his taking leave of absence from 26 September to 26 November, because he is standing as the New Zealand First candidate in the Ohariu electorate. It was agreed that **Steve Veail** would be acting secretary while Hugh was on leave.

Treasurer- Strato Cotsilinis (NZFFA) nominated by NZSAA, PANZ. Re elected

Auditor – Strato has no longer been able to find an auditor (previously one of his staff took it on) because the onerous requirements of auditors. One solution is to change the constitution to only require a reviewer (a lesser test). CORANZ should consider this amendment to its constitution next year.

11 Public Access – Exclusive Capture:

Jim Hale said that NZFFA had discussion with Fish and Game New Zealand and the New Zealand Professional Guides Assn in Wellington at their AGM in Wellington regarding their opposition of exclusive capture by exclusive lodges and guides to some of New Zealand's iconic trout fishing waters for commercial gain.

Jim said that the Professional Guides Assn at their AGM had passed into their constitution, any guide practicing exclusive capture would be disbarred from that organization. We are all now heading down the same tracks.

Jim said it was his understanding that F&G was reluctant to take a case to the Minister of Conservation and that DOC was not interested in perusing such a case, which the Minister had not done to date.

NZFFA had written to the new President of Federated Farmers Mr. Bruce Wills congratulating him on his election. Stating the NZFFA concerns on matters that affect our waterways regarding angling and other matters; putting forward a wish to have talks at some stage. A letter of reply from NZFF was of good tone and the wish to meet and talk in the future.

Andy Cockroft said that it was the 10 acre block landholders that got picky about public access – wanted their own privacy.

12 MMP referendum and explaining MMP voting:

This is being held on Election Day as well as the Election. It is being carried out at the request of National. Hugh urged people to vote for MMP in Question 1, as it is the only truly proportional voting system. If the pro-MMP vote is over 50% of votes cast, then there is debate about improving the MMP system, eg reducing the 5% threshold (though National is likely to oppose this.), or reducing the MPs in Parliament.

So-called Supplementary Member is First-Past-the-Post in drag. Instead of being proportional, as MMP is, only one quarter of the seats are allocated proportionately. So, small parties are grossly under represented, as with FPP.

In the second question "Which alternative scheme would you support, other than MMP, Hugh urged people to vote for STV (Single Transferable Vote). This system which, although not really proportional, does allow smaller party candidates to be elected.

It was suggested that a good journalist should explain the MMP system to the voters. Chris Trotter's name was mentioned. Under MMP, the Party vote is the most important vote, as this mainly determines, except for the small parties, how many seats a political party will have.

13 Sea-fishing, Option4 and kahawai fish-meal:

It was agreed that CORANZ would confer with option4 regarding Heatley and Goodfellow. And also about concerns about finfish farming in the Firth of Thames and The Hauraki Gulf – it needs about two kg of ground bait fish feed to create kg of caged finfish. Hence will lead to much greater pressure on kahawai, as a commercial fish-meal source. This is unsustainable, as well as being an attack on recreational kahawai fishing.

CORANZ Top six Priorities:

- i) General Election - 26 November - ,oppose National's inadequate outdoor recreation policies eg Marine & Coastal Area Act; etc
- ii) Better sea fisheries management for recreational fishers
- iii) Foreshore and seabed race-based privatisations and public access concerns over "wahi tapu"
- iv) Water allocation, charging and use issues
- v) Sign up regional full members for CORANZ
- vi) Oppose exclusive capture

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 required:

- 1 Register CORANZ's constitution changes
- 2 Respond to the Registrar of Incorporated Societies that CORANZ has held its AGM etc
- 3 Letter to Environment Canterbury etc re flows on the Rakaia & Waimakariri
- 4 CORANZ and PANZ, FFA and FWD interests and any other interest groups, work together to regain better public access to Crown Exotic Forests
- 5 CORANZ write to the NZ Rec Fishing Council regarding our concerns about the Marine & Coastal Area Act, and about reduced public access to kahawai, and to NZ Fish & Game regarding their responsibility for sea-run trout near river mouths
- 6 Approach option4 re their sub.
- 7 Consider amending the CORANZ constitution re Trusts. (There still is a Charitable Trusts Act 1957) and having a reviewer rather than an auditor
- 8 Steve Veail take over as acting Secretary until 26 November.