

NZ Salmon Anglers Newsletter

May 2010 Number 103



**The Picket Fence
Waimakariri River Mouth**

**Don't Forget:
NZSAA Annual General Meeting
Tuesday 25 May 2010 at 7.30 pm**

**Official Newsletter of the New Zealand Salmon Anglers Association Incorporated
P.O. Box 1113, Christchurch 8140**

**NEW ZEALAND SALMON ANGLERS ASSOCIATION (INC)
2009-10 OFFICE HOLDERS AND COMMITTEE**

President	Ron Stuart	358 9082 021 216 3901	cqurityron@xtra.co.nz
Vice Presidents	Neville (Tim) Ellis Pam Ellis	383 0900 021 363140 Tim 021 2113293 Pam	npellis@paradise.net.nz
Secretary & Treasurer	Heather Saunders	388 5718	ianandh.s@ihug.co.nz
Committee	Phil Ball	349 5993 021 256 133	
	Eddie Bassett	327 7418	ebiss@clear.net.nz
	Brian Foley	352 8972	
	John Healy	03 318 8216 0274 334 511	jhealy@xtra.co.nz Fax 03 318 8190
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	Dennis Long	352 2874	Fax 352 3708
	Alf Long	385 8651	
	Warren Mackie	348 3368	
	Bruce Moody	980 1065 027 229 6302	brucemoody@paradise.net.nz
	Warren Windelburn	027 211 0418	
Patron	Athol Price	332 7698	

Committee Meetings:

The Committee meets on the first Monday each month (except January) at 7.30 pm in the Fish & Game premises, 3 Horatio Street, Christchurch. Members and supporters are welcome to attend these meetings.

Honorary Auditor: Trevor Hayes

Life Members: Lindsay Dell, Pam Ellis, Tim Ellis, Brian Foley, Trevor Hayes, John Healy, Ken Hughey, Ross Lightfoot, Athol Price, Doug Roy, Stephen Sparrow

Disclaimer

The opinions expressed in any letters and articles in this newsletter are the authors' own and are not necessarily those of the New Zealand Salmon Anglers Association (Inc) or the Editor.



PRESIDENT'S EDITORIAL

April-May 2010

During the month I had the privilege to attend the Annual General Meeting of the NZ Federation of Freshwater Anglers at Turangi, south of Taupo. To get there I flew to Wellington where I was met by Strato Costilinis, who is President of the Wellington Fly Fishing Club, as well as Council member Fish & Game, Executive CORANZ, Secretary/ Treasurer NZFFA, Capital Fishing Club President, plus he operates his own accountancy business etc. etc. What a busy man. We travelled in his car to the conference and while we were sleeping at night he goes out and bags a couple of trout – very competitive and good at whatever he does.

Strato and his wife are the principal caretakers, along with other volunteers, of a large man-made small stream-fed pond (approx 50 metres long and 30 metres widest point) tucked into the hillside of the landfill refuse area at Island Bay, Wellington. Here they stock the pond with trout and offer free fishing for kids. So popular is this facility that they have to roster fishing times and it is necessary to book in well in advance to have a go at catching a fish.

Earlier this season they had a special event at the pond and their normal supplier could not supply the ordered 2-year-old trout, so they had to buy in 3-year-old trout at approx \$15 each - a big ask for a charity event. This could be a good option, if possible, for Montrose to supply their pond stocks.

On Saturday, the conference was held at Bridge Lodge, Turangi, with a dinner in the evening. The following day we moved to the Tongariro Trout Centre, which is a major tourist-visitor facility covering all aspects of trout hatchery activity, with educational promotions and museum facilities. This is an extremely popular facility for school programmes and forms a valuable resource for trout breeding in the event of a river or lake disaster. A ranger was telling me they had once supplied trout fry to Canterbury and shipped them down in plastic bags with a very minimal loss.

The business part of the AGM consisted of election of officers, presentation of financials etc. Jim Hale from Manawatu was elected President which normally carries a three year term. Membership of the Federation comes from freshwater fishing clubs throughout New Zealand and our Association retains associate membership. I was elected to the committee as an executive member for the salmon fishery last year, which is good for us in the scheme of things. The Federation is the voice of all these combined clubs and have respected communications with government, environment groups and other authorities. Plus they tap into organisations like CORANZ, Forest & Bird, and other organisations that get involved with land or water use - extremely useful if we ever need support or assistance on any matters pertaining to water and how it's used.

A suggestion was put to the meeting to have notifications by river bridges advising the species of fish available for catching in that river and also emergency contact numbers in the event of disaster events affecting the river and its habitat. This publicity would bring awareness to the life in those rivers and signify the importance of keeping them healthy, plus inform anglers of the types of fishing available.

Speakers:

Glenn McLean, Fishery Manager DOC Taupo

When things go wrong, low fish numbers and, when they are OK, high fish numbers. Trout are showing later returns similar to salmon runs. Testing shows there are genetic variations developed in trout, which in a way is to a degree contrary to Don MacKinlay findings, when relating to salmon.

The farm land around Lake Taupo has restricted use (enacted by the Regional Council) to stop pollution going into the Lake. Farms were closed to stocking, adding nutrients to the ground and use that could affect run-off into the lake. Instead farmers converted to forestry and now gain carbon credits. Some \$80 million was used to set this up. The only permitted activities around the Lake can be those of a non-offensive nature and at the current levels of pollutants going into the lake DOC forecast something like 90 years before it rises to a higher % factor.

Michel Dedual, Fishery Scientist DOC Taupo

A most fascinating speaker with scientific discoveries capable of supporting the health of rivers and waterways. His research involved water quality, quantity and velocity. With any variation this could seriously affect the food chain, habitat and fish in that river or waterway.

He clarified his research on rivers into flows or velocity and water levels. Category 1 2 3 produced variations in effect but not serious enough to cause damage or loss of marine or fish life. However category 4 5 6 fluctuations had dramatic effect and caused serious damage, loss of species life and fish deaths that had not reacted to the water variations and got trapped in boulders or isolated from the mainstream. Their deaths are not evident as the species digs down in boulders, following the water down when it recedes, and is not visible without digging down to find them.

His research is nearing the stage where he can determine the healthy level of the river and its required water quantity, quality and velocity. This would dispel any other evidence at resource or environmental hearings without protracted presentations of evidence, as it is clear how that river is to be maintained.

Another interesting point he raised was that when Mount Tongariro erupted the ash settled on Lake Taupo where it filtered down through the water and removed essential plankton which in turn disrupted the food chain and subsequent trout numbers and condition. It took something like three years to get a recovery underway.

Ric Cullane, Fish & Game National Office, Public Relations

F&G have something like 70 staff, 144 councillors 12 regions and HQ, revenue \$8.8million. F&G Westland was not contesting damming of the Mohikini as they could not justify sufficient evidence that the damming will be negative for the fishery. NZ Council has a policy of not stocking rivers with trout replacements and recommend local regional councils make their own decisions.

Frank Murphy, President NZ Fishing Professional Guides Association

A real character that summed up his speech: Past - absolutely easy to catch fish; Present - trout fishery in serious trouble; Future - international angler has the highest yield of any tourist. Tourist fishery worth \$400 million. We have the best world wild fishery with 17,000 miles of trout inhabited water in NZ. Suggested trout should be liberated into farm ponds and storage facilities. Considered multiple fishing traces or more than one hook should be illegal going by the problems he had encountered, particularly with catch and release. Definitely disliked family licences and as far as the tourist was concerned, and for tourist revenue increase we should be operating regional licensing as they moved from region to region and we were missing \$1000's revenue.

Eric Wilson, Advocates for the Tongariro River

This is a group of some 250 financial members and they undertake activities to protect the Tongariro River e.g. wilding pine removal, ensuring water quality and use, walking tracks and access, fish stocks, wild habitat, in fact any matter requiring attention for the river. This is a great power group that has established some great credentials and goes all out to ensure the health of the river. Some of them are fisherman but not all - just keen river environmentalists.

Other Business

During the meeting several remits were put which did not directly involve the salmon fishery, but one point that was discussed was the sacking of the Environment Canterbury Council and they wanted a letter to go to the Minister

pointing out the lack of democracy. I advised against this until we have the opportunity to see which way the appointed commissioners will move. In hindsight, this was a good move as the announcement of the commissioners as it turns out have a balanced selection of personnel.

One other region submitted a remit for salmon to be introduced into North Island rivers and the opinion seemed not to support this concept.

I was asked to present a session on the state and development of our salmon fishery and drew good interest in our enhancement programme, with the new emphasis on restoring or promoting protection of our high country spawning waters. I was able to inform them of the proposals to raise 7gm fry for release and the anticipated benefits it gave over direct ova planting. Plus it seemed to me that we enjoy a good relationship with our F&G Region and are more proactive to the fishery than some of the others.

Salmon Management Plan

Around a month ago I had the privilege of being invited to attend this planning meeting at Fish & Game, along with Bruce Moody our Alevinator King and committee member. We were impressed at the level of co-operation between the appointed/collected committee and Fish & Game staff in the continuing development of the fishery. The emphasis is on getting our salmon spawning grounds up to acceptable spawning conditions and the way forward for this to happen is going to involve \$'s and landowner co-operation. Steve Terry has made some good moves towards developing this concept and is achieving landowner co-operation.

The enhancement programme is similar in concept to previous years with a deviation of ova going into hatchery-raised fry to 7gm stage then released into high country waters. My understanding is that this is twice as productive as planting the ova directly into streams via Scotty Boxes or incubators. Isn't it good we have the option of changes to maintain adjustments to climatic and environment changes.

I'm not going to say anything more as you are invited to attend our AGM on 25 May at which, apart from brief formal business, there will be some top rate speakers and you will be much rewarded with information of importance that is

sometimes tainted by river bank gossip. Do not have a big dinner before you come as we have an excellent supper, but take your pills as we'll be involved for a couple of hours. See you then. Oh yes, we also have a good raffle option so bring some \$change.

Cheers

Ron Stuart



PRESIDENT



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NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**The Annual General Meeting of
New Zealand Salmon Anglers Association (Inc)
will be held on Tuesday 25 May 2010 at 7.30 pm. in the
Horticultural Hall, South Hagley Park, Riccarton Rd, Christchurch**

Business for the Meeting

1. Apologies
2. Confirmation of Minutes of AGM 19 May 2009
3. Matters arising from Minutes
4. President's Report
5. Auditor's Report and Adoption of Annual Accounts and Balance Sheet
6. Election of Officers and Committee:
 - Patron
 - President
 - Vice Presidents (2)
 - Committee (6)
 - Secretary/Treasurer
 - Honorary Auditor
7. Fishing Competition Results and Awards
8. Athol Price Plaque Presentation
9. General Business
10. Guest Speaker: Murray Rodgers (Water Rights Trust)
"The Future of ECan and its Commissioners"
11. Other Speakers: Steve Terry, Fish & Game
"Our Fishery and the Way Forward"

John Hodgson
*"A Salmon Angler's Perspective of our Fishery
Past and Present"*

A raffle will be run during the evening and supper served at the conclusion.

Please bring this agenda, reports, accounts etc with you to the meeting.

President's Report for the Year Ended 31 March 2010

As an Association I believe we have enjoyed a comfortable year, in that our Salmon Enhancement Programme was well supported last season and we had a reasonable return of salmon, although it could be argued it could have been better. We certainly were exposed to a lot of new information with the visit of Don MacKinlay from Canada, with his perspective on the condition of our salmon spawning grounds. Then our season this year topped off with some good runs, but still a feeling that we need to get smarter.

The pressure on the fishery comes from a number of factors and one major is the seasonal change, later runs and the work of nature. For example if we compare with the trout fishery (particularly Rainbow) an almost parallel pattern is existing as they have fewer fish to catch and the runs are later than previous. Are we going through a cycle change, is the food chain in these circumstances sufficient to sustain the available populations of fish, is nature working to provide a genetic survival of the strongest species? How much does the plankton availability influence the food chain in all water supplies? Who can tell?

We know for sure that our high country breeding grounds and river flows are not of a standard for the best options. Some of this we can change but most of it will never be the same. Today we are faced with farming technologies that embrace higher production yields, the greater use of chemicals and a hunger for a bigger stake in the available water resources. There has never been a measure, to my knowledge, of the run-off effect of 1080 poison drops, pour-on dips and drenches, chemical spray run-offs entering our water system and its pass-on effects on the marine structure and plankton type inhabitation. The terminology of factory farming springs to mind as modernisation and technology make options for maximum utilisation and economic factors generating support for our continued wealth and sustenance.

Our future direction: We've just *gotta* get smarter, we've *gotta* co-operate and negotiate, we're *gonna* have to accept that we share this planet and it *ai'nt* like it *used ta* be so we will be required to accept new options and methods. Let us take a lesson out of the demise of ECan where, through their bad practice, a change was forced. At this stage we do not know the full ramifications of this but for sure some options will come out of it that may be of benefit for our fishery or place it in greater peril. Fish & Game through its National Office is under a similar degree of threat in that if measured performance of their expected role does not measure up, changes will be reflected in its structure. Likewise our Association must continue to strive for excellence and participate in appropriate activities that gives us value and respect as we are not in a position to dictate therefore must be seen in a positive light to co-operate and be able to contribute.

Your committee: There are some great workers offering a genuine contribution in the interest of the Association. One of the pleasing aspects has been the appointment of Heather Saunders as she has stepped into the Secretary/Treasurer role with a confidence of efficiency. Pam Ellis continues her support with knowledge and advice that keeps this

Association on a balanced path, plus her expertise as editor of the newsletter provides our membership with a quality assurance. John Hodgson, whilst not an appointed committee member, continues to participate with an active interest and is tireless in the research and information collating he has been doing and sharing with us. Bruce Moody a shared pioneer in the Alevinator has dedicated many hours to this project and is willing to progress it further to test the parameters of its potential. Warren Mackie is an inspiration with his enthusiasm to ensure we are fully supported and is ever watchful of changing situations - dedication plus. As normal we seek new blood into the committee as this offers a fresh look at our development or directional potential. We have a great portfolio of members steeped in history, which is great, but when tasked with moving forward there are times when fresh blood innovates new ideas.

What's happened? Well it started in May with various trips to hatcheries for salmon stripping then about June with ova planting of Scotty Boxes in the Porter River where we put in some 50,000 ova by a great turn out of volunteers. The stream seemed to carry more water so our weirs took quite an amount of effort to build and turned out more like mini dams. Then we put around 60,000 ova into Hacketts Creek later that month and here again our turnout of volunteers was even better. A venture was taken to do spawning inspections at One Tree Swamp, Cora Lynn, Andrews Stream, Porter River and Bills Stream at Springfield. This was a bit of a fact finding mission for other options. Then in July we had a field trip to the Rangitata Hatchery at McKinnon's Creek. What an inspiration this was to see how they have progressed this facility and developed it into a significant opportunity for their river future and an important support feature for us all. Other ventures included ova/incubator planting in the upper Waimak at One Tree Swamp and at Hurunui - a productive time and some ½ million ova put out there. I've never had anyone who has been on these trips say that it's nothing but fantastic to be involved. If you get a call, bring your family too as these ventures now form a part in our family's history and provide opportunities unique to our Association membership.

Fish & Game North Canterbury: Acknowledgement must go to this organisation for its support of our Association and the degree of co-operation we receive. This extends right through the Council and deep into the staff. My conversation with anglers from other districts indicates to me that we have fortunate rapport here in Canterbury and share a measure of co-operation that some other regions would wish to aspire to. We also have stocking programmes in place for both trout and salmon which is the envy of some other regions. I am impressed with the direction being taken by F&G to drive environmental enhancement schemes to improve our high country spawning grounds and assist the natural salmon growth opportunities. Plus they are pioneering the release of 7gm salmon fry into high country streams, which is recognised as being more survival effective than double the same quantities through ova planting. This is in conjunction with the other traditional methods in place.

Competition: The Waimakariri competition produced some interesting results with official entries exceeding 100 adults. The four salmon caught and entered on the day were all eligible for prizes. The support of New Brighton Sports and Kilwell Sports was nothing short of fantastic. Other salmon were caught on the day by non-competitors and because of our success we anticipate the competition will attract more entries next year.

When comparing the statistics with the Rakaia competition the same numbers of fish were recorded for salmon caught per 100 competitors. The social function and prizegiving topped the day off nicely and gave everyone the opportunity of participating. The funds gained from this event will provide a good funding foundation to support fuel and other costs for this coming season's enhancement programme.

Wheelchair Fishing Platform – MacIntosh's: The development of this project is now at the stage of completed final engineer's drawings which are with ECan and Waimakariri District Council for acceptance in terms of compliance as to effect on flood bank protections and construction and installation. To reach this stage has taken much persistence and patience with regulatory authorities and we anticipate that the final approvals will be a formality. The platform will provide a magnificent opportunity for wheelchair bound anglers and I believe getting a sponsor will be relatively easy compared with the procedures required so far.

Where to from here? As Chair of your committee I am immensely proud of the opportunity to be in a position to participate. I reflect that some of our members have optional views of our role and this is also healthy, providing it has a positive intent. The overwhelming encouragement is the people that dedicate themselves to the interest of our movement with outstanding support and commitment for a future of continuance. Every organisation has people like this. However the uniqueness of our situation embraces environment, activity and loyalty to a historical culture which is under constant threat and pressure. This is unparalleled because we are a sporting group not a business structure. Whilst I enjoy stories of the past, every day I am reminded of the need for innovation to progress and I see this coming through conciliation, co-operation and participation. Let's build bridges not gallows.

Our future: Let's face it, salmon fishing is not a kids' sport because the frequency of action catching a fish does not maintain their attention - it's greater fun for them bait fishing a herring, spotty or kahawai as returns for time involved is more motivating. There are exceptions as we know and anyone landing a salmon has now inherited a life time of commitment. This puts you and me in a situation of selfish endeavours - we want to bag a fish or two for the season, we want to show our grandchildren or mokopuna how great it is to bring home a trophy fish. How do we share their interest in what is so important to us and our camaraderie with mates on the bank. This is so simple - it's a bit like banking money for the future. Your investment is to be just involved, where you can, draw them in and the rest will follow.

Your future and NZ Salmon Anglers: We've had marvellous support for any activities of a voluntary nature that our Association is involved in, thanks to those that participate. From where I sit this is exactly what we need and participation from as many people as possible is essential and in essence we've got it. The thing that counts is that, when asked to put your hand up or step forward, you do. The influence that has is amazing. The state of our fishery and its future demands our now investment. For me entering the salmon fishery created a second life of interests and best of all some fantastic mates.

Thanks for reading. Go well,

Ron Stuart, President

**N.Z. SALMON ANGLERS ASSOCIATION (INC)
STATEMENT OF INCOME & EXPENDITURE
FOR YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2010**

Y/e		
31.3.09	Income	
7418	Subscriptions	7047.50
680	Donations	830.00
1096	Interest Received	719.40
67	Dividends	67.16
215	Raffle	204.02
550	Advertising	-
150	Profit on Sale of Stock	76.65
1098	Salmon Enhancement: F&G contribution	-
-	McKinlay Visit reimbursement	1350.00
-	Waimakariri Competition profit	1469.20
<hr/>		<hr/>
\$11274		\$11763.93
	Expenditure	
157	Advertising	-
3087	Newsletter and Postage	2809.22
1260	Secretary/Treasurer Honorarium	1236.00
409	Office Expenses	411.86
130	Meeting and Travel Expenses	211.36
209	AGM Costs	232.98
856	Depreciation on Assets	546.70
825	Sundry Expenses	367.50
1265	Salmon Enhancement	931.83
-	McKinlay Visit cost	1350.00
<hr/>		<hr/>
\$8198		\$8097.45
\$3076	Excess income over expenditure	\$3666.48
<hr/>		<hr/>
\$11274		\$11763.93

**N.Z. SALMON ANGLERS ASSOCIATION (INC)
BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 MARCH 2010**

Y/e			
31.3.09	ACCUMULATED FUNDS		
19106	Balance as at 1.4.09		22591.08
3076	Plus Excess Income over Expenditure		3666.48
409	Less Loss on revaluation of shares		(365.00)
			<u>\$25892.56</u>
\$22591			\$25892.56
THESE FUNDS ARE REPRESENTED BY			
128	Office Equipment	127.90	
	Less Depreciation for Year	<u>25.60</u>	102.30
20	Fax Machine	20.30	
	Less Depreciation for Year	<u>6.10</u>	14.20
846	Computer	846.00	
	Less Depreciation for Year	<u>338.40</u>	507.60
259	Shed	259.20	
	Less Depreciation for Year	<u>38.90</u>	220.30
417	Emergency Beacon	417.40	
	Less Depreciation for Year	<u>137.70</u>	<u>279.70</u>
			1124.10
INVESTMENTS			
12198	Term Deposit with Westpac Trust	13246.79	
1621	Shares in Sandford Ltd	<u>1255.60</u>	14502.39
CURRENT ASSETS			
1846	Westpac Trust Savings Account	1997.39	
3645	Westpac Trust Bank Account	6985.20	
243	Subscriptions in Arrears	355.00	
1024	Sundry Debtors	646.48	
1072	Stock	<u>802.00</u>	10786.07
			<u>\$26412.56</u>
\$23319	TOTAL ASSETS		\$26412.56
LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES			
280	Subscriptions in Advance	220.00	
448	Sundry Creditors	<u>300.00</u>	520.00
			<u>\$25892.56</u>
\$22591	NET ASSETS		\$25892.56

**N.Z. SALMON ANGLERS ASSOCIATION (INC)
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2010**

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES

1. General Accounting Policies

The general accounting principles as recommended by the N.Z. Society of Accountants for measurement and reporting of income and expenditure on an historical cost basis have been applied.

2. Particular Accounting Policies

The following particular accounting principles which materially affect the measurement of profit or the financial position have been applied -

- (i) Depreciation has been charged at 20% on the written down value of office equipment, 40% on the written down value of the computer and printer, 30% on the written down value of the fax machine, 15% on the written down value of the storage shed and 33% on the written down value of the emergency beacon.
- (ii) Subscription Debtors - included at amount expected to realise of \$355.00.
- (iii) Shares owned in Sanford Ltd. have been included at market price.

3. Changes in Accounting Policies

There have been no changes in accounting policies that have a material affect in the current year or may have a material effect in subsequent years.

AUDITOR'S REPORT TO MEMBERS

I have obtained all the explanations and information I have required. In my opinion, proper books of account have been kept by the Association insofar as appears from my examination of those books. In my opinion, according to the best of my information and the explanations given to me and as shown by the books, the accounts, Balance Sheet and Income & Expenditure Account are properly drawn up and give the information required by the Incorporated Societies Act 1908. The Balance Sheet and Income & Expenditure Account give a true and fair view of the state of the Association's affairs as at 31 March 2010 and of the operation of the Association for the year.

**Christchurch
3 May 2010**

T.G. HAYES C.A. (Retired)

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**MINUTES OF THE 36th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF
NEW ZEALAND SALMON ANGLERS ASSOCIATION (INC)**

Held at the Canterbury Horticultural Society Hall, Hagley Park, Christchurch
on Tuesday 19 May 2009 at 7.30 pm

PRESENT

Approx 60 members and invitees present at the meeting, chaired by President Ron Stuart

APOLOGIES

Apologies received from Fred Van Slooten, Ian McCrory, Jeanette Ball, James Parbery, Dave Denton, Alistair MacPherson, Garth Taylor, Steve McNeill and Graham Williams. Moved Tim Ellis, seconded Warren Windelburn, that the apologies be accepted. Carried.

REMEMBRANCE

The meeting stood in silence in remembrance of members who had died during the year.

MINUTES

The minutes of the 35th Annual General Meeting of the New Zealand Salmon Anglers Association (Incorporated) held on 20 May 2008, as circulated to members, were approved and adopted as a correct record on the motion of Athol Price, seconded Jim Chisholm. Carried.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Ron Stuart moved that the President's Report for the year ended 31 March 2009 as circulated to members be adopted. Ron reiterated the need for increased membership to provide a larger volunteer base, an ability to support the fishery beyond just angling, to give weight and support for representations on environmental and resource issues, legislation and licensing changes. He paid tribute to the work of the committee and volunteers who had given their time to NZSAA's salmon recovery programme. The motion to adopt the Report was seconded by Pam Ellis and carried.

FINANCIAL AND AUDITOR'S REPORTS

Auditor Trevor Hayes moved that the audited financial report, accounts and balance sheet (copy attached to minutes) for the year ended 31 March 2009 be received. Seconded by Peter Morgan and carried. The Chairman extended a vote of thanks to Trevor for again undertaking the audit.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS & COMMITTEE

The following were nominated and duly declared elected:

		Moved/Seconded
Patron:	Athol Price	R Stuart/N MacPherson
President:	Ron Stuart	W Windelburn/D Long

(Continued on page 16)

Vice Presidents:	Pam Ellis Tim Ellis	Moved/Seconded R Stuart/ A Price R Stuart/P Hodgson
Committee:	Phil Ball Eddie Bassett B Foley John Healy Alf Long Dennis Long Warren Mackie Bruce Moody James Parbery Warren Windelburn	B Foley/C Wright P Ball/J Van Hout C Wright/A Price P Ellis/R Stuart T Ellis/W Windelburn T Ellis/W Windelburn R Stuart/P Morgan R Stuart/A Price R Stuart/W Windelburn P Ellis/R Stuart
Secretary-Treasurer:	Heather Saunders	D Long/R Stuart
Honorary Auditor:	Trevor Hayes	R Stuart/A Price

LIFE MEMBERSHIP

Pam Ellis

Ron Stuart nominated Pam Ellis for Life Membership in recognition of her outstanding service to NZSAA over a number of years in the role of Secretary-Treasurer, production of the newsletter and preparation of submissions on Resource Management Act issues. This nomination was seconded by Paul Hodgson.

Douglas Roy

On behalf of the Committee, Ron Stuart nominated Douglas Roy for Life Membership in recognition of his outstanding service over the past 30 years, both as an office-holder and as a tireless volunteer worker on the recovery and enhancement of the salmon fishery. Doug joined NZSAA in 1979, was elected to the Committee in 1987 and was Patron from 1996 until 2007. His portfolio responsibilities included water right consent issues, particularly on the Waimakariri, ova planting and newsletter production. Doug was associated with Montrose hatchery since its establishment, being particularly involved in the automated feeding and hatching systems and keeping meticulous records of salmon ova production and salmon raised for release. Doug was an enthusiastic promoter and participant in the Association's other efforts to restore the salmon fishery through stream improvement works and ova planting. The nomination was seconded by Gary Smith.

The appointment of Pam and Doug as Life Members was carried with acclamation and they were presented with Life Member badges.

GUEST SPEAKER

Bill Southward, resident of North Rakaia Huts

Bill Southward gave an address on the problems in the lower Rakaia River arising from the reduced river flows because of water abstraction. This was causing ponding of the lagoon and flooding of the lowlands and properties.

Harrison advanced rods

2009

Surf Rods	<i>Chimera</i>	13ft	3lb and 3.5lb test curve
	<i>Torrix</i>	12ft	3.25lb test curve
	<i>Torrix</i>	13ft	3lb and 3.5lb test curve
Spin (New for 2009)	<i>VHF</i>	9ft	5-30

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Bill maintained that when the river flow was reduced and there were no serious flows or water volume coming down the river, the large boulders that ground their way downstream stayed up river and there was only shingle and increasing deposits of sand out the mouth, which was restricting the opening of the mouth, because of low flows. Bill presented photographic evidence and a dossier of information compiled over many years in his submissions to local authorities and government officials and ministers. Bill was continuing his campaign and he urged others to support his views.

OTHER SPEAKERS

Steve Terry, Fish & Game Field Officer, gave an update on recent salmon population monitoring and research. He commented on the visit of Canadian salmon expert, Don McKinlay, referring particularly to his opinion that spawning streams were in a catastrophic state of decline and that priority should be given to restoring habitat and excluding farm stock from these areas. He considered this to be a major factor in the reduction of salmon in New Zealand rivers. McKinlay had also suggested that small salmon released in the headwaters would have a better survival rate than ova planting.

Davor Bejakovich, Fish & Game, informed the meeting of new improved standards that had been adopted for fish screens, and gave an update on the Central Plains Water consents process and the Hurunui Water Conservation Order application.

NZSAA FISHING COMPETITION

The Chairman said that 15 entries had been received (list appended to the minutes). The winners were presented with trophies and a \$50 voucher from Fisherman's Loft as follows:

Aquarius Cup for Heaviest Salmon Overall:

Ken Paterson of Christchurch, 7.075kg salmon, Rakaia River near SH1 on 17.3.09

Alty Roscoe Memorial for Biggest Salmon Rakaia:

Les Cornelius of Leeston, 6.940kg salmon, 2km from mouth of Rakaia River on 28.1.09

Cromb & Merritt Trophy for Heaviest Salmon Waimakairi:

Peter Robinson of Brooklands, 6.765kg salmon, Waimakariri River mouth on 20.1.09

Lucky Draw from Remainder of Entries:

Keith Gallagher of Woodend, 4.753kg salmon, Waimakariri River, above SH1 Bridge, 14.3.09

John Hodgson of Christchurch, 4.980kg salmon, Waimakariri River mouth on 26.3.09

Thanks were extended to Fisherman's Loft for donation of the winners' vouchers.

ATHOL PRICE PLAQUE

Athol Price announced that Alan Brooks was this year's recipient of the Athol Price Plaque for outstanding service to the salmon sports fishery. Alan was a Past President of NZSAA's South Canterbury Branch and had worked tirelessly for the improvement of fishing in both north and south Canterbury.

Alan was the prime mover in establishing the Salmon Enhancement Trust which had successfully revived the salmon hatchery at McKinnons Creek on the Rangitata River. This project was not without opposition and many difficulties but Alan persevered in putting together a successful and financially sound organisation with a team of enthusiasts to run the hatchery operation.

Alan said he accepted the Plaque on behalf of the Salmon Enhancement Trust. He acknowledged the support of volunteers, sponsors and NZ Fish & Game in making the project possible and successful.

ANGLING REGULATIONS

The NZSAA Committee proposed the following for submission to the Fish & Game Angling Regulations Working Party for 2009:

1. Support for the continued closure of the six major salmon spawning streams for angling for the next two seasons, as a didymo prevention measure.
2. Recommendation that the salmon season be closed after 31 March above the Rakaia, Waimakariri and Hurunui gorges and Waiau River above the Hanmer bridge.
3. Recommendation that any salmon hooked in the head area, forward of the gill plate bone (be it inside the mouth, outside the mouth or the hook piercing into the mouth from the head surface area) be deemed a legal takeable fish.

On a show of hands, the meeting agreed to submit items 1 and 2 but declined to support item 3.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Montrose & Silverstream: Dirk Barr extended thanks to all volunteers for their work. He noted that 450 salmon had returned to each of these hatcheries and that ova planting would commence soon.

Waitaki: In reply to a request for an extended Waitaki season, Alan Brooks said that there were conservation issues but the matter had recently been debated by NZSAA South Canterbury.

Acknowledgements and Close of Meeting

Ron Stuart thanked members for their attendance and asked them to encourage their friends and fellow anglers to join NZSAA.

In closing the meeting, the Chairman thanked the raffle prize sponsors, Wondercast, Anglers Warehouse, Smiths City, Ballingers, New Brighton Sports, Hammills.

The meeting closed at 10.05 pm and was followed by supper and raffle draws.

Signed as a correct record:.....Chairman 25 May 2010

Montrose Montage

Montrose Salmon & Trout Hatchery North Canterbury Fish & Game

Species: Chinook salmon, Rainbow trout, Brown trout

This hatchery is a very important part of the North Canterbury Fish and Game "salmon & trout enhancement program". Salmon ova is harvested from brood stock, which return to this spawning stream in April, and are grown in the hatchery.

All catchments in the North Canterbury region benefit from smolt and fry releases, and eyed ova planting which are all spawned at this hatchery. In addition to this Rainbow and Brown trout are also reared at Montrose and released into our high country lakes and low land streams.

Other Fish & Game regions receive stock surplus to our requirements so their regions are also enhanced. This hatchery also supplies the Fish in Schools program and releases trout and salmon at the Groyne Fishing Lakes for junior anglers to catch.

With thanks to land owners AD and Marjo Bruijn, North Canterbury angling clubs, and the tireless commitment of our dedicated volunteers, our sports fishery and habitat have been greatly enhanced. Tight lines all.
North Canterbury Fish & Game.



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