

## **MINUTES**

**of the MEETING of the NORTH AND WEST DISTRICT SALMON FISHERY BOARD held on Tuesday 24th October 2017, 10.30am at KINGSMILLS HOTEL, Culcabock Road, INVERNESS**

### **Present:**

Mr D Davies (Vice Convenor)  
Mr J Allingham  
Mr A Adamson

Mr A Balfour

Mr C Macleod  
Mr C Marsham

### **In attendance:**

Mr C Cook (Clerk, Bell Ingram)  
Dr Shona Marshall (WSFT)  
Dr A Wells (FMS)  
Mr S Dryden (Scot Gov)  
Mr T McDonnell

The Vice Convenor welcomed Dr Wells, Mr Dryden and Mr McDonnell to attend the meeting which started at about Noon due to an over run of the Proprietors meeting.

#### **1. APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from; Mr R Vestey, Mr R Bradford, Mr G Osborne, Mr D Lindsay.

#### **2. MEMBERS DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Mr Adamson undertook to complete and return the Declaration of Interest form previously issued to him by the Clerk.

The Clerk advised the Board that he was now a Member of the Kyle of Sutherland District Salmon Fishery Board

#### **3. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 23rd MAY 2017**

Members unanimously agreed the Minutes. The Vice Convenor signed the Minutes as an accurate record of the meeting.

#### **4. MATTERS ARISING**

There were no matters arising. The Clerk advised that all the Action Points from the last meeting had been carried out.

## **5. FINANCIAL REPORT**

A financial report was tabled. The Clerk confirmed statements would be issued to Proprietors who were still to pay their subscriptions but that he had no concern about receiving settlement.

## **6. WEST SUTHERLAND FISHERIES TRUST - REPORT**

A report by the WSFT had been circulated with the meeting papers and was taken as read by Members.

Dr Marshall highlighted key points from her report in a short discussion which finished with a summary of the recent Scottish Government project to tag grilse on the north coast. The WSFT took part in the project which involved setting out a number of receivers along the districts coast line to track the route of grilse that were caught at the Armadale salmon netting station and then pit tagged. The receivers will be collected next month and the data collected from them. Mr Dryden, who oversaw the project, said that 81 fish had been tagged against the anticipated 700 as the expected grilse run didn't happen. The project had purchased sufficient tags for 700 fish and so had over 600 pit tags, in effect, looking for a project. Dr Marshall said to her knowledge there had been no report of anglers catching tagged fish.

## **7. FISHERIES MANAGEMENT SCOTLAND**

Members were content that Fisheries Management Scotland had been sufficiently covered in the Proprietors meeting with the kind participation of Dr Wells.

## **8. CONSERVATION ASSESSMENT**

Members were content this item had been sufficiently covered in the Proprietors meeting with the kind participation of Mr Dryden and Dr Wells.

## **9. SEAL LICENCES**

The Clerk advised Members that the date for the submission of applications for a 2018 seal licence is the 31st October 2017. Members discussed and agreed the necessity of making an application as the sole means in law of enabling salmon stocks to be protected from predation by seals.

## **10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

The Clerk confirmed that notwithstanding the Assessor had issued revaluation notices as a part of the updating of the District Proprietors Roll the updated roll would not be used for the calculation of annual Assessments until all the Proprietors valuation appeals had been settled by the Assessor. Members agreed with the approach.

## **12. DATE OF NEXT BOARD MEETING**

The date of the next Board meeting and the Annual Public meeting was set as Tuesday 22nd May 2018 and to be held at the MacPhail Centre, Ullapool. The Annual Public meeting to start at 1.00pm with the Board meeting to follow on from it at about 1.30pm.

There being no other business there was a vote of thanks to the Convener and the meeting closed at 1.45pm

### **ACTION PLAN**

Completion of Declaration of Interest form	<b>AA</b>
Collection of Assessment arrears	<b>CRWC</b>
Seal Licence Applications	<b>CRWC</b>
Organise May's meetings	<b>CRWC</b>