

**1st Meeting for 2006
OCEAN HAULING
MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
9.30 am Wednesday, 9 August 2006
AGENDA**

North Cronulla Surf Lifesaving Club, Mitchell Rd, Cronulla

1. Welcome and apologies	Chairperson	9:30 – 9:35 am
2. Agreement on agenda	Chairperson	9:35 – 9:40 am
3. Confirmation of previous minutes	Chairperson	9:40 – 9:45 am
4. Correspondence received and sent	Chairperson	9:45 – 9:55 am
5. Business arising	Chairperson	9:55 – 10:00 am
6. Committee member updates, including management, research and compliance	Chairperson	10:00 – 10:30 am
7. Share Management Fisheries a. Share Management Plan b. Share Trading c. Licensing Arrangements	NSW DPI	10:30 – 10:50 am
<i>Morning Tea</i>		<i>10:50- 11:00</i>
Share Management Fisheries (continued)	NSW DPI	11:00 – 12:30pm
<i>Lunch</i>		<i>12:30 – 1:15pm</i>
Share Management Fisheries (continued)	NSW DPI	1:15- 2:30 pm
<i>Afternoon Tea</i>		<i>2.30 - 2.40pm</i>
8. Batemans Bay Marine Park Update	NSW DPI	2:40 – 3:15 pm
9. Management Advisory Committee (MAC) Structure	Purse Seine	3:15 – 3:25 pm
10. Access for Region 6 Ocean Haulers to Jervis Bay Marine Park	Region 6	3:25 – 3:35 pm
11. Other business	Chairperson	3:35 – 3:45 pm
12. Chairperson's summary and next meeting	Chairperson	Close 4:00 pm

Agenda Item 1**Chairperson****Issue**

Welcome and apologies

Background

The primary purpose of this meeting is to discuss the draft Ocean Hauling Fishery share management plan. Please note that although there are a number of other items listed provisionally in the agenda, discussion of these items will be deferred if additional time is needed for deliberations over the share management plan.

Outcomes

For information of the Committee.

Agenda Item 2**Chairperson****Issue**

Agreement on agenda.

Background

A notice of the meeting and call for agenda items was circulated to Committee members on 14 July 2006.

The agenda has been circulated to all Committee members, co-operatives and coastal fisheries offices. Additional items may be proposed for discussion during other business, subject to approval by the Chairperson.

Outcomes

For information of the Committee.

Agenda Item 3**Chairperson****Issue**

Confirmation of minutes of OHMAC meeting 29 November 2005

Background.

Draft minutes were sent to MAC members for comment after the last meeting.

Some amendments were requested.

Recommendation

The draft minutes of the OHMAC meeting 29 November 2005 are accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Agenda item 4**Chairperson****Issue**

Correspondence received.

Background***Received 2006***

14 February	Out of Session Agenda item regarding the Renewal of Periodic Beach Closures in the Ocean Hauling Fishery.
22 February	Preliminary Advice regarding Joint MAC workshop 10 & 11 th April.
27 February	Letter from Ocean watch regarding invitation to attend an interaction hour at Cronulla.
April	Analysis of Submissions of Review of NSW Recreational Freshwater & Saltwater Fishing Rules.
April	Letter from Marine Parks Authority regarding Cape Byron Marine Park Zoning Plan Users Guide and copy of final zoning plan.
24 April	Letter from the Minister regarding the arrangements for the taking of Australian salmon north of Barrenjoey Headland.
2 May	Update from Dept of Agriculture Fisheries and Forestry re: Resource sharing in the Eastern Tuna and Billfish Fishery.
16 May	Out of Session Agenda item regarding the renewal of Australian salmon and tailor closures.
16 May	Out of Session Agenda item regarding nomination of representative on Catch and Effort Working Group.

Sent

Nil

Outcomes

Members note correspondence received.

Agenda Item 5**Chairperson****Issue**

Business arising from minutes and action list from previous meeting

Outcomes

For information and discussion.

ACTION ITEMS
OHMAC Meeting 29 November 2006

Agenda Item	Topic	Action	Responsibility	Status
5	Timely feedback from SIAC meetings to Industry.	Chairperson to prepare a letter to the SIAC chairperson about keeping industry engaged on SIAC meetings.	OH Chair	Carried over
6	Examine Qld DPI Sea Mullet stock estimates.	DPI research will provide an update.	DPI	Research update
	Provide outcomes from beach hauling observers.	DPI research will provide an update.	DPI	Research update
	Outgoing compliance officer – Mr John Naughton	Chairperson to produce a letter of thanks on behalf of MAC.	OH Chair	Noted
	Reported behaviour of a small segment of industry.	Compliance to draft a show cause letter for reported activities.	DPI	Carried over
7	OH Share Management Plan	An OHMAC meeting will be convened at short notice to discuss the next draft of the management plan.	DPI	Completed
8	Operational Issues	Prepare amended code of practice for approval.	DPI	Currently under consideration.
9	Operating more than one fishing business in the OH Fishery	Examine ways to allow an operator to operate in more than one zone, prior to SMP.	DPI	Currently under consideration.
13	Payment of EIS levy and monitoring charges.	Provide information on level of payment of EIS and fishery monitoring charges.	DPI	Carried over

Issue

Committee member updates, including management, research and compliance updates

Background***Management***

Since the last meeting staff have been focused on development of the Share Management Plan, Supporting plan, Regulation and Act amendments complimentary to that process.

Several permits have been issued for endorsement holders who also have trapping endorsements, to the take Australian salmon for own use as bait. These measures are being trialed in the area North of Barrenjoey impacted by the current closure, in an attempt to mitigate the impact of the closure on the supply of bait and to lessen the need for higher value species to be substituted. To date 6 permits have been issued and 4 are under consideration. Letters were sent to Class A endorsement holders in the north of the state who also have trapping endorsements, advising of the policy.

The State Electoral Office is currently undertaking an election process for OHMAC industry representatives in regions 4 and 6.

Research

The Department has been successful in gaining 3 year funding from the Fisheries Research Development Corporation for a 3-year project on Australian salmon, in which the key research focus will be on stock structure and biology of the species. The project is due to start in October this year.

Compliance

Both compliance and management staff were required to respond to a number of complaints about operation of the fishery this season. Issues included interaction with recreational fishers, disputes over priority of shot, compliance with the local council system of locked gates, disposal of rubbish and the public perception of the industry.

Outcomes

For the Information of the Committee.

Agenda Item 7

NSW DPI

Issue

Share Management Fisheries

Background

- a. Share Management Plan – Background paper to follow.
- b. Share Trading – Background paper to follow.
- c. Licensing Arrangements – Background paper to follow.

Outcomes

For discussion by the Committee.

Issue

Bateman's Marine Park Draft Zoning Plan

Background

The draft zoning plan for the Bateman's Marine Park has been released for a three month public exhibition period and has been based on habitat mapping, advice from the community, commercial and recreational fishers and the Advisory Committee on use in the Park. Approximately 40,000 brochures have been distributed and commercial fishers have been sent a registration of interest form for a voluntary buyout process.

Staff from the Marine Park Authority will give a briefing on the specifics of the draft zoning plan and take advice from the MAC on the potential impacts on the fishery.

Outcomes

For the information of the Committee.

Issue

Management Advisory Committee (MAC) Structure

Background

The intent of the original Management Advisory Committee (MAC) representation was that regional representatives be elected from the skippers in the fishery. The OHMAC has previously suggested that the current legislation should be amended to provide for nomination of MAC members from the regions limited to stakeholders with skipper entitlement in a given region, with all stakeholders in a given region entitled to vote.

It has been suggested that the future OHMAC structure be increased to provide for a single representative of the endorsed crewmembers. It is suggested that the legislation regarding the OHMAC membership be amended prior to the next election to: regional representatives from each of the 7 regions, a representative from the purse seine fishery and a representative of the crew members.

DPI Position: The current elections are being conducted in accordance with share management fishery rules for MAC representation as set out in the *Fisheries Management (General) Regulation 2002*. The OHMAC structure may be reviewed as part of the process of developing a share management plan for the fishery.

Outcome

For discussion by the Committee.

Issue

Access of Region 6 Ocean Haulers to fish in Jervis Bay Marine Park.

Background

Region 6 fishers have raised a number of issues with the current access arrangements for ocean hauling fishers operating in Jervis Bay. In summary fishers are concerned with the equity of the current arrangements.

The Jervis Bay Marine Park zoning plan took effect on 1 October 2002 and restricted hauling activities within habitat protection zones to fishers who hold specific permits to operate in prescribed areas. The issue of these permits has previously been discussed at a number of OHMAC meetings and the MAC has indicated its desire that arrangements consistent with those applicable to other Marine Parks be applied to Jervis Bay i.e. that access to appropriate areas be provided to all endorsed fishers.

A recent amendment to the *Marine Parks Regulation 1999*, allows the permit holders boat crew to fish with the permit holder in those areas, however this has not alleviated industry's concerns.

NSW DPI Position

Access arrangements for the Marine Park were developed to minimise the impact of the Marine Park on fishers who were resident in the area.

Whilst it is noted that the wording of the recent Zone Plan legislation amendment is somewhat ambiguous, it was introduced to implement the intent of the original zone plan, which was to enable the resident fishers to continue to operate, whilst they remained in the industry. Previous arrangements prevented them from doing this because of the shortage of endorsed crew remaining in the area. A letter has been forwarded to Marine Parks advising them of the issues raised by the regulation as currently set out and requesting clarification.

The Marine Parks Authority has advised that the Zone Plan regulation for the Jervis Bay Marine Park is scheduled to undergo a review process during 2007 and that any suggested changes to operation of the zone plan can be considered as part of that process.

Outcomes

For the information of the Committee

Agenda Item 11

Chairperson

Issue

Other Business

Background

Time permitting, other Agenda items may be proposed and may be discussed at the discretion of the chairperson.

Outcomes

Agenda Item 12

Chairperson

Issue

Chairperson's summary of meeting, next meeting and close.

Outcomes