



# Ministerial Fisheries Advisory Council

## CHAIR'S SUMMARY

The Ministerial Fisheries Advisory Council met in Bermagui on Thursday 15 September 2016 for meeting 11. The following are the key outcomes from that meeting:

1. Council considered the Productivity Commission Draft Report on Marine Fisheries and Aquaculture dated August 2016, and provided preliminary comments on the findings, recommendations and general information contained in the Report. Individual Council Members indicated that they would be providing separate comments from their sector's perspective.
2. The Chair provided a report on the meeting with South Coast indigenous fishers which had provided an opportunity to listen to their concerns, including their frustrations with the slow pace of change, lack of understanding of their situation, especially around their access to commercial fishing opportunities, and their willingness to engage with the DPI to work towards creating initiatives to maintain an ongoing presence in the commercial industry.
3. Council Members reviewed the Council Strategy along with the Challenges and Priorities for the various sectors in accordance with Council's Terms of Reference.
4. Council received a presentation from Dr Natalie Moltschaniwskyj, Director Fisheries Science DPI, on the Department's Research Plan. A further presentation on fisheries offences state wide was received and discussed with Mr Pat Tully, Director Fisheries Compliance.
5. The Deputy Director-General, DPI Fisheries provided an update on the NSW Commercial Fisheries Business Adjustment Program and the Williamstown contamination issue.

The next meeting of Council will be held in Sydney on Friday 18 November 2016.

Richard Stevens  
Chair, MFAC

11 October 2016