



Ministerial Fisheries Advisory Council

CHAIR'S SUMMARY

The Ministerial Fisheries Advisory Council held its 12th meeting in Sydney on 18 November 2016. The following is a summary of the key outcomes from this meeting:

Aboriginal cultural fishing - Council agreed to support the Aboriginal Fishing Advisory Council in ongoing activities aimed at further development of management strategies that support Aboriginal cultural fishing under the Fisheries Management Act 1994. In addition Council adopted an expansion of Council's 2014-17 Strategy as follows:

“Consistent with the objectives on the Fisheries Management Act 1994, this Strategy recognises the importance of Indigenous, Commercial and Recreational Fisheries and Aquaculture to the NSW economy, the seafood consumer, the health and welfare of its citizens and the aquatic environment.”

Council revised the Challenges and Priorities document to incorporate current and known future issues to ensure both the Minister and stakeholders can keep abreast of the Council's work in these areas.

Council received a presentation from Ms Anissa Lawrence on the draft Fish Habitat Action Plan for NSW, along with a presentation from Mr Ian Lyall on Yellowtail Kingfish in Sea pens being conducted by Huon Aquaculture and the Shellfish Committee.

Council received an update on the Commercial Fisheries Business Adjustment Program, progress on establishing the Commercial Fishing Advisory Council, and the fish health issues associated with the Williamstown Defence contamination.

The next meeting of Council will be held in Sydney at a date to be agreed in March 2017.

Richard Stevens
Chair
12 January 2017