

- NOT GOVERNMENT POLICY -

SEAFOOD INDUSTRY ADVISORY COUNCIL

MEETING 3 - 28 SEPTEMBER 2005

CONFIRMED MEETING OUTCOMES

Reception Room (South), L41 Governor Macquarie Tower
1 Farrer Place, Sydney

ATTENDANCE

John Roach (Chair), Graeme Byrnes (Deputy Chair), Donna Smythe, Ron Firkin, Jim Drinkwater, Don Johnson, Ron Prindable, Ian Charles, Bill Pearce, Megan Kessler and Stephan Schnierer.

Barry Buffier, Director General, NSW Department of Primary Industries

Grant Johnson, Executive Officer, Seafood Industry Advisory Council

Deputies: Terry Outtrim (for George Davey)

Apologies: The Hon Ian Macdonald, Minister for Primary Industries, George Davey, Nicholas Georgouras, Paul Sullivan, Grahame Turk and Tony Troup.

Observers: Richard Bagnato, Graeme Hillyard, Anissa Lawrence and Darren Ward.

Presenters:

Lisa Corbyn, Director General, Department of Environment and Conservation
Hans Heilpern, Chairman NSW Seafood Industry Conference (SIC)

NSW Department of Primary Industries (DPI)

Doug Hocking	A/Deputy Director-General, Agriculture and Fisheries
Renata Brooks	Executive Director, Biosecurity Compliance & Mine Safety
Paul O'Connor	Director, Compliance Operations and Regional Director of Agriculture and Fisheries (Sydney)
Bill Talbott	A/Director, Fisheries Management
Anthony Hurst	Group Manager, Fisheries Planning and Operations
Dianna Watkins	Principal Manager, Commercial Fisheries
Mika Malkki	Principal Manager, Policy Co-ordination
James Scandol	Senior Scientific Officer, Resource Assessment
Darren Hale	A/Principal Manager, Management Planning

COUNCIL AGENDA ITEMS

1. Council noted the briefing on the North / South Coast port visits by the Chairman, Hans Heilpern, DPI and the NSW Food Authority
 - Council noted the importance of including commercial fishers on such visits, and of the desirability for further visits to the Far North Coast of NSW and for the Sydney region.

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- Members requested that they be provided with a copy of the Key Performance Indicator and SIAC / SIC organisational chart provided to port visit attendees. [Action: Executive Officer]
 - Noted the NSW Food Authority and DPI are scoping a traceability survey to provide information on the nature and extent of illegal and Black Market activities in the provision of product to the NSW services sector. This information will be used to help with the regulation of the sourcing and traceability of seafood product, and to develop appropriate enforcement strategies. The survey results will be available by March 2006. [Action: Terry Outtrim]
2. Council Agenda Papers to be compiled and Express Posted to members twelve (12) days prior to Council. [Action: Executive Officer]
 3. Executive Officer to distribute the DPI recreational fishing strategy and assessment approach presentation to members with draft Meeting Outcomes for out-of-session comments by Monday, 17 October 2005, with warning 1 week before due date. [Action: Executive Officer to distribute with draft Meeting Outcomes for SIAC3]
 4. In relation to the proposed revised Recreational Fishing Strategy and Assessment Approach DPI is to provide a more detailed Risk and Environmental Assessment paper for the next meeting of Council including information on the suggested new approach in a step-wise process format, and information on how the associated risk management analysis process would determine which environmental, social and economic factors would be included in the assessment. [Action: Anthony Hurst by 14 October 2005]
 5. Agreed to form a high-level Industry – Departmental Working Group to explore issues affecting the long-term viability and profitability of the NSW seafood industry, to develop an issues paper for the consideration of Council. [Action: Chairman and the Director General DPI]
 6. Members to provide comments on the draft Council Charter to the Executive Officer by Monday, 10 October 2005.
 7. Executive Officer to send letters to members requesting nomination of Deputies to Council consistent with the original nomination process i.e. 2 nominations must be provided for consideration. [Executive Officer: By Monday, 10 October 2005]
 8. Council passed a vote of thanks to DPI for its sponsorship and support of the Seafood Directions conference.
 9. Council thanked Lisa Corbyn, Director General, Department of Environment and Conservation for her presentation, and noted her offer to follow-up on the issue of beach access for commercial fishing crews and for this information and future consultation on such issues to be provided to the commercial fishery management advisory committee structure. [Executive Officer to follow-up with Chairman and Lisa Corbyn]
 10. Council agreed that a high-level meeting would be organised between Industry, DEC, DPI, the NSW Food Authority, Oceanwatch, the Nature Conservation Council of NSW and others, as appropriate, to consider issues associated with the proposed sewage outfall in the Hawkesbury River estuary. [Action: Lisa Corbyn]

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11. Agreed to support the continued drawing down of funds from the Aquaculture and Commercial Fishing Trust Funds, and for DPI to provide further details (including conservation costs) for the next meeting of Council.
12. Council agreed that the Chairman of Council would meet with Alka Khopkar of DPI to further develop the Seafood Industry Strategic Plan, coupled with development of a Communications and Promotions Strategy. [Action: Chairman/Alka Khopkar to advise Executive Officer on progress]

Members were provided with a preliminary draft of the Communications and Promotions Strategy for their information and comment. A copy is also to be emailed to members by the Executive Officer to facilitate consideration. [Action: Executive Officer with comments due by members with 7 days of draft Outcomes being distributed]

13. Council noted the reports by the Structural Adjustment and Pricing & Charging Working Groups and that the Chairs of the Working Groups would provide a brief summary for the information of members. [Action: Chairs of WGs to provide Meeting Summary to Executive Officer for circulation to members]
14. Council noted the briefing provided by DPI on the proposed amendments to the *Fisheries Management Act 1994* to facilitate the final stage of share management and other miscellaneous amendments.
15. Council noted the paper by James Scandol, *A Prioritisation Model for the NSW Observer Program (Working Document)*, and agreed to provide comments of the paper to the Executive Officer, who would collate these comments and pass them onto James Scandol for his consideration. [Action: Executive Officer with comments due by members with 7 days of draft Outcomes being distributed]
16. Noted the request by the Chairman for the possible preparation of a Seafood Industry Advisory Council Annual Report to be included on the agenda for Council's next meeting. [Action: Executive Officer to include on Agenda for next meeting of Council]
17. Noted the forthcoming meeting between the Chairs and representatives of the Seafood Industry Advisory Council and the Advisory Council on Recreational Fishing (ACoRF). Members noted that the recent letter from the Chairman of ACoRF, regarding proposed funding arrangements for the stocking of mulloway in estuaries in northern NSW, would be discussed at this meeting. [Action: Chairperson to advise Executive Officer]
18. Requested DPI to provide urgent Out-of-Session advice on the marketing of protected species legally caught in other states/territories as agreed at SIAC 2. DPI is in receipt of legal advice on this issue and now needs to follow with an internal evaluation processes. Council will be provided with additional information as it becomes available [Action: Executive Officer to include advice with draft Outcomes of SIAC3]
19. Noted the comments by the representative of the Abalone Management Advisory Committee that the recent comments by some members of Industry and the State Member for Bega regarding an officer of the Department, were not representative of the broader Abalone industry.

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20. Members requested that, if possible, future meetings of Council and its Working Groups be held on Fridays and, hence, a suggested date for the next meeting is Friday, 2 December 2005.

Meeting closed: 5:10pm

Grant Johnson
Executive Officer
Seafood Industry Advisory Council
29 September 2005