



Commercial Fishing NSW Advisory Council (CommFish NSW AC) Chair's Summary (Meeting 6)

The sixth meeting of CommFish NSW was held in Ballina on the 5th and 6th of June 2018.

Rebecca Chapman (Senior Projects Officer) was present to continue previous discussions outlining goals and key principles of cost recovery, to assist in the development of a policy for NSW DPI Fisheries. Council members indicated unanimous support for the cost recovery key principles paper and further discussion on specific examples of total costs involved and attribution of these costs under various models.

The Council members were provided an initial overview in regard to developing harvest strategies for fisheries from Michael Lowry (Research Leader NSW DPI Fisheries). The Council members supported the approach provided by NSW DPI to develop and for further updates to be provided to the Council on harvest strategies.

There was discussion on several topics that the Minister is seeking the Councils recommendation. Including finalising advice as to when fishing periods should start for the new quota managed species and rent assistance measures for the Newcastle Commercial Cooperative. In addition, the Council made further suggestions in regard to the implementation of recommendations made to the Minister for mulloway.

Council discussed a current project that explores alternative measures to assist fisherman in staying safe at work and opportunity to complete a survey. Identifying what measures are outside of an individual's control that can impact their safety on the job. Consequently the Council decided to add the topic of work health and safety in the fishing industry as a standing agenda item.

Additional topics discussed included Council members being updated on ongoing agenda items. Including the list of regulations that have been identified as requiring review, Pittwater working group and Annual Report to the Minister. Council provided comment in order to progress these ongoing agenda items. Council also provided recommendations to NSW DPI on several topics resulting from correspondence received. Topics included quota carry over and advance of lobster quota, management of Eastern Sea Garfish in the Estuary general and banking of fishing days in the Estuary General Fishery.

Council members appreciated the opportunity to invite local stakeholders to an informal meet and greet that was undertaken on the evening on the day 1 meeting. The next meeting will be held in Sydney, with the Council deciding to move meeting 7 forward from September 2018 to 11 July 2018 and discuss industry consultation results.

Stuart Richey
Chair

22 June 2018