

Agenda Item	Outcome
Welcome and Apologies	<p>Welcome and Apologies The Chairperson opened the meeting and welcomed all members and observers to the meeting.</p> <p>Chairperson Bill Nagle</p> <p>Management Advisory Committee Representatives Mr David Mitchell Mr Steven Rosskelly Mr Joseph Morgan Mr Barry Aish Mr Denis Brown Mr Bill Harvey Mr David Pye Ms Anissa Lawrence Ms Julie Fourter Mr Darryl Sullings</p> <p>Observers Mrs Sandra Aish Mr Andrew Goulstone Mr Doug Ferrell Ms Carly Goddard Mr Ian Stockton Dr John Stewart</p> <p>Apologies: Mr David Smith</p> <p>Meeting starts: 9:30AM</p>

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Agreement on agenda	<p>Agenda agreed by the Committee members present.</p> <p>The Committee members noted that the majority of industry members were not present at the last meeting and the difficulty for industry attending meetings during the 'travelling season'.</p>
Confirmation of draft minutes	<p>Outcomes from the 15 February 2008 meeting were approved by the Committee following a minor change recognising that Father/Son partnership licenses were discussed in other business.</p> <p>Those present at the informal meeting on the 6 & 7 April 2009 approved the outcomes as a true and accurate record, following a minor amendment to the Trial Bay item as requested by the Recreational representative.</p>
Correspondence sent and received	<p>Correspondence received and sent was noted. The Committee raised the question whether a MAC notice board could be set up on the I&I NSW website to post general correspondence to members.</p>
Business arising from previous minutes	<p>Actions list was discussed and updated.</p> <p>Action – I&I NSW to provide the Committee with a copy of the department's submission to the Jervis Bay Marine Park zoning review panel.</p> <p>Action – Industry to write a letter to Minister for Primary Industries and Minister for Climate Change and the Environment regarding DEWHA's risk assessments on habitats of a Marine Park needing to be reviewed.</p> <p>Action –Provide the MAC with link to website outlining NSW Maritime survey requirements.</p>
Updates	<p>The Committee members noted the updates provided from I&I NSW Management, Research and Compliance.</p> <p>Committee members were provided with a background summary from research projects on Australian Salmon, Sea Garfish and Sea mullet. The poor catches taken during the 2009 mullet travelling season, potentially due to flood events, were noted by the committee.</p> <p>A 3 year study on Australian salmon has yielded some interesting results, showing that each 1 kg salmon</p>

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	<p>eats between 3 and 4 kgs of food each year. It has also been found that the fish in the south of the state are generally around 3-6 yrs old while in the stock north is around 7-10 yrs old.</p> <p>Industry representatives suggested that the salmon closure north of Barrenjoey Headland should be removed as it is unnecessary and is resulting in a lot of wasted fish.</p> <p>The Compliance representative advised that as a whole, the OH fishery had a 96-97% compliance rate which is fairly consistent with compliance rates from previous years.</p> <p>The Committee noted the proposed determination to list <i>Posidonia australis</i> as an endangered population.</p> <p>The Conservation representative expressed that this listing should be a good thing for the fishery.</p> <p>Action – Region 5 representative to provide a submission (if submissions are still being taken) on behalf of the OHMAC to the Fisheries Scientific Committee regarding the proposed determination of listing <i>Posidonia australis</i> as an endangered population.</p>
Maximum mesh size for hauling nets	<p>The Committee members present discussed several proposals to utilise nets containing, or constructed entirely of, larger size mesh as a way to reduce the number of juvenile ground fish being caught during the ‘travelling season’.</p> <p>Members supported an amendment to the description of the hauling net for use in ocean waters during the period from 1 March to 31 July. It was agreed that fishers could be provided the option for using either the current 50 mm-65 mm bunt or one constructed of 102 mm (4’) mesh, provided the length of the bunt was no more than 50m. Specifications for wings would remain as currently prescribed. The potential impacts on the mullet fishery and the usefulness of a cap on the amount of mullet taken using the 102mm mesh bunt was discussed. It was agreed not to impose a cap initially but to review this arrangement after 12 months to determine if there are any negative impacts of mullet stocks or the fishery in general.</p> <p>Action - A regulation amendment be made so there is the option for the use of a 4” bag and bunt in a hauling net (general purpose) in the Ocean Hauling Fishery in ocean waters from 1 March-31 July.</p>

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Introduction and overview of the new FishOnline System	<p>A presentation was provided by the Manager, Systems Reforms on the CFSA Systems Reform year 1 project.</p> <p>OHMAC noted the overall objectives of the project. Industry members noted the difficulty in filling in the new logbooks and also raised concern about estimating the place of most catch.</p> <p>The Purse seine representative advised that he has been approached to participate in the trial of the new online reporting system.</p>
Industry Reform Program for NSW Commercial Fisheries	<p>The Committee was presented with some information that could assist restructuring in the OH fishery, including development of an exit grant program, use of minimum shareholdings and linking shares to management units such as access/priority or output units.</p> <p>Region 4 representative advised that he does not agree with SIAC's comments or recommendations on this issue.</p> <p>The industry members did not see a need for adjustment in the fishery but agreed that there may be some limited scope in specific regions. It was suggested that it may be prudent to retain the option to link shares to something in the future although other members did not see a need to use shares for anything other than to authorise access. The Committee did not support taking action to link shares to any management control at this stage and did not support a fishery specific exit grant scheme, unless funded by the Government.</p> <p>The Committee identified what they believe are the top 3 priorities for the Ocean Hauling Fishery. These include;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Review of closures – Summer Weekend and Salmon closures being the highest priority 2. Review of need for Licensed Crew 3. Development of a mechanism within the SMP to authorise Tuna bait gathering.
Trial Bay bait fishing closure	<p>The Committee noted some background information presented by the Recreational representative regarding a proposal to increase the current 'Trial bay bait fishing closure' to 500m around the safety buoys.</p>

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	<p>Industry members were not generally supportive of a 500m radius closure if it would effect beach hauling operations.</p> <p>The Committee noted that the proposed amendment limited the closure to purse seine nets and lift nets . There was support for a 400m radius closure relating to purse seine & lift nets.</p> <p>Committee members indicated that this issue was not primarily related to activity by the OH fishery stakeholders, although the closure proposed would affect the Purse seine stakeholders . The Committee noted that there was no historical activity by OH Purse seine stakeholders in the area & that the purse seine representative supported the implementation of a 400m closure in that area to resolve a local issue, and that I&I NSW should consult with the Tuna bait gathering permit holders regarding implementation of the proposed closure amendment.</p> <p>Action – I&I NSW to consult with the tuna bait gathering permit holders.</p>
FRDC project – Empowering the Fishing & Seafood Industry	Information on this project can be found at www.fishwell.com.au then follow the link to Empowering Industry, or by contacting Chris Calogeras, info@c-aid.com.au or Ian Knuckey, fishwell@datafast.net.au .
Incorporating collection of bait for tuna fishing into OH share framework	<p>The Committee discussed the issue of tuna bait gathering and the options available to authorise access under current Fisheries legislation. The purse seine representative expressed in the view that this issue needs to be resolved soon.</p> <p>The Committee decided that this would need to be deferred to another meeting and expressed the view that I&I NSW need to consult with the current permit holders regarding this issue.</p>
Operational practices for minimizing discard mortality and disposal	The Committee discussed a recent incident which resulted in dead fish being washed onto a beach after being released in poor condition. It was agreed to amend the OH Code of Practice by inserting a statement indicating that fishers will:

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of unmarketable fish	<p><i>“Return any unmarketable fish that are incidentally captured to the water with the least possible harm. Where substantial quantities of fish are released during or following capture, the beach area (and any adjacent beaches, as necessary) will be monitored regularly for up to 5 days thereafter and any incidental dead fish washed onto the beach will be removed for appropriate disposal.”</i></p> <p>Industry members also advised that the current Salmon closure was contributing to the issue and needs to be amended or removed to prevent substantial quantities of marketable fish being discarded.</p>
Other business	<p>Members discussed the restrictions in place for licensed crew in the OH fishery.</p> <p>Industry members proposed changes to clause 12 (1) of the OHSMP, which refers to weekend and public holiday closures. Options were suggested including</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Allow access during the months of November and February as there are no school holidays in this period. b) Allow access on the beach until 9am c) Weekend closures for NSW school holiday times during December & January only <p>It was agreed that resolving these issues was one of the highest priority issues for industry and would be included on the action list as a high priority.</p> <p>Action – I&I NSW to commence process for reviewing summer weekend closures in ocean hauling fishery.</p>
Chairperson summary and next meeting date	<p>The Chairperson thanked all members and observers for their attendance and contributions to discussions during the meeting and advised that the date for the next meeting would be determined out of session.</p>

ACTION ITEMS updated after November 2009 Meeting

	Action Item	Date Raised	Pending	In Progress	Completed/Comments
1.	Yearly review the Code of Conduct/Practice.	09-08-06		✓	
2.	Allocation of species shares - Progress by Industry with the Minister and other MACs as appropriate	09-08-06	✓		OH SIAC rep advised that this was discussed at SIAC and noted as being too expensive & potential legal issues
3.	Industry requests a copy of the department's submission to the Jervis Bay Marine Park zoning review panel.	24-11-09	✓		
4.	DPI to consider proposed trading of Purse Seine shares separate to other OH shares.	30-03-07		✓	Will be reviewed as part of the Industry Reform Program
5.	Industry to develop a detailed proposal for the penning of fish taken in purse seine operations.	30-03-07	✓		
6.	Industry to provide DPI with proposal arrangements, for the use of Unlicensed Crew, to be used in the production of a draft discussion paper to take to all OH shareholders.	30-03-07		✓	Will be reviewed as part of the Industry Reform Program
7.	Industry to keep the MAC informed of any exemptions to the prohibition of use of petrol engines in beach hauling operations.	30-03-07			✓
8.	DPI to develop discussion paper on use of shares within the ocean hauling fishery to provide for access to live bait for own use.	15-02-08	✓		
9.	DPI to Develop option paper for Committee discussion to be taken to ACORF for comment on weekend closures.	15-02-08		✓	Will be reviewed as part of the Industry Reform Program
10.	Industry to develop a communication strategy.	15-02-08		✓	
11.	Committee to provide comments on draft codes of practice	15-02-08			✓

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12.	A regulation amendment be made so there is the option for the use of a 4" bag and bunt in a hauling net (general purpose) in the Ocean Hauling Fishery in ocean waters from 1 March-31 July.	6/7-04-09 24-11-09		✓	
13.	DPI to consider the need for a whole of industry policy on information sharing and data identification.	6/7-04-09 24-11-09		✓	
14.	DPI design appropriate artwork and wording for a beach hauling sign.	6/7-04-09		✓	
15.	DPI to discuss with NSW Maritime the potential of moving the commercial buoy to a suitable location approximately 400m from its current position. Subsequently, DPI to discuss with Coffs Harbour Co-op their ability and willingness to move the buoy.	6/7-04-09 24-11-09		✓	Pending consultation about the closure with permit holders
16.	NSW Maritime to advise the Committee whether it is required that a row boat used within 500m of shore has an anchor on board.	6/7-04-09		✓	Industry to seek advice from NSW Maritime.
17	I&I NSW to provide the Committee with a copy of the department's submission to the Jervis Bay Marine Park zoning review panel.	24-11-09	✓		
18	Industry to write a letter to Minister for Primary Industries and Minister for Climate Change and the Environment regarding DEWHA's risk assessments on habitats of a Marine Park needing to be reviewed.	24-11.09	✓		
19	Provide the MAC with link to website outlining NSW Maritime survey requirements.	24-11-09		✓	
20	Region 5 representative to provide a submission (if submissions are still being taken) on behalf of the OHMAC to the Fisheries Scientific Committee	24-11-09	✓		

	regarding the proposed determination of listing <i>Posidonia australis</i> as an endangered population				
22	I&I NSW to consult with the tuna bait gathering permit holders.	24-11-09		✓	
23	I&I NSW to commence process for reviewing summer weekend closures in ocean hauling fishery	24-11-09		✓	