

**CHAIR'S SUMMARY**

Council held its 21st meeting via video conferencing platform on 22 and 23 July 2020.

The core focus of this 21st meeting of the Council was to consider the applications for funding received by the Aboriginal Fishing Trust Fund (AFTF) in conjunction with the views provided by the Aboriginal Fishing Trust Expenditure Committee (AFTEC). I am pleased to advise that again an independent probity advisor was engaged to ensure that the Trust Fund process, particularly in relation to the operations of AFTEC and the Council were fair and equitable.

Following a community expression of interest calling for applications for funding from the AFTF, a total of 12 applications were received. The applications were reviewed and assessed on the extent of their potential to enhance, maintain and protect Aboriginal cultural fishing or provide economic opportunity for Aboriginal communities associated with the fisheries resource.

The Council was provided with a presentation on the progress of the new approach to marine park planning across the five mainland marine parks in NSW. Council was also provided with a presentation on the work undertaken to date relating to the development of Draft Harvest Strategy policy and guidelines.

Other matters discussed during the meeting included updates on Local Management Plan process and business relating to the Marine Estate Management Strategy, Initiative 4.

Danial Chapman

Chair

August 2020