



CHAIR'S SUMMARY

Council held its 22nd meeting via video conferencing platform on 25 and 26 November 2020.

The 22nd meeting of the Council focused on several current matters including an overview of the recent DPI Fisheries realignment including the creation of some new Units. Council was advised of the approved expenditure for the 2019/20 Aboriginal Fishing Trust Fund (AFTF) round and will review and provide feedback on the guidelines prior to the next funding round. Council also noted that the current membership of the Aboriginal Fishing Trust Expenditure Committee is expiring and a call for EOI being will run early in the New Year.

Council were provided updates on the newly formed Trawl Whiting and Lobster Harvest Strategy working groups and the impending formation of the external working group for the Abalone Harvest Strategy. The council further deliberated on the draft harvest strategy policy and associated guidelines released by the Minister for public consultation until 22 January 2021. Council will consider whether it will prepare a consolidated response to the draft harvest strategy policy and associated guidelines for the Minister's consideration.

The Council was provided with an update on Marine Estate Management Strategy – Initiative 4 – Protecting Aboriginal cultural values of the marine estate, including highlights for the year. Council was also provided with a presentation and update on the DPI Native Fish Drought response and Murray Darling Basin Authority (MDBA) Native Fish Recovery Strategy.

Other matters discussed during the meeting included updates on Local Management Plan process and a proposal to develop a DPI produced Aboriginal fishing and cultural values newsletter. Further matters involving cross Ministerial council collaboration and waterway access issues were discussed.

Danial Chapman

Chair

16 December 2020