

**Ocean Hauling Management Advisory Committee Meeting
FINAL DRAFT OUTCOMES
Friday 15 February 2008
Cronulla Fisheries Research Centre of Excellence**

Agenda Item	Outcome	Action Item	Time	Responsibility
1	<p>Welcomes and Apologies The Chairperson opened the meeting and welcomed all members and observers to the meeting.</p> <p>The Chair expressed the Committee's appreciation to those Committee members who are leaving their positions on the 29th February and especially welcomed those attending their first meeting.</p> <p>Attendance:</p> <p>Chairperson: Bill Nagle</p> <p>Management Advisory Committee Representatives: Mr David Smith Mr David Mitchell Mr Steven Rosskelly Mr Barry Aish Ms Julie Fourter Mr Dennis Brown Mr David Makin Mr Bill Harvey</p>			

Agenda Item	Outcome	Action Item	Time	Responsibility
	<p>Observers:</p> <p>Mr Darryl Sullings Mr Robert Loring Dr John Stewart Mr Malcolm Gorry Ms Sandra Aish Mr Leigh Harris Ms Dianna Watkins</p> <p>Apologies:</p> <p>Mr Ron Prindable Mr Tony Forster</p> <p>Meeting starts: 10:00AM</p>			
2	<p>Agreement on Agenda for 30 March 2007</p> <p>The Committee agreed to the agenda with a number of additional issues approved for discussion in other business (Agenda item 16).</p> <p>The Committee indicated its desire to hold at least 2 meetings per year and it was agreed that these should be 2 day meetings if sufficient work was available in order to increase efficiency and allow sufficient discussion of items. It was suggested that industry members should meet in the morning of the first day, before commencement of the formal agenda. Proposed dates of meetings should be circulated at least 2 months prior to the date. The Chair expressed his disappointment that the previous proposed meeting in late 2007 was deferred then cancelled</p>			

Agenda Item	Outcome	Action Item	Time	Responsibility
	and hoped these new arrangements improved the predictability of meeting dates.			
3	<p>Confirmation of minutes of OHMAC meeting 30 March 2007 The Committee accepted the draft minutes of the OHMAC meeting 30 March 2007, as amended, as a true and accurate record of the meeting.</p>	DPI to publish on Web as amended.	March 2008	DPI
4	<p>Correspondence received and sent. Members noted correspondence received and asked that the OHMAC recreational representative respond to the letter received from the Taree West Bowling Club Fishing Club letter, and that the DPI OHMAC representative assist in the drafting of the letter with advice on the relevant regulations and the fishery assessment processes.</p> <p>The Committee asked that as a matter of procedure any correspondence addressed to the OHMAC, receives an interim response acknowledging receipt.</p>	Recreational Representative to reply to Taree Bowling club. NSW DPI to provide background information.	March 2008	Recreational Rep. & DPI
5	<p>Business arising from minutes and action list from previous meeting The Committee recommended that the list of action items and updates on the progress of each item be circulated to Committee members every two months. The requirement for administrative resources was noted.</p>			DPI
6	<p>NSW DPI research strategic plan The Committee noted that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •A number of research projects had been completed or were in progress and suggested that completed items should be removed from this list. •The “Biology and fisheries of yellowtail kingfish and yellowfin tuna” was not a research priority for the ocean hauling fishery. •The proposal to “Collect historical/anecdotal information from older fishers regarding the biology and fishery of yellowtail scad” may need to receive higher priority as it is fisher age dependant. •based on experiences in the ocean hauling fishery “Observer programmes to monitor by-catches and retained catches for all 	<p>Notify DPI Science & Research of priorities.</p> <p>Committee to notify DPI of any additional research priority for the OH fishery.</p>	<p>ASAP</p> <p>3 March 2008</p>	<p>DPI</p> <p>Committee</p>

Agenda Item	Outcome	Action Item	Time	Responsibility
	<p>commercial fisheries” will require flexible sampling regimes to be successful.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •The Committee would welcome further monitoring of target species, those species under a recovery program and other species of concern. 			
7	<p>Beach access through DECC estate Apologies were received from DECC as a representative was unable to attend.</p> <p>The Committee was informed that the draft arrangements paper was not yet publicly available, but that DECC has undertaken to provide OHMAC with the draft as soon as it becomes available publicly.</p>	<p>NSW DPI to circulate draft DECC access arrangements to Committee members as soon as available.</p>	ASAP	DPI
8	<p>Marine Park Zoning review processes and consultation Mr Leigh Harris, Manager Jervis Bay Marine Park, provided a presentation on the processes involved in the review of the Jervis Bay and other Marine Park Zoning Plans. Details of the process will be posted on the Marine Parks Authority web site and sent to key stakeholders as soon as they are finalised.</p> <p>The Committee noted that it had on three occasions recommended that access into Marine Parks should be on an equal basis for all endorsed fishers for that zone and the Committee re-affirmed that position. Further the Committee is of the opinion that if constraints on access or fishing operations are proposed for any Marine Park, all relevant Management Advisory Committees should be consulted on implementation options.</p> <p>The Committee proposes to make a submission on this issue as part of the Jervis Bay Marine Park review and agreed that it should be drafted by the Chairperson for consideration by OHMAC as an out of session item before submission.</p>	<p>Prepare submission to Jervis Bay Marine Park review.</p>	March 2008	Committee

Agenda Item	Outcome	Action Item	Time	Responsibility
9	<p>Update on access to NSW bait fish resources The Committee expressed the view that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DPI should develop a policy for these permits that allows those currently eligible to continue to operate while they remain in the industry, noting that eligibility is not transferable. • DPI should develop a discussion paper outlining potential options within the current share structure for authorising access to the bait resource for own use. 	DPI to develop discussion paper on use of shares within the ocean hauling fishery to provide for access to live bait for own use.	2008	DPI
10	<p>PAB net mesh size and Sandy Sprat harvest report The Committee recommended that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The current regulations should be amended to allow use of 11mm minimum mesh size netting in a PAB net. • The regulations should not be amended for the Purse Seine net unless significant catches of Sandy Sprat (other than live bait) occurs. It was noted that a smaller mesh in part of a purse seine net is required to maintain fish quality when taken for use as live bait. <p>The Committee noted proposals from EGMAC to amend the regulations to allow commencement of targeted harvesting of juvenile Sandy Sprat and similar species marketed as “Whitebait” or “Nanata” in estuarine waters. The Committee was concerned with the potential impacts of harvesting the resource before maturity and expressed the view that as a general principle access should be consistent when harvesting the same resource in ocean and estuarine waters.</p>			
11	<p>Eastern Sea Garfish Recovery Program The Committee noted the progress of the recovery program and reports indicating that the sea garfish stock has not recovered significantly. The Committee also generally supported proposals by the Estuary General Management Advisory Committee to recommence harvesting in some estuarine waters under conditions similar to those in place for ocean waters. The Committee believes that the proposal to limit fishers to</p>			

Agenda Item	Outcome	Action Item	Time	Responsibility
	beach based hauling in estuarine waters will unfairly impact some fishers and would support boat based fishing for Eastern Sea Garfish in those areas as well. The Committee however noted DPI concerns about potential increase in estuary catches above those observed in the beach based research.			
12	2007 Mullet season report Noted by the Committee.			
13	<p>Committee updates, including management, research and compliance</p> <p>NSW DPI has prepared and submitted, on behalf of industry, information to the Commonwealth Department of Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts (DEWHA) to assist in making an assessment of the fishery for the purposes of seeking export approval for the NSW Ocean Hauling Fishery. Closing date for comments is Tuesday 18 March 2008.</p> <p>The submission is available from: http://www.environment.gov.au/coasts/fisheries/nsw/haul/submission-feb08.html</p> <p>Any comments can be submitted to the address below: Alex Hulme Sustainable Fisheries Policy and Assessment Section Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts GPO Box 787 CANBERRA ACT 2601 Submissions may also be sent by fax to (02) 6274 2455, or email sustainablefisheries@environment.gov.au</p>	Committee comments/submissions to DEWH	18 March 2008	Committee

Agenda Item	Outcome	Action Item	Time	Responsibility
	Committee members updates were included in agenda discussions.			
14	<p>NSW “licence splitting” policy</p> <p>The Committee noted that a number of “licence splitting” cases are currently before the ADT therefore this issue will be deferred until the outcome of the ADT hearings are know.</p>			
15	<p>Weekend closures for the general purpose net and PAB net in the south of the State, and public education on the Ocean Hauling Fishery.</p> <p>Industry members of OHMAC expressed a desire for clause 12 of the <i>Fisheries Management (Ocean Hauling Share Management Plan) Regulation 2006</i> regarding weekend and public holidays to be modified for all regions.</p> <p>OHMAC industry member’s preference would be the complete removal of the clause, while a less preferred position would be to allow access during non school holiday periods in November and February restriction removed and/or on isolated beaches. The MAC was advised that a proposal to remove the restrictions entirely was unlikely to receive support from the recreational fishing or other sectors utilising beaches during holiday time.</p> <p>OHMAC noted that significant consultation occurred prior to the implementation of these restrictions approximately 15 years ago however industry members believe that changes in available areas due to Marine Parks and reduced availability of transport to get fish to market warrant these restrictions being reviewed.</p>	<p>DPI to Develop option paper for Committee discussion to be taken to ACORF for comment.</p> <p>Industry to develop a communication strategy.</p>	<p>2008</p> <p>ASAP</p>	<p>DPI</p> <p>Industry</p>

Agenda Item	Outcome	Action Item	Time	Responsibility
	<p>OHMAC recommends that an ongoing communication strategy is developed, including production of pamphlets for distribution, website, media releases and co-ordinated support from local councils.</p>			
16	<p>Other Business</p> <p>Cost recovery The Committee was informed that DPI is currently considering the issue of cost recovery and that the Committee would be kept informed of any proposals or changes.</p> <p>Quota management for the ocean hauling fishery The region 4 representative questioned whether there was a link between cost recovery proposals and access frameworks such as quota management. The Committee was informed that management charges in the abalone and lobster fishery are linked to shareholding and not based on fluctuations in the total allowable catch. It was noted that a number of options for adjustment within the commercial fisheries are being evaluated as part of the Stevens review.</p> <p>Catch History Criteria for endorsements in the ocean hauling restricted fishery. The Committee was informed that appeals are soon to be heard by the Share Appeal Panels. The issues raised in relation to allocation of restricted fishery endorsements and amendments to validated catch history were explained. The Shares Appeals Panels are required to consider the allocation of shares and not access arrangements under the restricted fishery framework.</p> <p>DPI action with regards to negative media perceptions The Committee was informed that DPI attempts to address inaccurate</p>			

Agenda Item	Outcome	Action Item	Time	Responsibility
	<p>media coverage and provides quality information to the public and media outlets. The Committee noted the importance of involvement by industry in promoting commercial fishing and responsible fishing practices of industry.</p> <p>Use of licensed and unlicensed crew in hauling operations. Deferred to next meeting.</p> <p>SIAC membership It was noted that Mr Ron Prindable, the OHMAC representative on SIAC, may not be attending the next SIAC meeting and Mr Steve Rosskelly was willing to attend.</p> <p>The Committee was informed that Mr Ron Prindable's position on the OHMAC expires on 29 February 2008 and that a replacement SIAC representative may be required if Mr Prindable is not reappointed to OHMAC.</p> <p>Codes of Practice (voluntary) The Committee members are to make comments on the Purse Seine, Beach hauling and Boat hauling draft industry Codes Of Practice by 29 February 2008.</p> <p>Ocean Hauling vehicle stickers The Committee supported the proposal that DPI provide ocean hauling shareholders with vehicle stickers.</p>	<p>Committee to provide comments on draft codes of practice</p>	<p>29 Feb. 2008</p>	<p>Committee</p>

Agenda Item	Outcome	Action Item	Time	Responsibility
17	<p>Chairperson's summary of meeting, next meeting and close.</p> <p>The Chairperson thanked the members and observers attending and proposed that the next meeting be in late July to early August with three options for a two day meeting to be circulated in mid May.</p> <p>Meeting Closed: 4:45PM</p>			