

Minutes – October 2014

Date: 17/18 October 2014

Venue: Puketeraki Marae, Karitane

Chair: Maree Baker-Galloway



Attendees:

Forum Members

- Fergus Sutherland
- Sue Maturin
- Philippa Agnew
- Ate Heineman
- Simon Gilmour
- John Henry
- Neville Peat
- Chris Hepburn
- Khyla Russell
- Stephanie Blair
- Tim Ritchie
- Edward Ellison

DOC

- Ruth Mackenzie – White
- Leeann Ellis
- Greig Funnell
- Sarah Bagnall
- David Agnew (Pōwhiri)
- Dave Taylor (Pōwhiri)
- Pene Williams (Pōwhiri)
- Mike Morrison (Pōwhiri)

MPI

- Tania Cameron

Apologies

- Carol Scott
- Nelson Cross
- Gail Thompson

1. Welcome and Introductions

The Forum was welcomed onto Puketeraki Marae at 5.30pm on the 17th October, with a pōwhiri from Kāti Huirapa Rūnanka ki Puketeraki.

Following dinner, the Forum members introduced themselves to the East Otago Taiāpure Committee. The Taiāpure Committee gave a presentation about the application process of

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Agreed: The Internal Protocol was confirmed.

Action 85: Ruth to load the Internal Protocol and Vision, Objectives and Guiding Principle documents onto the Forum website.

4. Officials Update

Sarah Bagnall advised the Forum that there is a new Minister of Conservation, Maggie Barry. She is currently in the information gathering phase and is being debriefed by Nick Smith about his perceived priorities for the portfolio.

Action 86: Leeann to add to agenda for November a section to discuss sending an introductory message to the new Minister of Conservation from the Forum.

The Department of Conservation is unsure about the timeframe for any legislative change and Sarah reminded the Forum that they are able to access specialised legislation. So, they should not be concerned about any potential changes at this stage.

Tania explained about the document included in the meeting pack “Research and Science Information Standard for New Zealand Fisheries”. It will assist in understanding how to interpret other information and help to judge robustness of processes that have been used to assess other information. It was noted that a lot of information that gets provided to the Forum will not have been through a rigorous review process.

Action 87: Leeann to add to future agenda register item on assessing technical information.

Greig gave a quick overview of the Ecosystems Services factsheet – it was noted that it is important to consider more than the provisioning services of marine services and to reflect these in the questionnaire.

5. Correspondence

No new correspondence was received during September.

6. Members Update

The Forum members gave an update about what consultation they had undertaken with their respective stakeholders.

Sue: The environmental network is ready to be engaged – Sue is waiting to have consistent tools to communicate with (to ensure messaging is consistent with the whole Forum).

Khyla Russell: MPA issues ended up being discussed at an Otago Polytechnic development day. Khyla supports the suggestion that the Taiāpure framework is used as a model – the combination of science and people is successful. Khyla raised the difficulties she had experienced with MPI inspections of the take from a pataka permit.

Steph: Spoke with Awarua Rūnanga - the whanau's biggest concern is around what the MPA process will mean for them; in particular they are concerned about marine reserves. Steph will be going to a Mahinga Kai forum in November (covering four Rūnanga). Steph noted that giving the rūnanga opportunity to be heard should reduce consternation.

Edward: There is a finely tuned process within Ngāi Tahu Rūnanga (Nigel from TRONT, Mahika Kai forum, environmental arms) and there needs to be a discussion around how to best utilise this. Edward is also hoping to have consistent tools and messages to engage with the public. During October he was involved in mātaimai clinics (meeting with submitters on the application for a mātaimai reserve in the Otago Harbour).

Action 87: Ruth to send media releases to Forum once they have been finalised.

Action 88: Chris to confirm the date of the Otago University research evening in December.

7. Communications and Engagement Report

Maree led a session on what topics the Forum would like to focus on around engagement, in order to best maximise the remaining time.

Who: Regional councils, scientists, mayoral forum, environmentalists, conservation boards.

What/Why: Message/aim/objective/what do we want from people and what do they want from us?

How: Engagement tools – questionnaire, models, how to engage with tools, enviroschools, education, and milestones/timeframes/how to record data. Providing short reports before meeting with groups – gives them time to generate questions/opinions.

Where: 2015 schedule

a) Communications Update

Ruth presented the material that has been created for the Forum to use. All materials have been created to lead the public to the website.

extend the time following the public notification, and to consider that if the 40 day period falls over the Christmas period additional time should be allowed. It was noted that March is not a good time to engage with Ngāi Tahu due to the tītī season.

The Forum discussed how to gather data from people who won't do a written submission – a survey could be created in SeaSketch, or SeaSketch could be set up at public meetings for people to enter data directly. Records of verbal communication could also be taken at the meetings (ensuring this was clear to the public and that they had the choice to not have their contribution recorded). It was also discussed that the public meetings are not a hearing process and it is the 'persuasive themes' that the Forum will be looking for.

Identifying key sites and user groups is a key outcome towards making recommendations – once the Forum have collated information on this, a brief paper should be developed and given back to the community for 2 months, to ensure accuracy.

Action 94: Officials are to compile information about the local coastal environment before each Forum meeting and include in the meeting pack. This is to ensure the Forum have a understanding of key issues for each area.

Action 95: Ruth to develop a hard copy template that can be used to gather feedback from the public who do not wish to make a submission. This template will need to be tested with the public to ensure it is friendly.

Action 96: Maree to update the Milestones to reflect an extra two months over the winter period of 2015 for identification of sites/tools and an extra two months at the public submission stage.

Action 97: Greig to load milestones onto SeaSketch once redrafted

c) Key Messages

The Forum had a discussion around creating an 'elevator speech' outlining the purpose of the Forum process. A discussion took place around whether it is appropriate to highlight that it is a Minister of Conservation directive (it was agreed to refer to Government instead) and whether to highlight that 'user impact will be minimised'.

Agreed points were:

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- The Government would like marine protection established in the South-East coast of the South Island
- The Government wants the decisions made by the community, through consultation.
- The Forum has been established to determine: problems/threats/changes, people's priorities, solutions, minimise adverse impact/increase benefit
- The Forum will make recommendations to the Government on protection.
- The Government will implement.

d) Survey/Questionnaire

Ruth and Greig presented the questionnaire that can be completed through SeaSketch. It is designed as a central point for channelling information. A hard copy will also be created. Any information that is gathered informally by the Forum can be passed to Leeann who can enter it into SeaSketch.

The Forum discussed the questions and order of the survey – there were concerns that if the survey questions are too direct or if it is too complicated/repetitive, then people will not answer.

Action 98: Ruth to update the survey based on feedback from Forum - begin with what area of the coast are you interested in and what changes have they noticed, then ask what activity they engage in; and then ask them to select the areas they undertake this activity, and how frequently. Also add a question to determine iwi affiliation

Action 99: Ruth to update question around change to the area, to be multi-choice: minimal, moderate, extreme (or to have a traffic light approach).

Action 100: Ruth to update the marine protection tools list so the options are alphabetised.

Action 101: Ruth to create drop down menu for location options and also have free text available.

Forum would like to share with each other. This would include a brief description about why each article is significant.

Action 109: Forum members to send articles to Ruth, with an explanation about why it is useful for the Forum to read.

Action 110: Ruth to send a fortnightly reminder email, requesting articles for the newsletter.

Action 111: Ruth to reorganise the FTP site to assist with the organisation of this type of information.

9. SeaSketch

Greig gave an update about SeaSketch – the data is now all available.

Action 112: Draft minutes will be loaded onto SeaSketch and a notification sent to members it is there, the Forum will then have 1 week to comment to Leeann or on Seasketch before they are loaded onto the website in draft form.

Action 113: Greig will access archaeological sites as a data layer (will be useful to display pa sites for example).

10. Administration

Reimbursement Forms

Leeann explained the process for reimbursing expenses and being paid fees.

Action 114: Leeann to confirm with DOC accounts if the account number needs to be included on the expense form every month.

Library

The Chair explained the new register for recording where hard copies of documents and resources have been distributed.

11. Marine Protection Tools

Sarah and Tania briefly explained the factsheet on Marine Protection Tools – they reminded the Forum that as it is possible that legislative change might take place, it is prudent to focus

on what needs protecting, and what the threats are. There is more information about the tools available in the MPA Policy document. Sarah and Tania will correct the factsheet, particularly in regard to the names of the Councils responsible for certain tools.

Closing

Edward closed the meeting with a Karakia at 3.16pm. A short break followed, and then the Public Engagement Session began at 3.35pm.