

Minutes –November 2015

Date: 6/7 November 2015

Venue: Hotel St Clair, 24 Esplanade, St Clair



Chair:

- Maree Baker-Galloway

Forum Members

- Neville Peat
- Fergus Sutherland
- Philippa Agnew
- Nelson Cross
- Ate Heineman
- Chris Hepburn
- Sue Maturin
- Tim Ritchie
- Simon Gilmour
- Gail Thompson
- John Henry
- Stephanie Blair
- Carol Scott
- Edward Ellison (from 4.14pm)

DOC

- Ruth Mackenzie – White
- Leeann Ellis
- Greig Funnell
- Sarah Bagnall
- Riki Mules
- Hilary Aikman (6th Nov)

MPI

- Tania Cameron
- Tracey Osborne (6th Nov)
- Kim George (6th Nov)

Apologies

- Khyla Russell

1. Welcome and Introductions

Steph opened the meeting at 9.13am with a karakia.

Maree welcomed the Forum to the meeting, advised the Forum of apologies, and introduced agency staff who were observing the meeting. Maree acknowledged that it was Ruth's last

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meeting with the Forum, as she had resigned as communications advisor. She also acknowledged the work put into the October meeting, and thanked Neville for chairing that meeting.

2. Deliberations

The Forum discussed how best to approach the next stage of deliberations, how best to get and utilise feedback from sectors at this stage, and what further information would be required on each area of interest for a decision to be made.

Greig demonstrated how SeaSketch can be used to identify what habitats within an area have been represented, and explained how to understand the information generated.

There was some uncertainty around what the landward limit of the Forum's area is, and Carol noted that the Forum should stick to the Policy in interpreting this.

The Forum identified several questions that would be applied to each area of interest, to ensure there is consistency across the process.

There was some discussion about what habitats needed to be included and how big an area needed to be protected to be represented. Sue enquired about a session on criteria, which was on the agenda, and the agencies explained that they had not reached an agreement on the best information to be provided to help the Forum interpret the Policy, and it was being addressed internally.

Action: Greig to seek advice from Keith Probert on the values of areas showing in SeaSketch as sheltered shallow sand, and whether it is important, for example as a unique habitat along the coast. What would the future impacts on these areas be (e.g. from dredging) and is it worth protecting an area that will undergo further change.

3. Commercial Fishing data layers – MPI presentation

Tracey Osborne and Kim George, from MPI, talked to the Forum about the available data on commercial fishing which is available in SeaSketch and the caveats around using this information, including the uncertainty associated with it. Tracey explained that fishing intensity is expressed in SeaSketch relative to the Forum's area. She noted New Zealand wide maps are also available that would help put fishing intensity into a wider context.

4. Deliberations ctd

The Forum went in committee mode, and continued deliberations for the South-East Region.

Action: Tania to provide copies of the advice paper on including bladder kelp in the QMS (including information on submissions), and information on restrictions on how bladder kelp may be harvested

Action: Chris to provide the Forum with his the information he had prepared during the process of adding kelp into the QMS, in regards to proposing a prohibition on cutting kelp, including the definition of 'cut' in relation to extraction.

Edward closed day to at 4.20pm. He opened day two at 9 am.

5. Review of process

A lengthy discussion initiated by Ngai Tahu was held on concerns about the process and timing

The Forum agreed that they would recommend to the Ministers (via the Governance Group) that the final recommendations be completed by mid-2017, with the focus of the extension being around further stakeholder engagement to ensure the community are better informed, and contributing more information for the Forum to consider before commencing the draft recommendations and formal submission stage.

Agreement: The Forum would write a letter to the Governance Group recommending that the Forum process be extended until mid 2017.

Action: Maree to draft letter to Governance Group recommending the Forum process be extended until mid 2017, and to send a draft to Forum members for feedback.

The Forum then discussed how they would engage with their sectors over the next few months, to ensure they had the feedback needed to provide sector-specific comments on proposals when the Forum next deliberates.

Action: Greig and Riki to develop maps the Forum can use to continue sector engagement– these are to show an area of interest per page, and be clear that the boundaries are not set.

Action: Forum members to work with Greig to develop additional maps, as required, for each sector.

Agreement: The Forum agreed that the engagement would continue to be done face-face, and not to circulate maps electronically.

The Forum reviewed how often they should meet going forward, and agreed to meet six weekly, with the next meeting occurring in February 2016.

Agreement: Forum meetings would occur six weekly, with the next Forum meeting happening in February 2016.

Action: Add agenda item “public education about process/values” to next meeting.

Agreement: The Forum agreed that there would be no information about their agreement to postpone the process released to the public until the letter had been sent to the governance group; at that point any formal media response will be managed by the Chair.

Edward closed the meeting at 12.50pm with a karakia.