

# CONFIRMED



## MINUTES MARINE PROTECTION FORUM MEETING 2ND MEETING, GREYMOUTH, 8 JUNE 2005

### PRESENT

Peter Coburn (Interim Chairperson), Bruce Hamilton, Ian McKenzie, Stuart Thomson, Emily Arthur, Bruce Watson, Te Whe Weepu, Kerry Eggeling, Carrol Browne, Eugenie Sage, Dennis Shanahan, Carol Scott, Geoff Rowling and Brad Stenhouse.

### IN ATTENDANCE

Murray Reedy (Manager Marine Protection Project), Mike Slater (Conservator)\*, Chris Hickford (Community Relations Manager)\*, Don Neale (TSO Marine), Janet Orchard (Board Support Officer), Scott Williamson (Ministry of Fisheries), Andy Hill (Ministry of Fisheries), Jeremy Helson (Ministry of Fisheries, Wellington), Nicola Pindur (Ministry of Fisheries), Chris Ingle (West Coast Regional Council), Jane Bayley (Buller District Council), Dr Paul Irving (Ministry for the Environment) and Laura Mills (Greymouth Evening Star)\*.

\* Denotes partial attendance

Peter Coburn welcomed everybody to the meeting and as there were new people at the meeting he asked people to introduce themselves. One member of the public, Mark de Goldi, a local fisherman, attended the meeting.

### 1.0 Apologies

Apologies were received from Eric Simmons (MP Forum). Eric had advised that because of work commitments he would be unable to be part of the Forum. Brad Stenhouse (President of Greymouth Underwater Club) would take up this role. Mike Slater and Chris Hickford put in apologies for lateness and arrived at the meeting at lunchtime. Apologies were received from Kara Edwards who advised that Helen Rasmussen would be the representative from Te Runanga o Makāwhio. Emily Arthur and Bruce Hamilton told the meeting that they would need to leave the meeting at 4.00pm and were not present for the final discussion about the mission statement, discussion about public forums, progress report on public information and Item 9.2.

### 2.0 Agenda Confirmation, Timetable and Declarations of Conflict of Interest

Kerry Eggeling was concerned that the Forum had no criteria on which to base its recommendations. Jeremy Helson said the national criteria were being developed. Kerry also said he would raise four points under General Business.

Carrol Browne asked that the Forum discuss a possible vision statement for what it wanted to achieve and was concerned about a standard process for the public forums.

No conflicts of interest were tabled.

### 3.0 Minutes

Kerry Eggeling asked that the word 'Regional' on page 2 be changed to 'District'.

Moved that the minutes of the 20 April 2005 meeting, as previously circulated and subject to the correction above, be approved as a true and correct record.
--

Watson/Hamilton

05/005

Carried unanimously

## 4.0 Matters Arising

### 4.1 Follow up on actions from previous meeting

Invitation to WCRC and District Mayors – Peter Coburn said that a letter had been written to all the Councils asking for representatives on the forum. Replies had been received from the West Coast Regional Council and the Buller District Council and Dennis Shanahan and Jane Bayley were present at the meeting. No replies had been received from the Grey or Westland District Councils. Kerry Eggeling said the matter had been discussed at a Westland District Council meeting and he understood that there was to be somebody appointed.

Representation of Recreational Fishers – Geoff Rowling noted Eric Simmons inability to serve on the Forum and pointed out that it was important that there was adequate representation from the recreational fishers, especially on the West Coast and discussed how he might get their feedback. Bruce Watson said that representation from the recreation fishers would be important because of the use of river mouths and estuaries. Peter Coburn noted that for the Forum to have credibility it was important that it was as inclusive of people and groups as possible and the public forums would be an important part of this.

Revision of Terms of Reference/Role Description – Peter Coburn felt that the changes asked for at the last meeting had been incorporated in version 2.

Educational Role - Bruce Watson noted that reference to the educational role of the Forum had been omitted and should be included. Eugenie Sage suggested that the words ‘promote public appreciation and enjoyment of the marine environment’ could be put into the second bullet point and this was agreed. Forum members also agreed that there should be no hierarchy in the list and that more points would evolve as the Forum progressed with its work.

North & South Boundaries – Don Neale briefed the Forum on possible boundaries for there area of interest geographical, i.e. from northern limits at Kahurangi Point and southern limits at Awarua Point (Department boundaries), biogeographical boundaries and also the 12 mile limit. Kerry Eggeling did not see any need to set the off shore boundary until the Forum had defined the area it was interested. Don Neale felt that it was important the Forum had a common understating of the area to be covered.

Moved that the northern boundary of the Forum’s area of interest be Kahurangi Point. Shanahan/Eggeling      05/006      Carried unanimously
--

Moved that the southern boundary of the Forum’s area of interest be Awarua Point. Thomson/Eggeling      05/007      Carried unanimously
--

Outer Boundary - Peter Coburn reminded the Forum said that the further out the offshore boundary went the more the Forum would get involved in national issues over which it would have no control e.g the hoki fishery. Bruce Watson felt the offshore boundary had to allow the Forum the flexibility to consider issues as they arose. Emily Arthur said that having a wider boundary would lead to problems involving more people. Eugenie Sage was concerned that extending the boundary would mean that the forum might not have the time to complete the task it had been set. Murray Reedy reminded Forum members that the focus of the group was on the protection of marine biodiversity and not the management of the fisheries. Jane Bayley said that if an issue relating to protection went outside the outer boundary then the Forum could just bring in what it needed to. Dr Irving said that there were other issues such as mining etc might need to be considered.

# CONFIRMED

Moved that the outer boundary of the Forum's area of interest be generally the 12 Mile Limit of the territorial sea.

Watson/Arthur

05/008

Carried unanimously

Estuaries and River Mouths – Peter Coburn noted that a further issue the Forum needed to consider was whether estuaries and river mouths should be included in its area of interest and noted that the marine area could be affected by activities on land. Bruce Watson agreed that as estuaries were part of the marine environment they should be included. They were the West Coast's equivalent of the fiords in Fiordland, and contained whitebait and eel fisheries and habitats. Bruce Hamilton said there was a risk of clashing with areas dealt with by other legislation. Peter Coburn added that the Forum would be identifying areas already considered important in coastal and regional plans but Eugenie Sage felt that the Forum needed to take a holistic approach. Discussion then turned to the management tools that could be used and Jeremy Helson said that these were not restricted to fisheries and conservation tools but that there was scope to use other tools such as those in the Resource Management Act. Dr Paul Irving believed that the Forum should be identifying the targets for conservation rather than saying what tools are to be used. Once areas are identified then the appropriate mechanism to protect them might not exist.

Moved that the geographical scope of the Forum's area of interest include estuaries and river mouths.

Watson/Browne

05/009

Carried unanimously

Moved that the following words be added to the end of the second sentence in Section 3 of the Terms of Reference on page 2 'and other mechanisms as appropriate'.

Watson/Browne

05/010

Carried unanimously

## 5.0 Correspondence

Murray Reedy reported that letters had been sent to the Local Authorities about representation on the Forum and that letters relating to membership on the Forum had been received from Eric Simmons, Carol Scott, the Mayor of the Buller District Council, and the CEO of the West Coast Regional Council.

Moved that the inwards correspondence be received and the outwards correspondence be approved.

Eggeling/Hamilton

05/011

Carried unanimously

## 6.0 Context Setting

### 6.1 Presentation from Don Neale

Don Neale gave the Forum a presentation on the Marine Environment on the West Coast which was designed to give the Forum a general broad picture about the West Coast Marine biodiversity and gaps that existed in information. In his presentation he covered the underwater features, currents, tidal movements, surveys that had been done, marine classification, the biogeographic subregions, marine biogeographic units, and then dealt with several aspects of the marine environment such as natural areas and landscapes, marine wildlife, rare and unusual species, foul ground, rock types, plants and animals, and users of the marine environment. Geoff Rowling asked whether any information had been obtained during surveys about any declines or increases in species numbers. Don Neale felt that some species were not as numerous as they used to be but there had been no detailed reports and said that the Department's role was to protect marine biodiversity and not the management of the fisheries.

# CONFIRMED

Peter Coburn thanked Don for his presentation which was to be made available to Forum members, as well as copies of the coloured maps at an appropriate scale.

Paul Irving emphasised with the Forum that the need for a common understanding of the data was important when taking information back to groups. Chris Ingle said that the West Coast Regional Council had information that had been gathered for the Regional Coastal Plan. Jane Bayley added that the Buller District Council had information relating to the identification of little blue penguin habitats. Murray Reedy acknowledged that there were gaps in the information available but that any research was likely to go outside the period of the Forum.

## **6.2 Presentation from Dr Paul Irving**

Dr Irving from the Ministry for the Environment had been invited along to give the Forum a presentation about the work and the results of the Guardians of Fiordland process. He felt that the West Coast Forum might learn from some of the lessons gained from the group. The main points he raised with the Forum were the principles of:

- ‘gifts and gains’ (the results of negotiated packages),
- the importance of a community vision,
- the necessity of having agreed information,
- taking a partnership approach,
- developing relationships, and
- having a direction and problem solving methods.

Another concept he talked about was that of ‘bulls in china shops’. ‘China shops’ were the very important places that possibly should not be publicised. He also had samples of the report that had been produced and a bibliography of all the information that was available for the area. Paul Irving added that the project had political support which was also necessary for its success. Peter Coburn thanked Dr Irving for sharing his knowledge with the Forum.

## **7.0 Administration**

### **7.1 Meeting Schedule and Expected Outcomes.**

The next meeting was to be held in Westport on 16 & 17 August 2005. It was agreed that this meeting should provide an opportunity to hear from fishers in the inshore industry, and recreational fishers.

Eugenie Sage asked about the possibility of commissioning research into the gaps in local information. Murray Reedy said that the Department had some funds to facilitate the process of consultation and to commission some research papers. Bruce Watson suggested that it would be useful to provide a write up of what data already existed even if the Forum could only have a table of contents at first. Murray Reedy said that he would talk to the people from the Ministry of Fisheries to see what could be provided. Carol Scott said that her organisation would have some information as well. It was agreed that a similar model to the ‘Characterisation of the Fiordland Fisheries’ report would be good to use.

The Forum agreed that it needed to get a common understanding about what is involved with fishing and how fisheries are run. The members of the Forum were to arrive in Westport by lunchtime on 16 August and then in the afternoon visit the local harbour and look at the fishing boats and the equipment used for fishing. A public forum would be held from 5.30 – 7.00pm. Ian McKenzie offered to talk to the Fishers in Westport to get information.

**Action: Murray Reedy  
Carol Scott & Nicola Pindur  
Ian McKenzie**

# CONFIRMED

## 8.0 General Business

Mission Statement - Carrol Browne felt that the Forum needed to have some statement that expressed what it wanted to achieve and suggested that the Guardians of Fiordland Fisheries and Marine Environment could be used as a guide. Other members felt that the Forum needed a statement that was pertinent to the West Coast and it was agreed that Murray Reedy would draft up a mission statement and circulate it.

**Action: Murray Reedy**

Standard approach to public forums – Members agreed that there should be a consistent approach to the public forums proposed for meetings. Murray Reedy offered to draft a framework for circulation.

**Action: Murray Reedy**

## 9.0 Public and Media Information

### 9.1 Progress Report on public information

There had been a brief press release in the local paper and advertisements about the meetings. Jane Bayley mentioned that the Buller District Council bulletin might be useful. Te Whe Weepu suggested using the new radio station. Murray Reedy reported on the proposed Forum website and said that it would need to be independent of the Department. Members were reminded that if they were to speak on a programme that they should be emphasising the integrated marine protection approach.

Carrol Browne asked about the availability of maps of the marine environment and suggested one that mapped the land-based industries that affected marine environments might be useful. Ian McKenzie suggested one that mapped information about recreational fishing would also be useful that and that that could be put together while talking to local people. Murray Reedy was to investigate producing a number of maps with a reasonable scale.

**Action: Murray Reedy**

### 9.2 Discussion of items for press release

No items were suggested.

There being no further business Peter Coburn thanked everybody for their attendance and closed the meeting at 4.20pm.

Confirmed 17 August 2005

Peter Coburn  
Interim Chairperson