

DRAFT OUTCOMES from LOBMAC meeting held on 23 March 2010.

Agenda Item	Outcome
1(a). Welcome and apologies	<p>Meeting started at 8:55</p> <p>The Chairperson welcomed Committee members and observers to the 1st meeting for 2010.</p> <p><u>Attendance:</u> Alan Dodds (Chairperson), Lee Monin, Peter Offner, Daniel Stewart, Noel Gogerly, Scott Westley, Doug Ferrell.</p> <p>Amy Priestly (Secretariat).</p> <p><u>Observers:</u> Robert Peever, Matthew Cartwright, Robert Gale, Geoff Liggins, Peter Brown, Ron Firkin, Oliver Wady, Carly Goddard, Rachael Farrow, Peter Turnell</p> <p><u>Apologies:</u> Nathan McNamara (I&I NSW Management), Arthur Dye (Previous Conservation Representative, LobMAC)</p> <p>LobMAC expressed its appreciation to Nathan McNamara & Arthur Dye for their contribution to the LobMAC over the past few years.</p>
1(b). Agreement on agenda	<p>The attendees agreed to move agenda item 5 (Commercial Fisheries Structural Adjustment: Systems Reforms) after agenda item 7 (updates) to avoid disruption.</p> <p>Noel Gogerly's agenda items were submitted to attendees as an addendum and agreed to be included. Items 1 & 2 to be discussed in Agenda item 3, Item 3 to be discussed in Agenda item 6 and item 4 to be discussed in Agenda item 8.</p> <p>Subject to the above changes, the LobMAC agreed on the agenda for the 23 March 2010 meeting.</p>
1(c). Confirmation of Draft Minutes	<p>The LobMAC confirmed the Final Draft minutes as being a true and accurate record of the 30 September 2009 meeting.</p>
2. Correspondence received and sent	<p>Correspondence received and sent by LobMAC was noted.</p>
3. Business arising	<p>LobMAC noted the current status of action items with the following additions.</p>

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from the previous meeting	<p>Action item 4 & 9 relating to economic assessment to be further discussed in agenda item 7 (d) Industry Analysis.</p> <p><i>Addendum item 1 (Weights on ropes) was discussed:</i> The LobMAC brought up the issue of the 50g weights on rope limit and the practicality of this in deep water. The current rules and intention of the legislation that governs the weighted ropes for lobster traps was discussed. I&I responded that the Commercial Fishing Reforms Consultation Paper (Part 4a) acknowledges this issue. Changes in the regulations for deep and shallow water may need to be addressed through this process. LobMAC advised that they want to be consulted in this process.</p> <p><i>Addendum item 2 was discussed (Salmon for lobster bait):</i> The LobMAC noted the difficulty in obtaining salmon for bait on the north coast. I&I responded that there is a review of closures in Part 1 of the Commercial Fishing Reforms Consultation Paper (Issue 2).</p>
4. Update on TACC 2010/11	<p>The change in TACC representation was discussed. Dr Warren Musgrave and Mr Steve McCormack have been replaced by Dr Jessica Hartmann and Mr Bill Talbot.</p> <p>The chairman brought up for discussion the timing of the first LobMAC meeting of each year and its alignment with the TACC meeting. I&I discussed the advantages of industry being aware of departmental submissions prior to the TACC meeting.</p> <p>Industry agreed to deal with timings of the meetings on a year to year basis.</p>
5. Management Charges and Cost Recovery	<p>I&I provided an overview of a uniform cost recovery project across all fisheries that is currently in progress. Industry expressed ways to decrease budget in regards to overheads and EIS (discussion on management/compliance overheads). LobMAC noted that they are the only fishery currently paying full cost recovery. I&I acknowledged this and advised that cost recovery has been flagged at all of the other fishery MAC's and it is something I&I are in the process of working on.</p> <p>The following advice was agreed to be given to the LobMAC from I&I Management:</p> <p>Action: The level of overheads payable elsewhere in the department eg: farmers.</p> <p>Action: What reductions in cost would occur where managers are pooled?</p> <p>Action: What are the cost or efficiency benefits in having a strategic planner for lobster compliance instead of a single dedicated compliance officer?</p> <p>Action: Where 48% of overheads are distributed</p> <p>Action: Where 23.35% of on costs are distributed</p>

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	<p>Late Invoicing: Industry expressed dissatisfaction with late invoices. Small operators find it difficult to pay when fishing occurs early in the season. I&I acknowledges the issues associated with delayed invoicing and will endeavour to issue invoices on time in the future.</p> <p>Action: I&I to look into additional arrangements for invoicing. If the budget brief sign-off is delayed, I&I management is to speak with Head Office to look into issuing nominal invoices in late August. Any required adjustments can be made later in the season.</p>
6. Updates	<p>The LobMAC was provided with an overview of the information that is to be submitted to the TAC Committee from DPI Research, Compliance and Management for their deliberation on the 2010/11 TACC.</p> <p><i>a) Research</i> As well as the overview of the TAC submission from Research, the LobMAC were provided an update on the Observer Survey, Fishery Independent Survey and the pilot project- Pueruli Energy Study by Dr Andrew Jeffs.</p> <p>The LobMAC noted the current catch at approximately 84 tonnes, was still under the 2009/10 TAC. Additionally, I&I Research noted two significant inputs of catch that should be caught before the TAC meeting being from the north coast deep water and south coast edge of shelf that should bring the 2009/10 catch close to the agreed TAC.</p> <p><i>b) Management</i> The LobMAC was provided with an overview of the information that is to be submitted to the TAC Committee.</p> <p>Industry raised the question of legislative requirements around unlicensed crew. I&I advised that crewing arrangements are currently under review under the Commercial fishing reforms.</p> <p><i>c) Compliance</i> The LobMAC was provided with an overview of the information that is to be submitted to the TAC Committee</p> <p>Addendum item 3 (<i>Compliance and rewards</i>) was discussed. The LobMAC raised concerns with the current rewards systems in place. The LobMAC proposed a scheme where a reward system is advertised to help reduce theft and promote prosecution. Additionally, the LobMAC</p>

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	<p>noted that at present, there are few informants. Industry expressed the view that, as rewards are currently only paid on successful prosecutions, potential informants are dissatisfied with this delay and are unwilling to provide information.</p> <p>Action: I&I to investigate the current rewards system and any impediments in implementing such a rewards system.</p> <p><i>d) Industry Analysis</i> As well as an overview of the report to be presented at the TAC meeting, a recommendation was offered to the LobMAC for an industry funded MEY project.</p> <p>Action: LobMAC to seek advice from the TACC on their recommendations for an economic survey.</p>
7: Commercial Fisheries Structural Adjustment: Systems Reforms	<p>An update of 'FishOnline' as well as an update on the Interactive Voice Response System (IVR) was provided. Items in the Consultation paper where feedback is required were brought to LobMAC's attention. Additionally, I&I advised the LobMAC that the submission date for input into the consultation paper has been extended to the 30/4/10.</p> <p><i>Issue 7 in the Consultation Paper</i> LobMAC unanimously supports the recommendation to keep the current legislation unchanged whereby a shareholder may not acquire by any such transfer more than twice the amount of the shareholders initial quota for the fishing period. Motioned by Peter Offner, Seconded by Scott Westley.</p> <p>Action: LobMAC voted unanimously that objections to Issue 7 be recorded in the minutes and the Consultation Paper submission log.</p> <p><i>Issue 15 in the Consultation Paper</i> LobMAC unanimously objected to the proposed post-landing report needing to be made within 30 minutes of landing the product and prior to moving the product more than 50 metres from the point of landing. Industry raised concerns with publicly disclosing viable lobster grounds such as would occur if catches needed to be validated within 50 metres of the landing point. Additionally, the proposed post-landing arrangement raises concerns for food safety and product quality. The LobMAC recommend leaving the post reporting time frame at the status quo, ie: 2 hours Motioned by Noel Gogerly, Seconded by Lee Monin.</p> <p>LobMAC voted unanimously that objections to Issue 15 be recorded in the minutes and in the Consultation Paper submission log.</p>

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	<p>The LobMAC raised concerns with the IVR system including the costs of multiple calls per day especially for small operators, issues with phone reception, phone batteries, changing fishing ground location/direction in the pre fish report.</p> <p>The LobMAC also raised concerns about whether the offences related to reporting under the proposed system mirror current logbook offences.</p> <p>Action: I&I acknowledges the issues raised in regards to potential factors beyond a fishers control affecting their ability to comply with 'FishOnline', I&I will look in to how these issues can be addressed without imposing unfair penalties.</p> <p>The LobMAC raised further concerns about the timely distribution of tags if quota is transferred more freely.</p> <p>I&I advised that advice has been sought on these issues in other jurisdictions where IVR is currently implemented. The consultation paper is allowing for submissions on these issues and I&I encouraged the LobMAC to provide input through this avenue.</p> <p>Action: LobMAC to lodge a submission to the consultation paper.</p>
8. Other business	<p>Addendum item 4 (<i>Game Fishing Boats</i>) was discussed.</p> <p>Industry raised concerns about Game Fishing boats cutting off head gear in deep water.</p> <p>Action: I&I compliance to advise its compliance squad and maintain a local presence to reinforce the applicable rules and regulations. Additionally, I&I compliance to contact ACORF to advise on this issue.</p>
9. Chairperson's summary	<p>The Chairperson thanked everyone for their participation and involvement.</p> <p>Meeting Closed at 16:30</p>