

Chair's summary report to Minister (Meeting 17)

17 December 2020

Dear Minister,

CommFish NSW continued the series of regular meetings to progress the Business Efficiency Program and met again on the 27th of November in Newcastle. The meeting was intended to be a face to face meeting but travel difficulties meant some members had to attend by video conferencing. This was the 6th meeting since June this year.

This meeting was focussed on discussing 15 proposals received in relation to Species Restrictions and a further 7 proposals relating to Estuary General Meshing Nets. All proposals were discussed in depth and a number of recommendations put forward to advance proposals to the next step and be discussed by the joint CommFish/Recfish Working Group. Some proposals that only needed clarification or minor amendment were sent to DPI Fisheries for action.

Council also welcomed the opportunity to have a joint session with RecFish on 27 November, which focused on cross-sector issues, including initiatives to further assist with the recovery of Mulloway, evaluate the status of Kingfish stocks, and work together to identify effective ways to reduce black marketing of fish and shellfish in NSW.

As the terms of appointment for some members would expire at the end of November those members were thanked for their outstanding contributions to CommFish NSW, their professional approach to reaching agreement on issues and the dedication they have shown throughout the demanding schedule of meetings.

Yours sincerely

Stuart Richey AM CommFish NSW Chair