

## **CHAIR'S SUMMARY**

The Council met via Microsoft Teams on 4 September 2020 and the following sets out key issues discussed:-

1. The Council considered the draft Harvest Strategy Policy and Guidelines prepared by DPI and provided comments - these will be taken into account prior to the draft being submitted to the Minister with a recommendation for release for public consultation.
2. The Council considered the draft Co-management Policy prepared by DPI and provided comments - again, these will be taken into account prior to the revised draft being referred to Commfish, Recfish NSW and the Aboriginal Fishing Advisory Council for comment.
3. The Council considered a proposal to evaluate practical financing options that encourage further adjustment needs for the NSW commercial fishing sector. MFAC is keen to support initiatives which will assist specifically in helping the commercial industry in the adjustment process. At the same time, Council understands that the timing around discussions with the banking sector is critical, particularly when Industry will want to see the value and financial security of its shareholdings well established. Council agreed that there was merit in consulting CommFish on how to progress the issue in the first instance.
4. Council received a presentation from Dr Sarah Fairfull, Director Aquatic Environment, on the Marine Estate Strategy and the Review of the Marine Estate Management Act. Members were supportive of the Strategy and agreed to provide constructive input to the Review of the MEMA Act.
5. Council received a detailed update from the Deputy Director-General, Fisheries on current issues being considered by the Department.

The next meeting of the Council will be held on 11 December 2020.

Richard Stevens OAM  
Chair

28/09/2020