

CHAIR'S SUMMARY

The Council met on Thursday and Friday 7/8 September 2017 in Tweed Heads. The following are the key outcomes from that meeting:

1. **Cultural Fishing** - Council met with members of the Aboriginal Fishing Advisory Council (AFAC) and had an open and frank discussion about issues of concern. As a result, Council agreed that a draft Discussion Paper on Cultural Fishing be further considered at Council's meeting on 8 December 2017. The draft Discussion Paper will address resourcing for capacity building and other initiatives, and will be circulated to AFAC, Commfish and RecFish for comment. The aim will be to have the Discussion Paper lodged with the Minister by March 2018.
2. **Cost Recovery** - Council reviewed and discussed the draft cost recovery principles outlined in the background paper submitted by the Department of Primary Industries and provided comments. The draft paper incorporating Council's comments will now be made available to Commfish, the Aboriginal Fishing Advisory Council and RecFish for their comments prior to being considered again by Council at its December 2017 meeting.
3. **Penalty Demerit System** - Council considered a draft Discussion Paper on the System and provided comments. The draft Discussion Paper incorporating Council's comments has now been submitted to Commfish in the first instance for its consideration prior to being resubmitted to Council for its further consideration at its December 2017 meeting.
4. **Co-management** - this item was deferred to Council's December 2017 meeting.
5. **Business Adjustment Program** - the Department provided an update on the implementation of the Program.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of Council will be held in Sydney on 8 December 2017.

Richard Stevens OAM
Chair
12 October 2017