

CHAIR'S SUMMARY

Council held its 14th meeting in Port Stephens on Friday 2 June 2017. The following are the key outcomes from this meeting:

1. **Cost Recovery** - Council will continue to work with the Department of Primary Industries to develop a first draft of a policy following the completion of the Business Adjustment Program.
2. **Cultural Fishing** - Council considered a first draft of a Discussion Paper and provided feedback and comments which will be incorporated into a revised draft. It is Council's intention to arrange a joint meeting the Aboriginal Fishing Advisory Council to discuss issues associated with cultural fishing and particularly to seek their views on possible options to be included in advice to the Minister for Primary Industries. It is hoped that this meeting can occur in September 2017.
3. **Co-management Policy** - Council considered a first draft of a policy, and provided comments/feedback. Following further review by Council, this will be referred to the other fisheries advisory Councils for comment.
4. **Aquaculture** - Council received a presentation from Mr Ian Lyall on the Water Sustainable Aquaculture Strategy in NSW.
5. Council received a presentation from Mr Heath Calder on the Digital License Application which is due to go live on 1 July 2017.
6. Council reviewed the challenges and priorities identified by Members, and agreed to incorporate these into the MFAC Strategy. In addition, Council Members will identify their top three priorities for incorporation into the Strategy to provide a focus for Council's work program into the future.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of Council will be held at Tweed Heads on Friday 8 September 2017.

Richard Stevens OAM
Chair
19 June 2017