

NSW Wild Caught Fishers Coalition Inc
BY FISHERS, FOR FISHERS

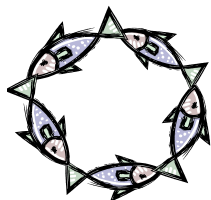
SUBMISSION
NSW WILD CAUGHT FISHERS COALITION INC.
(WCFC)
Minutes from State Wide Meetings

Reform Strategies for
NSW Fisheries Management

Authors: NSW Wild Caught Coalition Committee
10th August 2015.

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NSW Wild Caught Fishers Coalition Inc

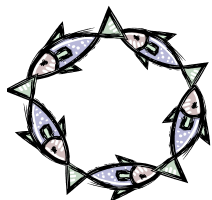
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Summary of meeting minutes and notes held by the Coalition Committee and the NSW Commercial fishers in the months of June, July and August 2015: page 3.

SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS

Meetings 2015

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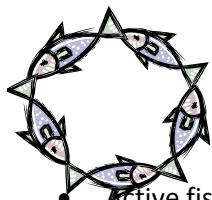
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Overview and summary of the WCFC Position

The Committee have consulted face to face with fishers across the state. The reform MUST be halted until the following issues are addressed due to the following concerns supported by a majority of fishers:

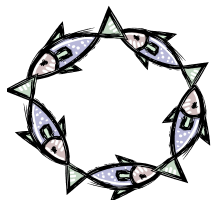
- No fisher should have to invest further to secure their current access rights.
- NSW Commercial fishers have been investing \$500 a year per endorsement since 2011.
- Companies or individuals shouldn't be able to buy up all the shares.
- Companies or individuals shouldn't have the majority of shares to support the concept of being able to "own a river" or "regional species monopoly."
- The SARC recommendations are unworkable.
- The SARC recommendations indicate a lack of knowledge of the industry.
- That there is no confidence in the SARC Committee and that it should be dismissed, this is evidenced by its original acceptance of the linkages proposed in the first instance.
- That there is NO confidence in the Ministers Advisory Committee delegate for commercial fishing – this individual has not addressed Industry since being given the position.
- That there is NO formal structure that represents the majority of industry advising the Ministers Advisor.
- That there is no confidence in the NSW SIC to negotiate on behalf of the NSW Commercial fishers because there is no formal structure representing a majority of fishers.
- The linkages proposed and approved to table to Industry by SARC are unacceptable as they are deemed as simply unworkable.
- That there is NO costings provided to Industry to make a business decision on future costs to the viability of fishers businesses.
- That there is no guarantee that the industry will be sustainable and viable and have business security with the proposals put on the table.
- That the Industry wants security of access and is tired of that access being eroded by the claims of sustainability and viability – this has been going on for more than thirty years. No guarantees that this current investment won't change in 2018, 2020 or beyond.
- That the Industry has already undertaken a multitude of restructures and reduced access.
- That the sixteen million should be put on the table for those who wish to leave the Industry and with a fair price for their businesses before enforcement of further investment of current active fishers.
- That a review of the term latent effort must be undertaken! Fishers need the multi endorsements.
- That the SARC cannot deliver on their terms of reference nor follow through on their focus to take into account when formalising recommendations such as:
 - increased certainty for industry
 - strengthening property rights
 - improve economic performance
 - encourage those that wish to leave to do so
 - reduce costs of management
 - ensure biological sustainability
 - increase voluntary compliance
- That there will be no increased certainty in the industry – there are no assurances written in the recommendations. Prior assurances have not delivered security.
- That there will be no strengthening of property rights - there are no assurances provided in the recommendations.
- That there will be no assurances of economic performance at all just a shifting of who is catching what and able to catch what.
- That there will have to be an increase in leasing to offset the movement of shares in some businesses increasing the cost overall, this simply increases the cost against any increase in return.



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- Active fishers will leave the fishery breaking down the infrastructure that is on a fine line already due to previous and consistent restructures of the industry over and over again.
- That there is NO evidence of biological security provided. In fact fishers may well have to concentrate effort in shorter time frames that will actually be a detriment to the fishery.
- There is No evidence of increasing voluntary compliance, in fact the view is that this process will encourage the black marketing of fish.
- That the Co-Operative's across the state will suffer economically due to quota shifts region by region and fishers leaving the industry. They are already on a fine line due to the historic management and removal and restructure for more than thirty years.
- That the industry as publicly announced and documented is already sustainable.
- That there needs to be maximum terms of three years for independent advisors so as to protect their tenure as independent.
- Linkages have major anomalies region by region The TAC committee structure is not acceptable and erodes the security debate.
- That the Marine Estate management process erodes the security debate by constant calls for protection of the resource which invariably targets commercial fishing grounds.
- Effort and catch is controlled by environmental conditions.
- SARC chair has a career in the structural adjustment of the industry. He has too many industry aligned positions to claim making Independent decisions.
- Foreign Investment restrictions are necessary and should be stringently maintained.
- The Fisheries Amendment Bill is not supported in its present structure.
- OH&S issues will be increased with the structural adjustment proposed.
- NSW Fisheries choose to ignore the consultative processes written in legislation over the last 5 years. (MAC and SIAC).
- Selected delegates of Industry have been holding meetings with DPI in confidence – that's closed door meetings with no minutes or documented outcomes.
- There is no guarantee that there are sufficient shares for the fisheries to maintain current capacity.
- That the process will further undermine the supporting regional town's structure across the state.
- That there needs to be a three year employment rotation for all fisheries managers.
- That there needs to be a regional collaborative program with Industry to promote the sustainability and quality of wild caught seafood for the general public.
- DPI management and policy creations of commercial fisheries continues to publically degrade Industries profile in the eyes of the community.
- That the Minister acknowledges an over allocation of shares by past management policy, NOT being an Industry issue to resolve
- That fishers want working groups of Industry elected representatives and partnerships in management that is open and transparent
- The department cost recovery model is neither clear nor outlined in any modelling process. Forced investment to reform Industry may dramatically impact bottom line when the projected full cost recovery model is introduced.
- That price setting of shares is the objective of the process irrespective of the activity of the shareholder.
- The proposed Amendment Bill strips the governor protection that sits there to protect industry.
- Banks do not lend on shares especially when the investment does not guarantee additional income
- Commercial fishers do not need more debt impacting their current viability.
- That the commercial fishing industries access to the resource pie continues to be eroded by different management policies of different portfolios for the resource and politics.
- That 87% of fish consumed in NSW is imported and this is the case because of fisheries management policy of removing the access to grounds.
- That an Enquiry into the management of the commercial fisheries in this State is required.



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Minutes of the meeting held at Newcastle Co-Op on the 3rd August 2015

Meeting opened - 12.05p.m.

Attendance: Dane Van Der Neut(President), Paul Sullivan(Vice President), Robert Guata, Allan Reed SNR, Stephen Reed, Allan Reed, Mark Sales, John Alessi, Brian Robinson, Ty Micallef, Bob Bryant, David Micallef, Eric Glen, Kristine Glen, Neville Patterson, Wayne Price, Brodie Brown, Michael Laverty, Adrian Parrot, Robert Burt, Phil Radnidge, Kevin Radnidge, John Hewitt, Jason Hewitt, William Madge, Jason Glen, Anthony Phillips, Stephen Wilks, Geoff Hyde, Phillip Goodwin, Michael O'Connor, Michael Lomas, Tony Williams, Matthew Dessent, un readable, un readable. 36.

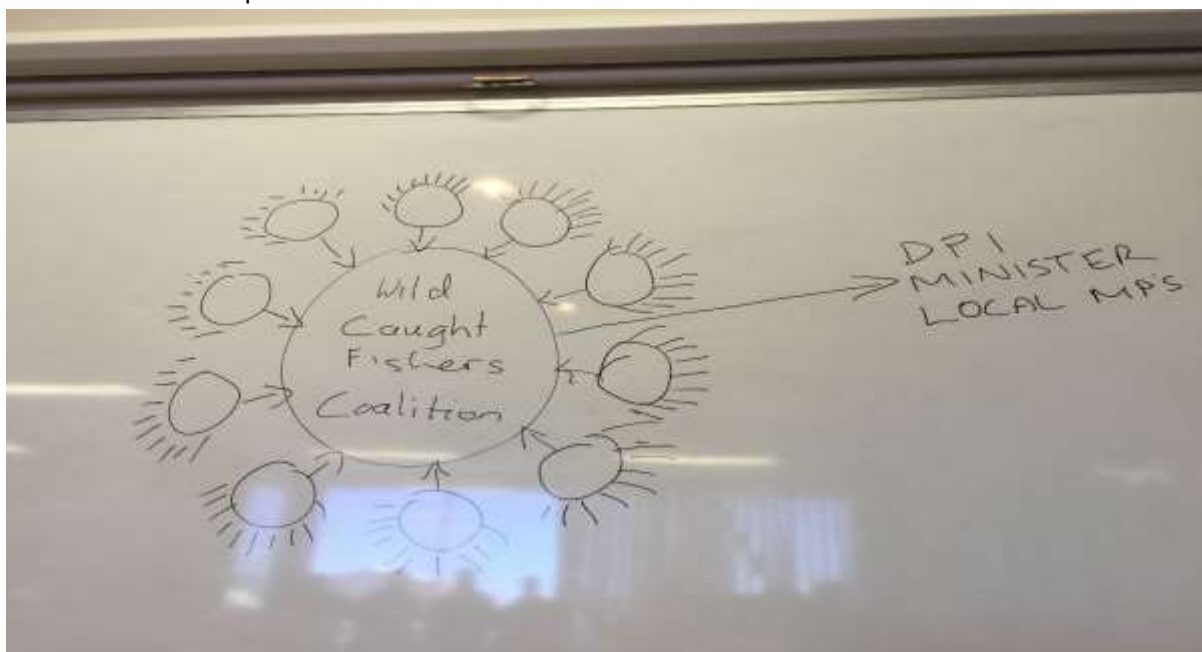
Apologies: Robert Ray, Jan Reed, Herbert Wood, Chris Hyde, Justin Wilks, Leo Smith, Daniel Chalkley.

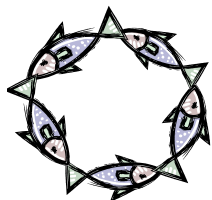
Housekeeping:

Dane passes chair to Paul Sullivan.

- We have met with over 300 fishers from border to border
- Started the coalition in need of a unified voice against the reform
- The reform needs to be stopped.
- Last reform caused industry backlash, industry mobilised for meetings in Sydney.
- The coalition is about industries voice.
- After the DPI driven port visits up and down the coast, SARC declared vocal ANTI-reformists as bullies and intimidators.
- Minutes are always taken by coalition and cannot be refuted once approved.

Dane Van Der Neut explains WCFC structure.





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Minutes of the meeting held in Newcastle on the 3rd August 2015.

Explanation of Coalition cont:

- The information comes from the fishermen and feeds through to DPI, minister and local MP's.
- Usually DPI would tell fishers what is happening.
- This could be industry supported reform.
Coalition will need to adapt over time.

Q- How has the Coalition been taken by DPI?

The coalition has been accepted by the minister, not really by DPI though.

Paul Sullivan explained the ministers meeting.

Q. From the floor

- What people seem to forget is that these guys are doing what they are doing for free.
- The concept of the WFC is By Fishers, For Fishers.
- Majority of fishers need to rule over minority.

Motion- Allan Reed

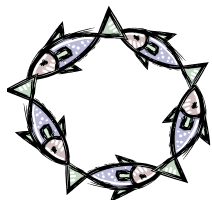
That the MFAC representative be replaced with an industry elected representative:

- **No representative structure beneath representative.**
- **Doesn't share the views of the majority of industry.**
- **Appointed, not elected.**

Second- Allan Reed SNR

Motion carried unanimously

- We just want to go to work
- OTL has the largest latent capacity
- OTL was the hardest hit in reform mark 1
- Reform mark 2 OTL has hardly any changes
- It's about divide and conquer
- Line east goes to quota
- When they have finished with the estuary, OTL will be hit again
- We were told by fisheries at a meeting you buy more shares, or get out
- Diversity is highly important and is part of the reason we are sustainable
- Shares will not be available, who will leave?
- Question- Paul Sullivan to the floor.
- Are there any questions or issues with what the Wild Caught Coalition is trying to do.
- No questions or issues.



NSW Wild Caught Fishers Coalition Inc

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Motion- John Alessi

That there be a parliamentary enquiry into fisheries management.

- Inadequate consultation.
- Inside information leaks.
- Should go back to 2009.
- Review of Pyrmont pact.
- SIAC-parliamentary secrecy/mac.

Second- Allan Reed

Motion carried unanimously

Motion- Tony Williams

That effort/catch is not controlled by a committee.

- Effort/catch is already controlled by weather/climate.
- Will create major compliance issues.
- Industry is already sustainable.
- Trigger points are adequate.
- Unworkable.

Second- Steven Reed

Motion carried unanimously

John Alessi- Vote of no confidence in the Structural Adjustment Review Committee:

- SARC was put in by Katrina as a scapegoat.
- Chair of SARC is the co-author of the independent review.
- Independent???
- SARC are paid to do a job, they will do it no matter who they send broke.

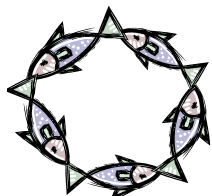
Vote of no confidence carried unanimously.

Motion-John Alessi

- That foreign investment restrictions stay in place.
- To maintain the benefits of fishing in small coastal communities.
- To keep Australians employed.

Second- Tony Williams

Motion carried unanimously.



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Minutes of the meeting held at Newcastle on the 3rd August 2015.

Motion- John Alessi

that maximum shareholdings be reviewed, that there be a maximum shareholding in place by fishery/region.

- ***Companies and individuals shouldn't be able to buy up all of the shares.***
- ***Companies and individuals shouldn't be able to own a river or species.***

Second- Allan Reed

Motion carried unanimously

Tony Williams- Vote of no confidence in the draft recommendations from the Structural Adjustment Review Committee.

- ***Unworkable.***
- ***No future costings.***
- ***They will destroy the industry.***
- ***Shows lack of knowledge of this industry.***

Vote of no confidence carried unanimously.

- Local members are oblivious to what is going on.
- Fishermen have been apathetic and need to get involved.
- Every fisher needs to go to local MP.
- Chair to read the coalition position to meeting.

Question put.

Does the meeting agree with the position of the Wild Caught Fishers Coalition?

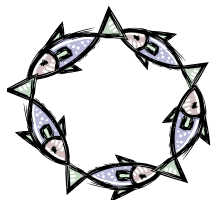
Vote

Yes- unanimous

Question put to the general manager of Commercial Fisherman's Co Operative, Robert Guata.

Will the Commercial Fisherman's Co Operative be adversely affected by SARC's recommendations?

- Yes
- Less product.
- Less fishers.
- Reduction of infrastructure.
- Reduction in staff.
- Loss of wharves.
- Recommendations not workable.
- Discussion on recommendations.



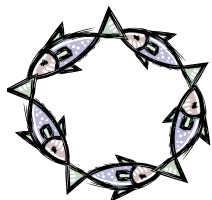
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- Using days will force fishers to work longer hours.
 - Placing estuary general fishers in the eye of the public.
 - Create a major OH&S issues.
 - Quota will result in upgrading/dumping.
 - Days have been taken from fishers considering fishers have attended meetings resulting in nil return on certain days.
 - Coalition is about getting the majority fishers heard instead of minority.
 - Regional meetings must be open to all fishers.
 - Main coalition meetings are open to members only.
- Note- if a day =24hrs then hunter prawn trawlers are robbed because they cannot legally work 24hrs in a day.

Meeting closed- 2.05 p.m.



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Minutes of the meeting held at Brooklyn Health and Community Centre on the 30th July 2015.

Meeting commenced at 10.45 a.m. approx.

The Chairman welcomed the fishers to the meeting.

1. **Attendance:** Dane Van Der Neut, Mary Howard, Allan Reed, Mark Cranstone, Mitch Sanders, Peter Offner, Mark Peterson, G.A. Alexander, Bobby Macchia, Peter Robinson, Mark Arblaster, Adam Hillier, Tony Clenton, Rolf Norington, Gary Johnson, Tom Van der Neut, S Davidson, B Smith, Steve Mayo, Dean Watherson, Robert Morrison, David Tansy, Allan Reed SNR, Neil Peterson, Shane Peterson, Gary Howard, Tony Williams, Ross Bagnato, Joe Bagnato, Jim Buie, Ted Allen, Jon Uren, Guy Witchard, Jason Davidson, Paul Aquiline, Brendan Schoncala, Ray Frater, Melissa Frater, Van Hong Troung, Mark Forrester, Bryan Finch, Donna Goslett, Vince Bagnato, Joe Bagnato, Max McLure, Carl Blacklidge, Brian Fitzgerald, Steven Reed, H. wood, Ross Bagnato, Giuessppe Bagnato, John Troung. 52
2. **Apologies:** Chris Judd, Jan Reed, Steve Cauche, Chris Butler, Troy Ireland, Craig Turner, Nathan Bushell, Rob Ford.

Agenda Item 1: With the share linkage working group meetings fast approaching, it is essential that the meeting have an agreed position on TAC committees:

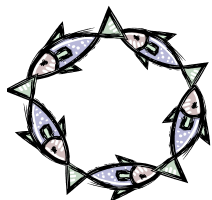
- The chair explained the linkages time frame. 2016 to 2018 Fishers will need to make the necessary purchases of shares to adjust to the access they want. After this you will not know due to the annual assessment by TAC committees.
- The TAC Committee Control – there is NO certainty.
- The Lobster Fishery is based on science.
- The science is not in other fisheries.
- At the Working group meetings attended by the Chair they were told that the harvest tonnage provided was the absolute highest available.

Questions:

- Q. Whose will set TAC and the Committees?
We have NO idea at this stage committees will be established by DPI once the process is completed.
- Q. Who is leaving?
(No one indicated they were leaving.)
- Q. Fishers in Region 4 meshing requires 125 shares to access the fishery and has a permit to access region5, this fisher has been allocated 91 days.
Region 5 Fisher with 125 shares has been allocated 51 days.

Action:

Need to check Permits and will these still apply?
How can this example be acceptable?



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TAC Committee discussion cont:

Category

Region 4 161 doesn't have to buy more.

Region 5 doesn't have to buy more.

Support for TAC Committees discussion:

- If we don't get rain we don't get the product.
- Lobsters the science follows them up and down the coast.
- Prawns pending Dry or Wet.
- Quota difficult.
- The catch up takes longer than the drop.

Q. Why was Coalition formed?

- To have a regional based consultative structure across the State for Fishers to be able to look at the fisheries region by region and to have consultation at the region level.

Q. What does the Industry support?

- Independent experts are not supported.
- Fishers who know their fishery should be first priority.
- Fishers cannot be denied access to the resource.
- MAC system still in legislation.
- NSW Fisheries have been not complying with the legislation for more than 5 years.
- **They have not consulted with Industry according to the law.**
- The MAC system was driven by DPI.
- The MAC system did not have a consultative structure below it.
- Possibility it could work with consultation structure.
- Should keep it in the Act.

Q. Where is the proposed Amendment Bill up to, with the change the Act up to?

- Just waiting for the spring sitting of parliament to start.
- The Wild caught Fishers Coalition is not supporting the Amendment Bill without changes.

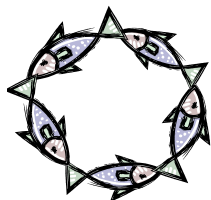
Motion: In response to the question; do fishers support committees controlling effort in their Fishery?

Moved: Rolf Norington. No.

That there should not be specific external committees controlling the effort for the commercial fisheries.

That Industry supports a consultation structure with elected fishers representing each share class in each region.

Seconded: Guy Witchard
unanimous



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Minutes of the meeting held at Brooklyn Hall on the 30thn July 2015

SARC Recommendations: cont.

Do Fishers support the SARC recommendations?

Discussion:

The recommendations show a complete lack of knowledge of the workings of the Industry.

Q. Do you understand what you will get?

EPT:	150 shares with an 11 metre net will get	90 days.
EG:	Meshing: 125 shares 2016 entry then 2018	51 days.
	Haul 1 : 125 shares 2016 entry then 2018	51 days.
	Hand Line: 125 share 2016 entry then 2018	389 minimum shareholding.
	Remove haul crew requirements.	
	Eeling : 125 shares 2016 entry then 2018	800KGs.
	Crabs: 125 shares 2016 entry then 2018	84.9 kgs.
	Fish trap: 125 shares 2016 entry the 2018	15 traps
		Ten shares per trap thereafter.

They want a TAC on blue swimmer crabs.

CAT 2 whitebait to be cancelled.

Mud Crabs all methods must have existing catch records 80Kg.

Decision:

Motion: Moved: Allan Reed.

That the SARC recommendations be rejected that we do not support them at all.

Seconded: Mark Peterson

unanimous.

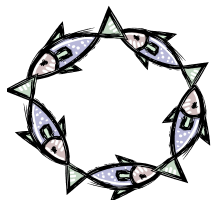
- If what they propose is implemented the compliance will be impossible especially the Prawn trawl length of nets, number of nets days etc. this is just not acceptable.
- We are already in a position where we do not know what management fees will be.
- Their Proposals will make every endorsed fisher unable to make a living.
- **Will the SARC recommendations require investment from fishers to secure their current access?**
- We are being asked to put money into the fishery where there is NO future guaranteed.
- Many fishers will not be able to get back to existing access?
- What happened to the 365 days in a year to go fishing?
- Not enough shares to maintain current effort.
- The proposal has an OH&S issue if fishers have to work fewer days they will work longer hours.
- The proposal has a sustainability issue if fishers have to target the one area often in shorter time frames.

Motion: Tony Williams:

That the SARC recommendations will require continuing investment in shares that may not be available

Seconded: Allan Reed.

unanimous



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Minutes of the meeting held at Brooklyn on the 30th July 2015

Will the Brooklyn Co Op be adversely affected?

- It is likely that the Co-Op will lose members.
- Tourism and tours to Brooklyn have a focus that includes local fish.
- Local restaurants feature local fish and any loss of fisherman may well affect their business.
- Local employment is then affected.
- Fish from the Co-Operative goes to Sydney Fish Market.
- If the Co Op loses members then closes fishers will have to individually purchase RRFR.

Moved: Dave Tansy.

That the Brooklyn Co Op will be adversely affected by the recommendations.

Seconded: Steve Mayo
unanimous.

Letter tabled from Patonga Beach Hotel.

Action

That the letter tabled be handed to the Minister when the Coalition committee meets with him.

All fishers encouraged to approach businesses for correspondence of support.

Do you agree with the current NSW Wild Catch Coalition Position?

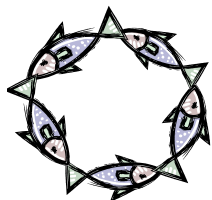
Q. Who is on the Committee?

President:	Dane Van der Neut
Vice President:	Paul Sullivan
Interim secretary:	Mary Howard
Public officer:	Mary Howard
Treasurer:	Danielle Addams.

There was unanimous support for the Position Statement of the Coalition

Explanation and clarification of NSW Wild Caught Fishers Coalition structure.

- The Committee has over the past five weeks consulted with more than 300 fishers from Bermagui in the South to Ballina in the North.
- We understand that there are 725 Active Fishers with 1100 shareholdings.
- The present position of the organisation is No support for the Reform or the proposed amendment Bill.
- We are getting close to 300 members – it keeps changing daily so hard to keep it accurate numbers.
- Position paper (Attached) read to the meeting as at 27th July 2015.



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Minutes of the meeting held at Brooklyn on the 30th July 2015

Regional Committee Structure discussion:

Estuary General

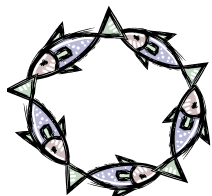
Tuggerah	Region 4	meeting Newcastle Co Op on the 3rd August.
Pittwater	Region 5	delegate?
Suggested representation to think about:		
EPT Upstream	Prawns	delegates 2
Down stream	Prawns	delegates 2
EPT	Squid	delegate?
Estuary general		
Various Categories -		delegates?
Ocean Haul		delegates?

All fisheries need to communicate with each other to determine delegates for their region.

- Plan to have regional Committees across the seven Regions.
- Within the regions will sit the various fisheries for each region.
- Delegates will need to be elected by fisheries to develop the Regional Committee then from that there will be delegates to the Board.
- We are not able to pull the whole together until we can identify and collate memberships into regions.
- We know the job is a challenge we are prepared to crawl before we walk.
- We have met with the Minister who appears to have a good understanding of the fishery
- He was concerned that 87% of fish consumed in NSW is imported
- He pointed out that DPI was not present at the meeting.

Q. Why do we think we will make any difference, we will all be!!!!!!!!!!!!

- Why should the Minister take any notice of us now?
- It is anticipated that we have shown that we are professional we have minuted meetings giving evidence of the position and concerns of the fishers.
- We have NO minutes provided to us of the many claimed consultation meetings with Industry.
- We do not know of any consultation in the past that presented what we have been delivered in the proposals from the SARC now.
- We need a structure for consultation with Industry this is the only way we will get it. We must unite and demonstrate that unity.
- The pseudo representation has already made up their minds.
- How do we now succeed?
- It will be hard for them to succeed if we do not trade shares and just go to work as normal.
- Are they going to take on every fisher?



NSW Wild Caught Fishers Coalition Inc

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Minutes of the meeting held at Brooklyn Hall on the 30th July 2015

Motions from the Floor:

No Confidence in the Ministerial Fisheries Advisory Committee.

Moved: Alan Reed.

That the MFAC Commercial member is not representing the fishermen, has no structure below him or communication, I move a vote of no confidence in the member.

Seconded: Rolf Norington

unanimous

- Failure to adequately consult with Industry on matters significant to the business viability of Industry.

NO Confidence in the SARC:

Moved: Rolf Norington

That a motion of No confidence in the SARC be put.

Seconded: Steve Reed.

Unanimous

- Concerns for accountability
- Costs to industry

No provisions for Costings in recommendations.

Moved Brendan Schankala

That there is no adequate provision for costs provided to Industry.

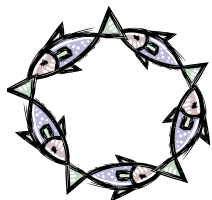
That the SARC be advised that the Industry requires cost accountability to be able to make their business decisions.

Seconded: Alan Reed.

Unanimous

Discussion:

- How do we know that we are going to be able to recover the costs of the SARC recommendations?
- There is no present provision of costing provided to the Industry shareholders.
- There is NO existing and proposed cost comparisons provided.
- SARC required to demonstrate management costs.
- What would the compliance costs be for Estuary Prawn Trawl for example?
- How many staff on books to day and how many expected to be there to manage a fleet that will be reduced and be unable to work to capacity.
- Question put on Independent Status of SARC advisors, the length of time the Chair has been in the department's employment as an Independent advisor.
- The length of time some staff have been in employment with DPI.
- 6.9 million to manage 5 share classes and how many fishers?
- It was explained that the employment is based on the Independence of the Fishery and not holding shares in the fishery. This is not independence from The Department of Primary Industries or Fisheries.



NSW Wild Caught Fishers Coalition Inc

BY FISHERS, FOR FISHERS

Minutes of the meeting held at Brooklyn Hall on the 30th July 2015

page 7.

Motions from the Floor cont:

Terms of Departmental employment and government consultant's discussion:

Moved Jason Davidson

That the Wild Caught Coalition recommend that there should be a time limit on the employment of the same Independent consultants for fisheries management the time suggested. 3 years.

That Fisheries Managers should have a time limit on term of employment to 3 years

Seconded: Mark Peterson

unanimous.

- There was general discussion on the structure and recommendations for the Industry by SARC.
- The question of black marketing of fish will be increased by the proposal and be harder to police.
- The question of fishers now looking at buying recreational fishing licences, and joining the other side who seem to be far better off in the big picture.

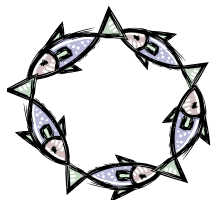
Moved: Gary Howard

That there is an urgent requirement for the government to create a program to collaborate with Industry to promote the sustainability and quality of Wild Caught Seafood for the general public that is harvested by the commercial fishermen and women of NSW.

Seconded: Tony Williams

unanimous

The meeting was declared closed at 12.45 p.m. or there about!!!



NSW Wild Caught Fishers Coalition Inc

BY FISHERS, FOR FISHERS

Region 4 Meeting 24th July 2015 at Wallis Lakes.

Introductory NSW Coalition regional meeting for Region 4 – Friday 24th July, 2015

Meeting commenced at 12.04 p.m. – Opened by Peter Ragno.

Attendance: P. Ragno, A. Ragno, P. Forrester, V. Barnsley, B. Marshall, B. Steele, R. Tisdell, P. Peitzel, G. Bramoae, M. Trotter, B. Elliott, S. Chase, G. Tisdale, A. Trotter, W. Folley, W. McWilliams, B. Smith, J. Ragno, G. Parker, D. Elliott, K. Barber, A. Bramble, R. Melish, S. Ragno, L. Foley, L. McWilliams.

Grahame Tisdell – Taree Co-operative Chairman of the Board of Directors, and Greg Parker – Wallis Lake Fishermen's Co-operative Vice Chairman of the Board of Directors were also present to represent the local Co-operatives. 27.

Representative Framework and Election of Representatives

Independent Chairman - Suggestion that Peter Ragno be Independent Chairman. Seconded by Leanne Foley.

Secretary - Suggestion that Simone Ragno be Secretary. Seconded by Leanne Foley.

Estuary General – Voted that Anthony Ragno, William Foley represent this fishery.

Ocean Haul - Voted that Bob Elliott, Graham Bramble and Rodney Tisdell to represent this fishery.

Prawn Trawl and Trap – Voted that Greg Parker, Chris Barber, and Paul Forster represent this fishery.

Representation for Coalition Region 4 at meeting with SARC – Fishermen happy for Peter and Simone Ragno to represent Coalition.

Agenda 1 – That region 4 agrees/not agrees or accepts SARC recommendations or the proposed reform.

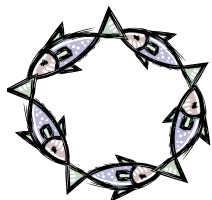
Do region 4 fishers support this happening to their fishery? Unanimous answer of NO.

Suggestions by Greg Parker

- Greg Parker outlined that the SARC committees organise and run certain scenarios. He suggested that they would not generally go with total rejection of the reform. They will retaliate with the suggestion that if you reject the reform you need to have a suggestion in place.
- Greg Parker also suggested that SARC working groups be disbanded and that fisher representatives replace them.
- When meeting with the SARC you need to focus on a direction of where to go, and do not go in with an empty slate.
- Malcolm Trotter – people on working groups shouldn't have multiple licences.

Agenda 2 – Does Region 4 fishers support SARC recommendations?

- Estuary General – Not agreed
- Estuary General Meshing – not agreed
- Estuary General Mud Crabbing – not agreed
- Estuary General Prawning – Not agreed
- Estuary General Trapping – not agreed
- Ocean Hauling – is staying the same as before
- Ocean General Purpose Hauling Net – Not agreed
- Ocean Trap and Line – Not agreed
- Ocean Trawl – Not agreed
- Category 1 Hauling – Not agreed
- Category 2 Hauling – Not agreed



NSW Wild Caught Fishers Coalition Inc

BY FISHERS, FOR FISHERS

Introductory NSW Coalition regional meeting for Region 4 – Friday 24th July, 2015.

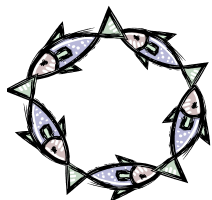
Agenda 3 – Will the SARC recommendations require investment from fishers to secure their current access?

Agreed by fishers that even people with two businesses will still have to invest to stay in the industry and the average age of fishers is approximately 57.

Unanimously agreed that fishers **should not** have to invest to secure their current access.

Agenda 4 – Will Co-Operatives be adversely affected by the SARC recommendations?

- Grahame Tisdell explained that Taree Co-operative have 13 regular suppliers. If they were to lose three fishermen than they will be non-viable and the Co-operative would have to fold. They just spent \$140,000 on an ice machine. Furthermore, the negative flow-on effect of losing fishermen from the reform will affect many wholesalers such as fuel and transport to Sydney etc.
- Recreational angle – if the Co-operative closes the recreational fishermen will be suggesting that the co-operative is not viable. The Co-operative will only close down because of the reform that is being brought in by the government which will result in loss of fishermen and not because it is unviable. Closing down of a local co-operative will have a huge economic effect both individually to fishermen, their families, and local economies.
- If the Co-operatives do close than the local fishermen will have no way of marketing their fish. Dean Elliott suggested that individuals will have to invest in their own space/cool room, ice-machine, provide transport or shopfront etc. which would have to go through council and most likely not allowed. Furthermore, it would be financially impossible for most fishermen to do this as they would have had to already invest in their own business.
- Greg Parker – outlined that Wallis Lake Fishermen's Co-operative estimates a result of a loss of 2.1 million revenue return to the Co-operative with the reform in its current status.
- Greg Parker – the last 5 years the Co-op increased turn-over and profitability via shareholders and business involved with the co-op by 2 million, therefore the reform would create unviability.
- General question – How come catch rates are rising and not decreasing if the industry is supposedly "not sustainable"?
- Greg Parker – there are plans in place for the next 3 years to invest \$400,000 in the Co-operatives infrastructure.
- Bob Steele – Fisheries are increasing effort – not decreasing.
Also, need to write down and show them that there is a definitive increase.
- Greg Parker – have to get to the crutch of the problems and make recommendations i.e. outline the problems and make recommendations for each of them.
- Paul Forster – report from SARC – we need to acknowledge and can we give our response.
- Peter Ragno – we want to get everyone's ideas/recommendations. Peter states that we need to respond to Minister, local member, and SARC review board or DPI via letter by August 31st, 2015.
- **Agenda 5 – What do we want instead of reform?**
- Graham Bramble – if you sell then someone else will have to buy to make up a full licence.
- Peter Ragno – besides all of this does everyone think all fishermen should have minimum/maximum shareholdings?



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Introductory NSW Coalition regional meeting for Region 4 – Friday 24th July, 2015

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Agenda 5 cont:

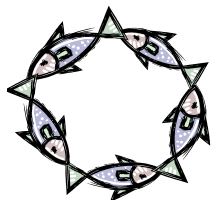
- Graham Bramble – who has more than 125 shares anyway?
- General response – no-one has more than 125 shares – it's the maximum.
- Greg Parker – Do you want to make 125 shares minimum for the reform or do you want to reject it? Are you prepared to move in some direction to move it forward with no impact – to be more flexible?
- Willy Foley – Can't activate business unless 125 shares.

Point 1 Do we make it stop at 125 shares for Estuary General?

- General agreement that estuary general fishers are happy with 125 shares as a maximum/minimum with no quotas or days – 365 days access. Should be signed off in writing by SARC and the Minister that this is where it stops.
- Paul Forster – where will they get the shares from if they don't have any?
- Dean Elliott – multi endorsements are the one's getting penalised. The business number in Estuary General should have 4/5 endorsements to be active.
- Vaughan Barnsley – need to find a way to get rid of shares.
- Greg Parker – \$16 Million – if you get a true latent share than the \$16 million should buy it up and it will be gone – thus come out of effort.

Point 2 How do you distinguish what is a latent share and what is not?

- Latent because it hasn't been activated on a permanent basis (as suggested by DPI)
- Peter Ragno – we need to address the SARC that we don't agree that they are latent because in 2 years' time we can go out and put in a line. It is incorrect what SARC/DPI state as latent.
- Agreed that all these shares are not latent – they are just currently inactive. They are not currently being used although in an active business.
- Paul Forster – how would you distribute quota fairly?
- Vaughan displayed uncertainty about the whole reform and about capping shares thus raised his concerns.
- Warren McWilliam questioned whether 125 shares has no linkage?
- Vaughan Barnsley – does not want linkage to shares. Agrees and reinforces that 125 shares should give 365 days/year access.
- Greg Parker defined a latent share as shares that have not been activated over a 5 year period.



NSW Wild Caught Fishers Coalition Inc

BY FISHERS, FOR FISHERS

Introductory NSW Coalition regional meeting for Region 4 – Friday 24th July, 2015

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Motion by Greg Parker – That the group wants no leasing of licensing or endorsements – should be a 1 man operation. That shares which are classed as inactive should be usable when a shareholder wants to reactivate them.

That the 16 million should buy out these shares as latent.

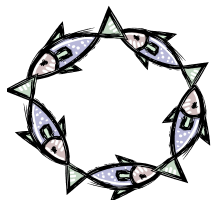
- Louise McWilliam – no leasing – generally agreed.
- Willy outlined that cannot stop leasing because of legal reasons
- Malcolm Trotter – can't lease business but can lease the shares.
- Louise McWilliam – leasing ok if recommendations suggested that there are no nominated fishers.
- Anthony Ragno – a lot of fishers are holding on to business licences to get more money when reform comes in. If they can't do anything with them then they will have to get rid of them. This is the only reason leasing is still going.
- Share value is your property right and is access to your endorsement.
- Greg Parker outlined that ocean trawl are putting 1000/year aside to buy out the latent licences.
- Peter Ragno suggested that we need a program in place and everyone should put in money towards that program and clean up the fisheries that are not working etc.
- Greg Parker pointed out another issue – that since 1991 the DPI are the ones that stuffed it up and now are forcing us to clean it up. NSW State Government needs to recognise industry's input into managing industry.
- Malcolm Trotter – we pay \$500 a year now and we don't get a say in anything.
- Greg Parker – we can clarify this by re-investing into industry so that industry controls industry. Industry wants to take out working groups by DPI.

Motion: That Industry wants to form working groups that are voted in by industry and that will be run by industry to have their say in the future - or form a peak industry body that is run by industry such as the NSW Wild caught Fishers Coalition Inc.

Motion agreed by fishermen.

Peter Ragno advised that the next meeting will be on Friday 14th August, 2015.

Meeting Closed at 2.02pm.



NSW Wild Caught Fishers Coalition Inc

BY FISHERS, FOR FISHERS

Notes to the Meeting held at Stuarts Point 18th July 2016

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Start time 10.20 a.m.

Anyone opposed to meeting being videoed! No one opposed

Communication methods

Video at the request of the local member to hear from the fishermen's point of view

Attendees: Paul Moody, Leanne Moody, John Shilitto, Rodney Smith, Adrian McLean, Nathan Neilly, Jason Smart, Lawrie McEnally, Chris Wallis, Mark Flanagan, Cody Smart, Reala Brislane, Wayne Vassallo, Mathew Millward, Nick Parsons, Nathan Poole, Matthew Paulson, Kim Poole, Chris Collier, Daniel Musgrave, GS Henry, LJ Keppie, Rob Baldry, Ken Hynes, Billy Roelandis, Jason Sheppard, BJ Miles, S Hartley, Jamie Cook, Darren Cook, D Dregmans, Arron Shakespeare, Allan Reed, Zac Jordan, Jack Brislane, Billy Brislane, Donna Cook. 37

Apologies: Dale Shack, Jeremy Hooper, Tony Forster, Dan Baker

Introduction to all committee

Come together in the initial stages to speak about the unfairness of the reform and all industry groups and individuals to group together:

- to talk about DPI
- Reject the proposed reform
- No Fisher should invest in the industry without growth on return
- Discussions on the structure of the coalition on the regional structure.

As each region is different each region needs to be targeted on what suits the region

Meetings up and down the coast were a membership drive. Membership drive has been successful over 200 members over a 5 week member drive.

It has been made very clear

- industry has the same thoughts but some focused on different direction
- All people regardless of whether you like someone or not needs to take back control of industry and discuss what's best for the industry

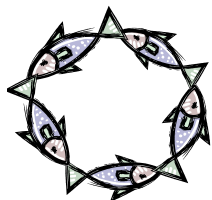
The coalition was born out of the frustration of lacking consultation through the disbanding of the Macs and the incorporation of SIAC. DPI kept industry out of open discussions. The awareness of this was realised at the first working group meetings. The direction was forcing those that want to stay in to buy out those who wish to exit. The Facebook page united industry and raised the awareness from border to border. Fishers have been contacting and engaging their local MP's. Reform mark 2 is not much better to the mark 1 reform documentation.

Industry needs to step up and have a say on its future and not be dictated to by DPI!

If we stand as one and not as individual we can beat them if we all fight individually it doesn't go anywhere.

An over view of meeting with the minister was discussed by the president. Minister did not invite any DPI managers. The Minister showed a very good understanding of multi method fishing – our thoughts were that for him to show that level of awareness in his time in office was significant. One message he wanted to raise today is that SARC and the DPI do not make the decisions, he makes the final decisions. He does not want Industry to react until thought is put through and Industry provides feedback to the minister on their thoughts.

Lawrie McEnally read out the letter from Niall Blair. Minister met with Macleay Co-Op board to discuss the reform and their business. Lawrie sits on the board of the RMS and has access to more information than most. Melinda Pavey has been instrumental from the local perspective in working with Industry.



NSW Wild Caught Fishers Coalition Inc

BY FISHERS, FOR FISHERS

Notes to the Meeting held at Stuarts Point 18th July 2016

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Question: Do we know what the share prices are? DPI has not outlined any details to anyone as yet.

- It's required that the committee is about industry as an overall with each region needs to elect its own representative structure!
- Jason Smart – I want someone to represent me and the region not just representing themselves
- Nathan Neilly-The coalition is the microphone to provide information back to the industry as a whole from the region.
- Paul Sullivan-The inaugural committee is only set for 12 months so that each region then build their own regional representation and provide and deliver the information back to the committee to feedback to DPI and the minister

Does anyone here support the Reform? NO

Paul Sullivan: What's going to be different with the Coalition?

I've heard this for 20 years and what's going to be different. I've been hearing this for years and it has been the same with every committee. I used to sit on MAC for OTL. It was run by the department and they would tick the box on consultation but not take into account the MACs feedback. The industry has been apathetic to their own representatives and not stands up, speak up and sit on the boards. The reason we are in the mess is because the same people keep standing up.

The coalition had all industry groups at the table to start. Once it was incorporated a committee was elected as an inaugural committee. The coalition demands minutes to ensure all points of view are portrayed. The coalition must be open and transparent from the start. The biggest difference is that DPI does not own the coalition so the feedback directly from Industry is delivered from Industry.

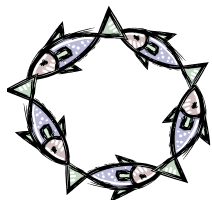
Nathan Neilly – this is the one group that is prepared to go to bat for you. The SARC submissions just disappeared. Chad Ludnow made a comment to Nathan that it wasn't in the DPI's best interests for industry to see the submissions. The coalition is really only a microphone for its members. The Minister, SARC and DPI don't want to sit with all fishers – a committee is the best option to deliver all members voice. Individuals cannot achieve this!

Jason - with 4 or 5 groups in the industry going to minister and dpi to negotiate for fishers, I think industry needs to vote on who they should have represent them. You can't stop having people communicating and lobbying the minister, the coalition needs to provide the structure to the minister to provide him the reassurance that the information being fed to him is not filtered and coming from industry/fishers directly. Coalition cannot do this without members, regional structures and effective consultation.

Question: Can the coalition revise the associate member contribute a lower dollar value to get more people on board? Say \$5 for people who want to protect the industry and their seafood.

Nathan - If \$50 is too much to ask for you need to find another job.

SFM and other groups are talking to the DPI on behalf of industry. It has been made quite clear to the Minister that the chair of the SFM and our MFAC member does not represent or speak on behalf of industry. Geoff Blackburn is the PFA representative – industry needs to be choosing their own representative. Each region needs more than one representative to protect the regions representatives. Regions 1-7 could have 30 representatives. Regardless of the underlying tone of the SARC, DPI and Stevens Report fishers are viable and I don't want anyone telling me I'm not. Each region will select a structure base for their own region and assist in building their own regional representation.



NSW Wild Caught Fishers Coalition Inc

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Notes to the Meeting held at Stuarts Point 18th July 2016

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The idea of today is to discuss what we are trying to achieve, we can't take up the whole meeting to build the representative group with region 3.

- Are there any issues with what the coalition stands for?
- Is there anything that the Coalition isn't doing?

Question: The whole thing is about fish stocks. Why can't they take out the latent licenses first instead – take them out by paying them more.

We attend meetings, information is put forward but the information does not go anywhere. This is about getting the right message across; we want the message controlled by industry not by DPI. Regardless of what they say this is not about viability. The reform is not about sustainability it's about taking more fishers out. As Mary said DPI and SARC have their idea on reform, we need to get on the front foot, and take the driver's seat.

Comment: As soon as they allowed license to be leased that's when the control was lost. How do we resolve this? To quote a DPI senior manager words – the government had to receive bang for their buck - remove the most fishers for the least amount of money!

Don't they realise that if you keep removing from the industry the infrastructure collapses around it. For too long the minister has heard information from the wrong people. I have never heard a minister before say he wants to hear from fishers directly! The minister is giving industry a go and if we don't take it we will be defeated.

If there are no questions on further information about the coalition lets come out of this meeting with some structured points:

- How many members are in the PFA? The Coalition is not focused or concerned about other organisations such as the PFA.
- Does the coalition have a legal representative? Yes we have a network of advisors we can call on for advice.
- What information do we need to take back to minister? Based on the letter from minister – his comment on imports and keeping the industry viable is constructive. The department wants to cap the effort and control the industry – the minister commenting that he wants to grow it. How can they put a curb on imports but if wild caught capped controls are in place – this is contradictory on his comments and his department direction.

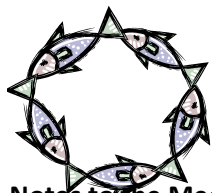
Question: How do we request a review of the department and reviewing the incompetence of the departments in their Positions?

Motion

Nathan Neilly moved that there is a full departmental restructure of both management and administration within DPI fisheries and move that an investigation be made into certain individuals involvement in the creation and progression of this reform and amendment bill.- Paul Moody seconded Unanimous

Motion

Paul Moody – that the \$16 million be used as a voluntary buyout- Lawrie McEnally Seconded Unanimous



NSW Wild Caught Fishers Coalition Inc

BY FISHERS, FOR FISHERS

Notes to the Meeting held at Stuarts Point 18th July 2016

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Motion

Paul Moody- that the MFAC representative be replaced with someone elected by the fishermen – Jason Smart seconded
Unanimous

Motion put directly to the minister

Lawrie McEnally that the reform be rejected - Allan Reed Seconded
Unanimous

Comment from discussion: Fishers need to be aware and seek advice that if you've sold your business for more than what you purchased it for – capital gains come into play. Stamp duty on the transfers of shares also applies.

Motion

Nathan Neilly- That the amendment bill be rejected– Paul Moody Seconded

- Regardless of which government is in power, it gives the minister too much power.
- It is almost unconstitutional.
- Against the amendment bill
- No protection from foreign investment. Could open up to outside individuals to invest but not fish such as PETA. If an environmental buys all the rights to fishing they will stop the recreation fishers too.

Unanimous

All Fisher must make it an important step to communicate with your local MP. Write down what you can do with your shares that you hold. Write down what you will have to do and how you will be affected.

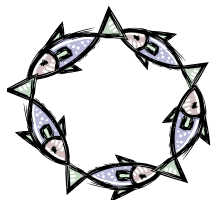
Donna Cook – Melinda Pavey needs to receive feedback from fishers to push home to the Minister and SARC what industries thoughts are. The coalition will prepare a generic form out to members. Coalition will develop a survey to be sent to all members with a standard structure of information for impacts on each fishers business.

Question: Has the minister looked into the banking sector for someone to go to the bank for a loan? What Mary is saying that if you reject the reform what if the reform does come in, how can we borrow to pay for the licenses to continue to work? What is the way forward?

So the reform should have been passed through 2 years ago. We have clearly said no but do we have contingency plan. Whenever you have a meeting with SARC or DPI there is a whiteboard in front. They have an agenda and the meeting is manipulated to get industry towards that agenda. Trying to get industry to agree to certain parts knowing they will get you to total agreement. Did you know that SIAC minutes state that all port meetings and all of the MACS agreed to all eight components of the Pymont pact. Conveniently there are no minutes available to back this up.

Question: we want what we've got now why change?

If you are investing more what's it going to give you. Put it this way if I want to get out and I want to sell the buyer can't go to a bank so I'm left with nothing. One thing you have to be confident in is don't underestimate the power of industry. Katrina pointed and said you are going to have this reform. I make no bones about it but if Minister Blair wants to continue to push this agenda down its current path he won't last. You need to show the ability to demonstrate an alternative but you need a structure in place for a consultative structure to build that alternative. The only argument is that fishermen don't get along with other fishers. This has to be changed and to achieve this outcome, fishers have to move on and get over that. It is up to fishers to change this and regional representative structures are a great starting point in resolving this!



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Question: do the shares have a value to borrow off?

No they do not. The department say if there is a strong link in shares the bank will loan. As Lawrie pointed out they will only loan a % of shares as per business loans now. 4th & 5th generation fishers don't have enough funds to buy shares. Reference Geoff Allan's notes from SFM meeting. Referencing banks info. Reference graph about multi method info. We want to flush out 80%. Look after the little guy – multi method.

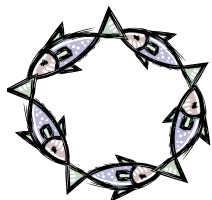
Is everyone happy with the coalition where it is at? How does the region build their representation? Dane explained how the regional meeting will work and the vote.

Donna Cook raised the DPI and SARC summary document sent to all state parliamentary representatives in referring that only about the 300 fishers only to afford to stay in the industry.

- We would prefer to have email or mobile numbers to communicate.
- We know that at present we are all voluntary but we also recognise that at some stage we will need to pay someone to carry out the work/administrative information required to continue with the coalition structure and the delivery of the information
- It's important for all fishers to meet, we need to prove to each other we need to meet and discuss the issues. It's important the quicker we get this done, the quicker everyone can get back to work and maintain viability.
- You want your submission to count – you must present something strategic. Use the word unworkable on the paperwork in your submission. This form of consultation in the way the standard wording referencing options using the term satisfactory is not acceptable.

To finish up, it's a common ploy for government departments to delay the release of paperwork and then drive a quick turn around on results of feedback. This process DPI and SARC have undertaken on round 2 of the Reform options is not acceptable. Make sure you copy your submissions to your local MP.

Meeting closed 12.10



NSW Wild Caught Fishers Coalition Inc

BY FISHERS, FOR FISHERS

Region 4

Notes of the meeting held at Tuncurry Bowling Club on the 17th July 2015
Commencing at 12.30 p.m.

Attendance: Sabino Ragno, C Medhurst, Michael Napier, Noel Bramble, Allan Reed, Stu Chase, Brad Smith, Rodney Tisdell, G Tisdell, M Cheers, Suzie McEnally (Wallis Lake Co-Op Manager), Danny Elliott, John Elliott, Paul Shakespeare

Paul Forster, William Foley, Chris Watson, Ray Saunders, David Malone, Greg Cliff, Bob Elliott, R Nicholson, Stephen Wilks, Kevin Radnidge, Phil Radnidge, W McWilliam, Dean Elliott, Brad Marshall, Bob Steele, Allan Saunders, Jason Glen,

Eric Glen, Graham Bramble, Anthony Phillips, Paul Beitzel, Peter Ragno, Simone Ragno, Vaughn Barnsby, Anthony Ragno,

James Elliott, Greg Parker, Michael Clouten, Kath Cheers, Les Cheers, Craig Cliff, Marjorie Cliff 46

Apologies: None.

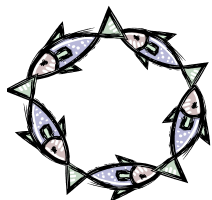
Introduction: The chair outlined the NSW Wild Caught Coalition Committee and what we are trying to do.

- The Coalition position is that the Reform be rejected, everyone we speak to have the same opinion.
- We have been north to Ballina and South to Bermagui, the message is the same from fishers. The reform was not acceptable and the revised reform is not acceptable.
- We need to be able to control our Industry ourselves, especially when it comes to sustainability.
- The Committee is in its position for one year its objective is to establish the membership of fishers across the state. The aim is for Regional Committees to be developed representing each regions specific Fisheries. This can be done through the Co Op if fishers want to do this is it up to each region to sort its structure and representation out. Then this representation will feed into the Board made up of elected representatives.
- Decisions to be made by a majority vote at this stage, Minutes of meetings are a must for every meeting process. We must demonstrate we can consult and include all fishers.
- We are Voluntary, realistically though the work load will require paid help as we progress.
- The Vice President advised that the industry has been in turmoil for too long and representation for the industry is by the minority. In the meetings across the state 99% are opposed to the reform
- We are not here to make share barons rich. We need the organisation across the state where everyone joins in.
- The organisation is about representation, it is about you.
- It is not acceptable that we have to buy our jobs back.
- The estuaries have been hammered hard. It is time to draw a line in the sand.
- Without you we fail, we have to have the industry involvement to make the Coalition work.
- Region by region we need to develop regional representation.

Q. How are we going to rise above SARC and what the SARC are recommending? Room Agreed

Q. How do we know what the Ministers advisor is saying? No one knows.

- There is no industry combined consultative structure under the SARC and there is no structure under the Ministers Fisheries Advisory Committee delegate.
- The aim of the Coalition is to feed the representation up to the Minister and DPI.



NSW Wild Caught Fishers Coalition Inc

BY FISHERS, FOR FISHERS

Region 4

Notes of the meeting held at Tuncurry bowling Club on the 17th July 2015

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Advisory Committee representation today:

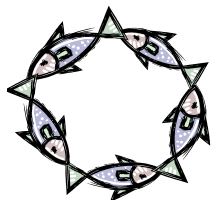
- Discussion ensued on the present activities of the MFAC delegate and the failure of the delegate to interact and consult with the Industry.
- It was agreed that the present delegate does not represent the industry not does Mr Grahame Turk from Sydney Fish Market.
- Representation by these people exists behind closed doors.
- Discussion continued on the apathy of the industry and how we come to be in the position we are in.
- Fishers are busy fishing and do not want to be attending meetings.
- Discussion ensued on doing something about it. Changing the culture and fishers getting active in the management of the fisheries by being involved in regional committees.
- We do not have a lot of time. The SARC will be meeting with the working groups and we must be prepared and have consulted with the fishers across the state.
- We need to get the structure together for the fishermen to have meetings which must be minuted.
- We all voted against the reform in Sydney meeting.
- DPI hold meetings with no minutes.
- We need to change this practice.
- Time is the issue, remembering that submissions must be in by the 31st August 2015.

Meeting with the minister:

- The Committee have met with the Minister who made it clear that the SARC do not make the decision, the Minister does.
 - The Minister was generous with his time giving us 50 minutes.
 - He met us without DPI being in the room
 - He showed an understanding of multi method fishing.
 - He indicated he was concerned that 87% of fish consumed in NSW is imported.
 - We will be meeting the Minister again in a couple of weeks he made it clear that he would be happy to talk with us after the revised recommendations from the SARC are released.
- The Position of the Coalition was handed to the Chief of Staff at the meeting.

Talking to your local MP - the president advised:

- It is essential to put on paper what you do now with the shares you have and what you will have to do now that they have proposed to change the rules.
- Some fishers won't be able to work. Others will have to buy back what we already do.
- It is about reducing fishers, there is no succession plan.
- There are numerous issues, average age of fishers is over 55.
- We have the potential for a thriving Industry an Industry that can grow. There is nothing in the Reform that provides this in reality without having to heavily invest and buy your job back.
- We need to highlight the benefits to the community.
- We need incentives for new entrants.
- It is essential for everyone to talk to the MP's across the state, all parties.



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The meeting did a recap on the development of share management going back to 1994.

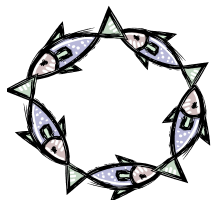
- The poor record taking of meetings.
- Failure of the MAC system and the MAC system not utilised over this period failing to consult with the Industry.
- Differences controlled by DPI in meeting outcomes from SIAC and the MAC.
- Meeting recap of the Fisheries management from 1994.
- Essentially as a delegate fisher sat at meetings rubber stamping government policy.
- SIAC failure and no meetings along with meetings in confidence.

Membership of the Coalition and the subsequent income:

- Concern from the floor that a \$50 membership is insufficient.
- It was suggested that an extra \$50 should be levied to put into a fund for legal advice, or an environmental lawyer. We could easily raise \$25,000.00 if we all put in \$50 each.
- How long is the Committee going to take to get the structure into place?
- The South East trawl were struggling until they got legal representation – as soon as this occurred they removed the quotas.
- The group were advised that the Committee have advisors and can work on the financial side of legal representation.
- Question was put as to where the money went that fishers put into with Phil Hilliard.
- Legal advice was sought.
- It was made clear by Wallis Lakes Co Op director that they do not want to buy their jobs back or more entitlements to do what we already do today.
- Question on the establishment of the Peak Industry Body and if this organisation is just the same, 5 times over, same ole, same ole.
- The Organisation must be recognised by government. Or it will be the same thing.
- You can go to government, the point is they will come back with figures to counteract your case.

Frustration of the Industry due to position DPI have placed them in.

- ITCALS are unacceptable, a share is a share, it can't be cancelled, and they can't give more.
- Whole issue is a drama now, fishers are over allocated.
- Why are we in the position where we have to buy our jobs back?
- Need to go back to DPI.
- Minister has admitted an over allocation of shares.
- We need to ask the Minister why they are asking us to fix their over allocation of shares?
- Fisher concerns has only one endorsement, doesn't own extra share capital and has nothing up his sleeve.
- Discussion that the restructure is not about sustainability it is about viability.
- The managers have made a "cock Up" of the whole thing.
- We should demand that the managers be sacked.
- We need to be standing up unite



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Ministers interviews concerns.

- This Minister in his interviews on ABC indicated that SARC inputs was well recommended by Industry.
- That Industry accepted this recommendations.
- The SARC consultation includes separate packages to be sent out.

Options for Future and necessity for legal advice:

- Discussion again reverted to the need for legal advice and the \$250 many fishers had contributed to a fund with the Commercial Fishers Association. Restating interested in how much was collected.
- It was claimed that we have a property right – this cannot be taken from us.
- Without legal representation we won't have a leg to stand on.
- It was claimed that the industry realistically would need a million dollars to fight the process.

The Summary of Submissions and dealing with the SARC

- Waiting for the summary of submissions, DPI claiming it is a long document with 45% of shareholders making a submission.
- Need to read the whole document.
- The SARC will only be meeting with the working groups.
- Fishers should look at the situation and become members of the PFA.
- The PFA will be meeting with the SARC. And will be putting the issues to the SARC.
- The Coalition will be meeting with the SARC and the Minister too on behalf of the 300 fishers it has already consulted with.

The Meeting agreed that they have NO Confidence in the SARC.

Working groups discussion in general:

- Discussion in general on zone 4 meetings for meshing and activities of some commercial fisher's unacceptable behaviour.
- Discussion on decisions with gar fish management and mesh size unacceptable decisions. Concern re the structure of the Working Groups and selection of representatives.
- Concern re what was presented at working groups and how this was presented.
- Implying this is what you make your decision on with Industry.
- 200 shares giving 30 nights is not acceptable.
- Working groups are appointments by DPI.
- The process is the issue.

Motion from the floor.

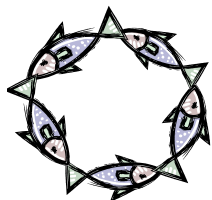
Moved: Allan Reed

That there must be observers at working Group meetings.

Minuted Port meetings in conjunction with or instead of working group meetings are necessary.

Seconded: Kevin Radridge.

Unanimous



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Assessment of why we are in the Predicament of constantly being restructured.

- Why are we in this predicament?
- Same fishers go to the meetings while the rest of the industry goes fishing.
- Need to stop the misinformation.
- These fishers who attend meetings don't resign because they are not doing anything wrong.
- The PFA Board when they get together, honestly and in official minuted meetings.
- View changed and the belief is
- They have pushed towards their own barrow the Reform is coming in
- Whether we like it or not the Reform is coming in.
- The PFA were prepared to work with DPI.
- They were going along with the reform.
- 5 years down the track where will we be?
- Government wants ¾ times net value worth.
- This horizon was there before we got there.
- What we need is to unite all organisations.
- If we have three fractured groups we have nowhere to go
- We support local fishermen, who should not have to reinvest to do what they do today.

Moved: Greg Parker.

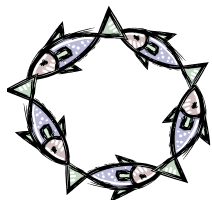
A vote of no confidence in the people representing us today

Seconded: Steve Reed.

Unanimous.

Further discussion on representative organisations.

- Do you support MFAC?
- Do you support Graeme Byrnes?
- Question as to why the PFA pulled out of the Coalition.
- This has been explained to death.
- The PFA as an organisation is not a member because of the Incorporation status.
- They support fishers becoming members of the Coalition.
- Identification of the members of the Board of PFA inclusive of
- Greg Golby, R Bagnato, Geoff Fidden, Geoff Blackburn.
- Question on recent ABC interview that Coalition is Peak Industry body and the Industry needs a new Lobby Group.
- This was counter argued that the journalist miss quoted the interview. The words quoted were not said by Paul Sullivan.
- Any person who is a member of any organisation can be a member of another organisation. The PFA position is just an excuse.
- The Coalition now has 250 members, this is a significant investment into our future and the industry.
- The aim is to see that everyone is heard.
- Why do recreational fishers get more and more of the pie while our share shrinks, or never changes?



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Clarification of Status of PFA further discussion:

- Repeated question: Did the PFA ask their members if they wanted the organisation to be a member of the Coalition?
- They cannot be a member because it is an incorporated body.
- Industry does not buy that argument because the PFA have joined NSW SIC Inc.
- The fishermen were not happy with the PFA stance on the Reform initially wanting us to work with DPI.
- WE are NOT going to accept their reform.
- We need good representation for all fishermen not just a few.
- DPI are now managing fishermen not the fish stocks.
- This Industry is constantly restructuring its business. It has to according to weather conditions, market forces, daily changes in conjunction with a changing environment.
- We need good representation to be in place. Fishermen need to consult openly with fishermen.

Motion From the Floor:

Moved: Dean Elliott

A vote of no confidence in our MFAC representative because of his misrepresentation of industry since his continued appointment and lack of consultation with industry.

Seconded: Steve Reed

Unanimous

Conversation on poor ambassadorship and teaching by government:

- Conversation continued on misrepresentation of the industry at Tafe Taree.

Conversation on the behaviour of fishers in general.

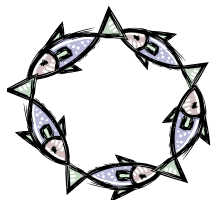
- Issues with people wanting their own lakes and fishers who work across regions.

Commercial Fishers representation essential with Members of Parliament

- It is time that everyone went to their MP's.
- Question: why? what would they be presenting to their MP?
- Answer:
- It is essential to explain to the MP what you do now and what the structural adjustment proposal is giving you.
- Then explain what you will/might be going to do in 2020.
- It is essential that we are all taking the same message that we will not accept buying back our jobs.

Development of NSW Wild Caught Fishers Coalition structure.

- Seven regions, each region has its individual fisheries, each group of fishers must collaborate with each the region by region creating Regional Committees to then send delegates to the Coalition Board position.
- Regions may choose to work through their Co Op and Independents combined each way everyone must be in the loop for their fishery and meetings must be minuted.
- Delegates will be developed to attend combined regional Coalition Board meeting.
- It is industries structure so this will develop as we progress.



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Transaction of shares at DPI concerns:

- Objections to attitudes of Departmental employees. People intending to Buy fishing businesses are being discouraged by DPI officers who are asking them why they would want to buy the shares given the circumstances.

General discussion again on how we came to be where we are.

- That Reform is controlled by reform.
- We now have 764 Active fishers fifteen years ago we had 4900 active fishers.
- Coalition membership over 200 in four weeks.
- Question for show of hands who is getting out of the Industry and planning on selling shares. – (No Hands)

General discussion on the buying up of shares by a select few and the distribution of those shares.

- These fishers are securing their position, some thought to have advanced knowledge of outcomes that the Industry does not have.

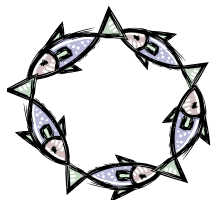
Question to the issue of conflict of Interest of persons sitting on committees and the ownership of shares in this restructure process.

The committee explanation:

- The Industry must unite, the coalition will assist this.
- We plan to have messages for working groups,
- Need meetings to be open and transparent.
- Will declare any conflict of interest before meetings.
- The Share register is a public document.
- The coalition doesn't care who owns what share.
- What is important is who can go fishing tomorrow
- We as an industry, in the majority, united totally reject this reform.

Issue discussed of fishers buying up prawn shares before the second release of the restructure proposal.

- Suggestion that with the prawn shares the person holding the most shares in the estuary general fishery will control the prawn draw.
- Suggestion that this needs to be brought to the attention of the Minister.
- Everyone was reminded to do submission for the 31st of August and to ensure to speak to their MP'S
- Must enlist the support of other businesses.
- Membership of the Coalition is open to supporting businesses as associate members.



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There are issues to hand aside from the trading of shares for the Reform:

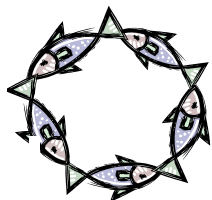
- People who have fallen ill cannot pay their fees because they are not earning income. NSW Fisheries will not allow trading of shares until the fees are paid.
- There is an issue will people inheriting Fishing Businesses and shares. These too are held up and fees have to be paid.
- This is an issue at Ulladulla as well.
- Whether it is the Co OP or the independents everyone is pulling in the same direction.
- It was agreed that the Industry wants some structure to pull the industry together.

Discussion on leasing.

- In general it was discussed that leasing is there to stay. Legally there is nothing you can do.
- That leasing allows young people to work in the industry.
- Free trade
- Submission must be in by the 31st August it is important that we are all saying the same.
- No fisher should have to buy back his job to do what he does today.
- Expressions of concern with leasing and the removal of local fishers providing local fish with the buying up of shares by companies that could be in foreign ownership.

Being No further business

The meeting closed at 3.11 p.m.



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Notes of the Inaugural meeting for Region 6 meeting held at the Bomaderry Bowling Club on the 10th July 2014 commencing at 1.40 p.m.

1. Attendance: Sonny Butler, Shane Peterson, Barry Aish, Sandra Aish, Claudio Zarrella, Mark Strutt, Jame Strutt, Darren Mayer, Mal Gorry, Scott Westley, Steve Drake, Paul Zaccagnini, Anthony Zaccagnini, Warren Gamdata, Mark Bell, B. Zaccagnini, Ed Lammerink, John Wilson,
Committee: President/Chairman Dane Van Der Neut, Vice President: Paul Sullivan, 21
Public officer: Mary Howard.
2. Apology: NIL.

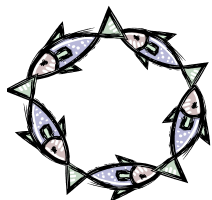
3. Introduction:

- Origin of the coalition, we had 4 meetings at the Sydney Fish Market in 2014, we then in 2015 agreed to incorporate with the plan for development over the state region by region.
- The management of the industry and the reform has been driven by DPI, we need fishers to take back their industry with regional management, fishers voices need to be heard, Region by Region.
- We must have a structure for consultation and we need it now before the release of the revised reform.
- Across the state opposition to the reform was significant many were in the 14 meetings that were held. At these meetings over 600 opposed the reform. The SARC are saying that means that 500 support it because they did not attend.
- The MAC system and the SIAC system have been disbanded by DPI and the Ministers. The DPI Fisheries managers and the Minister subsequently consulting with a small group of people.
- We are by this process trying to give the industry a collective voice. We need to develop
- Here and now the objective is to stop the reform.
- A strong membership with a credible consultative process so the Minister and DPI must listen to us. We are looking for long term management developed Region by region by the fishers in those regions.
- Here and now the objective of the coalition is to stop the Reform.

Discussions:

a) Discussion on past organisation meetings and development of the PFA.

- Initially was probably a good organisation, it appears to have been hijacked. It was evident that certain people were considered to be the accepted people as industry representatives.
- PFA there are some for and there are the knockers of the PFA. Is PFA membership a conflict of interest with Coalition?
- Explanation of position of the PFA membership and development from perspective of member Mary Howard.
- That the PFA does not support the reform.
- That the Chairman at Reform stakeholder committee meetings made it clear he did not accept the reform.
- That the reform proposed initially is not what the DPI has put out to the industry.
- The representatives at meetings were not intending what was the outcome by DPI.
- PFA today is too closely aligned with DPI. DPI pushing for PFA to be the Peak Industry Body.
- The PFA wasn't denouncing the Reform.
- Their Board membership is of concern. Fishers do not want to be aligned with the PFA now.



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Discussion cont.:

b) Department of Primary Industries responsibilities to wild catch fishing Industry.

- The DPI Fisheries responsibility is not making us viable, it is about managing the resource, and we are capped.
- They are not managing the resource they are managing the fisherman.
- This is an issue.

c) Meeting with the Minister the Hon Niall Blair MLC.

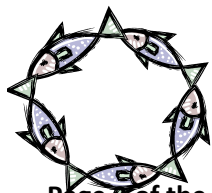
- Coalition has met with the Minister he has indicated that he wants to meet with us again if we are not happy with the Revised Reform – we should work through what is not acceptable.
- Minister normally in meetings with Industry did so with Fisheries staff in the room – there were intentionally no staff from DPI present for the meeting.
- Comment from Industry: This process is a waste of time, we need to be going straight to the public, we need good Public relationship, your membership form doesn't even include on the bottom for people to tick who are good at public relations.
- We are in a dark corner and it is easy for the department to strangle us.
- Need to forget about ministers just can't trust them
- What have we got left to fight with?
- Haven't got the numbers
- Haven't got members
- Unsustainable process.
- General discussion about the process for Industry, about going to war and what is the first thing that occurs.

d) Coalition progress and strategy for development with the public etc. Committee responses,

- Membership is growing day by day
- Regional management and regional committees we believe will get us there.
- Handed HRCFA Hawkesbury River fishery brochure: example of getting to the Public.
- Identified the Core flute signs again by Hawkesbury and getting the message to community
- This can be done region by region, for \$450 thousand of brochures were produced.
- There were threats and demands made by John Singleton calling for the closure of the Hawkesbury River. Over 250 core flute signs were printed. Example now on face book with recent post.
- We can with regional development and collective strategy work together to defend the Industry. Similar to the Hawkesbury River issue that they are tackling themselves.

e) Management Issues and the Reform process:

- Discussion on active effort and latent effort within the businesses structure, what is the recognition in the process?
- What do we class as latent effort, DPI do not adequately explain what latent effort is.
- We will be paying triple of what we are paying today. For many fishers the reform on top of what they pay annually is unacceptable.
- The more fishers that go the more the cost recovery falls on the rest of industry.
- Fishers in Hand line want to keep their endorsements it is the back up when other fishing not happening.
- DPI are not going to give up – we will have to give it to them.
- This Reform places fishermen on the dole queue



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f) Responding to Management Issues

- We are focused on No reform at this time.
- Regional committee consultation with industry
- Working for a viable flourishing Industry with Industry participation.

g) Reaching the Public indirect strategy suggestion

- We need to convince the community.
- What is the nutritional value of farmed fish and wild caught fish.
- This would be a cheap use of PR and get the subject on TV.
- Fish farmers pay more to grow their product than Wild harvest.

h) Looking at Public issues such as Seismic testing issues that affect the fishing Industry:

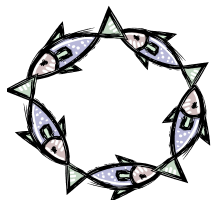
- Seismic Survey – research gets shelved.
- There is damage to fish, lobsters and sharks including concerns for the affects to breeding capabilities from the seismic activity.
- The study funded in 2104 now shelved, why, the oil companies want to drill for oil.

i) Facebook and social media intent:

- Need Social media.
- Response: face book sight commenced by Drew Mudaliar.
- There will be a Coalition sight developed for members.
- How will this be managed, closed and open sections to be developed?

J) Taking on Board the Latent effort inclusive of new Handicaps and illness.

- There is an issue with the definition of latent effort and a fisher who is handicapped and cannot work. He then cannot pay his fees.
- This works against him.
- The fisher finds that he has a debt to pay before he can sell or go fishing.
- This becomes expensive if it is over several years of disability.
- Similar issues with death and shares and the long term process that is taking place.
- DPI require the fees to be paid before sales of shares or business can take place.



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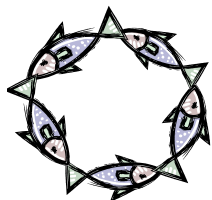
K) Getting back to the Coalition and why we are meeting:

- We need the membership it only cost \$50 to join. We need to have the paper work to get the records so that we can communicate with everyone from a data base.
- Fishers in Clarence objected to compulsory, membership of the PFA – the Coalition will not be compulsory we will work toward fishers wanting to be a part of the process to manage their fishery have a say region by region and develop up the committees.
- General discussion on the membership numbers which is now past the 200 mark with Bermagui, Ulladulla and Bomaderry to be added. The committee will be in Region 3 and 4 next week.
- The structure region by region will develop once we have the membership base. Web can't go forward until we have a reasonable response. If this doesn't occur within the first 12 months then we as a committee are finished. \$50 is not a lot to pay for the first year.
- Comment that the fee is not enough in the first place.
- In Region 6 it will be your decision and your issues fishery by fishery how you want collectively to develop your regional representation, there must be minutes, there must be consultation with the Industry in the region. No minutes no consultation it won't happen otherwise we will only be doing what everyone is already complaining about.
- The Sydney Ocean trawl fishery has requested if they can proceed. This is OK but they must recognise they will also have to connect with all ocean fishers across the state in the process.

I) Amendment Bill discussion.

- Summary of submission will not be provided. Still waiting for the summary of submissions from the Reform.
- Consultation was simply the summary of the Amendments proposed in simple language.
- 33 Ministers met with the Minister as a result of the Industry going to their local members.
- The Amendment Bill was stopped. There was a request for the Minister to be given a chance to do the right thing. The Ministers was besieged by her ministers to stop the changes to the Act and to consult with the Industry.
- Comment from floor: It is a waste of time stopping the Amendment Bill the information is in the Regulation and we don't know what is in that.
- The committee handed their submission to the Amendment Bill to the Ministers advisor while in the Ministers office, we requested an extension for industry, when we met with the Amendment Bill consultative DPI representatives. We got a week extension for industry.
- What we have in the coalition submission is that the Regulations are important to the understanding of the legislation and the intent of delivering that legislation is locked in the regulations. Industry does not have this information and so they cannot make an informed comment to the Amendment Bill.

NOTE: Only 2 fishers indicated they understood the Amendment Bill.



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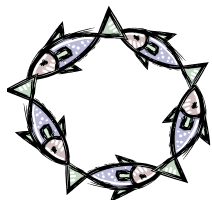
Commencing at 1.40 p.m.

M) General discussion on the shares:

- At the end of the day we are still stuck with the shares.
- What are they? 125 shares for estuary general what does that mean?
- The value of shares is worth the same as each other.
- They can link those shares.
- At the end of the day the share Barons will prevail.
- We do not know if we will have days or effort.
- Most fishers do not want to go.
- Figures of \$125,000 for 125 shares.
- Stuck with shares.
- Some fishers are well known and are contacting fishers to buy shares.
- Fisher contacted by two well-known fishers within 5 minutes of each other.
- Discussion on Minimum shareholdings, days and quota

n) General discussion on the process of management past and into the future.
What choice do we really have?

The meeting closed at 3.15 p.m.



NSW Wild Caught Fishers Coalition Inc

BY FISHERS, FOR FISHERS

Region 6 and 7.

Notes of the inaugural meeting for Ulladulla regional meeting held at the Ulladulla Co Operative commencing at 9.30 a.m. 10th July 2015.

1. **Attendance:** Wes Weston, Emil Hropic, A Puglisi, Z. Praja, A Praja, Claudio Puglisi, Peter Pennisi, D. Dunn, Esmay Hropic, Sandra Aish, Barry Aish, Shane Peterson.

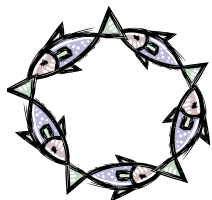
Committee delegates: Dane Van der Neut, President; Paul Sullivan, Vice President; Mary Howard, public officer.

2. **Apologies:** Nil.

3. **Welcome and Introduction:** The President explained to the group how the Coalition got to this point.

4. The following points were made:

- The Reform released without adequate consultation with fisherman.
- The reform proposed was not acceptable to industry.
- The Coalition of Groups Associations Cooperatives and Individuals met 4 times at the Sydney Fish Market, the outcomes of the meetings held in 2014 was to reject the proposed Reform.
- It was then decided to incorporate the Coalition, the group elected the interim Committee for 12 months to develop the regional status and develop the membership.
- We have had several regional meetings across the state, the membership now exceeding 200.
- The aim is to develop regional committees, in each region who will then represent the region.
- Meetings must be held, minutes must be recorded, and the process will only survive if we all pull together region by region.
- It is not the Committees role to decide what is best for the industry this will be developed by each region and the fishers in the region.
- The frame work from fisher up to the Minister and DPI. Not just tell DPI.
- Intention is to work with the Minister as well.
- What we are trying to achieve for the future.
- The Coalition position is the Reform be rejected.
- The majority of Industry have rejected the Reform this was evident at the meetings across the state when the reform was released.
- We have a long way to go it won't work if we are a Coalition of 100 members.
- We would like everyone to join, \$50 is not a big ask.
- This will give us the membership base and the details to keep everyone in the loop.
- We are all voluntary at this time.
- At the moment the Industry is not being heard, we must change this.
- We have seen the MAC's run by DPI and the SIAC controlled by DPI disbanded.
- This organisation is to be run by industry; we must become strong recognise that it will not be easy.
- We met with the Minister and advised that the messages he is getting from DPI are wrong.
- The same managers have been delivering the messages for several decades over and over Minister after Minister.
- The Industry has its back up against the wall.
- We have gone from more than 4000 fishers to less than 1100.
- DPI want 500 out of the industry and not necessarily latent effort.
- The Infrastructure across the state can't be supported.
- It is important for fishers to talk to their fellow fishers and get them to join Region by Region.



NSW Wild Caught Fishers Coalition Inc

BY FISHERS, FOR FISHERS

Region 6 and 7.

Notes of the inaugural meeting for Ulladulla region held at the Ulladulla Co Operative.

Introduction cont:

- Your voice in your region for your fishery.
- The process needs to be bottom up not just top down.
- The organisation structure means that shops can join, anyone who derives an Income from the fishing Industry indirectly as well as directly.
- The strength of the organisation will be in its membership region by region and its method of consultation with Industry.
- We need the paper trail – DPI will not supply fishers contact details, we have to develop our data base from the membership forms.
- There will be regional sub committees required across the state for the 7 regions.
- Each regions will discuss their fishery, fishery by fishery.
- There is sixteen million and many fishers want to get out, the coalition supports that some fishers want a buy-out.
- The issue remains that the people who do not want to go are being affected in the process.
- The Coalition agrees with the buyout but not at the expense of the fishers who remain.

General discussions:

a) Investment and costs to Industry:

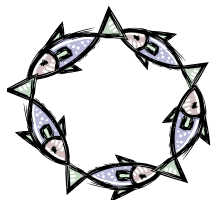
- The DPI indicated they want the best bang for their buck and that is what they were about. The Industry having to pay because the 16 million allocated was not enough to remove and do what they wanted to do.
- The revised Review appears to be changed to include a subsidising of the Industry. This is of concern because it has a counter effect of making less money for fishers wanting to get out of the industry.
- It seems the SARC are looking for sweeteners for Industry to embrace their proposal.
- The delaying of initial TAC and TAE processes and the control that they will have on harvest.
- Discussion ensued on share purchases and coincidences of specific fishers wanting to purchase shares.
- It was noted that Sydney Fish market and the PFA initially supported the Reform.
- The cost to specific fishers existing investment (2 million investments) and the need for further investment to stay in the industry. This is not acceptable.

b) The Initial Reform Proposed:

- Discussion on the flaws in the suggested process of share trading in the initial reform release by the SARC and DPI, with proposed removal of business numbers, linkages proposed. The process questionable open to corruption, unfair and flawed.

c) Coalition committee meeting with Minister The Hon Niall Blair MLC:

- Members of the interim committee and Phil Hilliard met with the Minister. We were given 50 minutes. The Minister indicating that after the revised reform is released he will be interested in talking with us again if we are not happy.
- The Minister seemed to be getting a good handle on the Industry over all although he acknowledged he has only been in the job for a few months and needed more time.
- He understood clearly that the Reform first proposed was not acceptable.



NSW Wild Caught Fishers Coalition Inc

BY FISHERS, FOR FISHERS

Page 3 of the notes for the Wild Caught Coalition regional 6 and 7 meeting held at Ulladulla Co Op on the 10th July 2015 commencing at 9.45 a.m.

d) General Discussion on why is the commercial fishing Industry being placed continually under so much pressure.

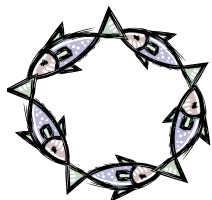
- In general the phasing out of wild caught fishing for the development of Aquaculture in NSW especially in Moree was highlighted.
- The sectioning and dividing up of the Fish Resource who gets what of the Pie. There was consensus that the Wild Catch Fishery feeds the majority and is being squeezed out of access to the resource in more ways than one. That we need to utilise that pie to demonstrate what seems to be an unfair dividing of the pie for the community resource.
- Foreign ownership, larger fishing vessels and businesses and the smaller businesses being removed to accommodate this culture and strategy. The LFB status and the proposals for changes and their impacts.

e) General Discussion on why Regional Industry driven Regional Management required.

- Discussion on what was seen as blackmail by fisheries managers with mesh sizes.
- Changes to the harvesting of Gemfish and the impacts that this is having on overall harvesting and viability especially when the Gem fish are in large numbers, season changes, and north to south of the state.
- Discussion on the Recreational fishing access and the commercial fishing access.
- It was generally agreed that there is insufficient consultation with Industry, we need to be talking to the scientists. The Industry needs to go to co-management and they need to develop the process. The process needs to be better, it needs to be formalised region by region and we need to have the links direct to the Minister as well as DPI and in that order.
- If we put matters to DPI and they get it wrong then we must have the channels to government that are open and transparent that includes a consultative mechanism with Industry.
- The Managers, some with DPI for decades, in the view of the fishers, have no idea of what they (the managers) are doing to the industry.
- Four yearly cycles of government and the same managers advising over and over again.
- There was general discussion on issues with DPI, The Sydney Fish Market Catchers Trust, the formation and development of the PFA, transparency, the cost to Industry, the management of all three and the connection to all three.
- The fisherman do not want a DPI funded (government) developed organisation.
- We need to develop the process ourselves region by region.

f) The Initial reform complexities

- The original reform proposal, the strategy given that the shares in the fishery divided equally across the industry irrespective of those who are working their endorsements and those who are not. The cutting of access rights and the costs and amount of buyback required to remain in the industry.
- The Question put to DPI still needs to be answered, this is: what is the definition of latent effort?
- What happens if the fisher is unable to buy shares due to shortage and others buying up shares?
- What happens to shares that are not sold at all because there are no buyers and the Dept. takes those shares with the intent of reissuing them in some way?



NSW Wild Caught Fishers Coalition Inc

BY FISHERS, FOR FISHERS

Meeting held at Ulladulla on the 10th July 2015 commencing at 9.45 a.m. page 4

g) The Management dilemma for Industry participants.

- The current value of shares and businesses is what it is, due to fisheries management policy and the ongoing mismanagement of that policy.
- The Government over and over again keeps changing the goal post for the industry, If it is Recreational Havens, Marine Parks, Aquatic reserves, access lost, gear restrictions. Just Minister after Ministers ongoing from 4000 fishers to 1100.
- Concerns re: ITCALS, days, quota, and the lack of control by the fishers on their security in this process linked to the issue of security overall.
- Who advises the Ministers adviser at this time and especially since the demise of the MAC's and SIAC?
- Comments made by DPI at Port meetings in particular at Eden and the necessity for DPI to appease the Recreational fishers.
- The lack of science with the implementation of Marine Parks and Recreational fishing only Havens. These have had No scientific justification and have impacted the South Coast regions significantly.
- The Department of Primary Industries wants total control taking the government out of the equation.
- There was general discussion on the structure of the SARC and the influence of members of the SARC and fisheries management in the UK. They too are fighting for their rights to fish and access.
- Mention of past management covering Mr E. Obeid and Mr Steve Dunn and the corruption charges and position that they are now in.

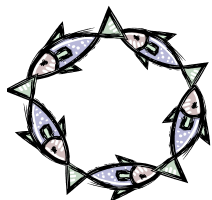
h) Legislation and the Amendment Bill to smooth the way for the Reform to proceed.

- We must have a united and collective voice. The fisheries Amendment Bill strip the rights of the commercial fisher's position even further.
- The removal of the Governor from the legislation takes our appeals process away as well.
- Members in the fishing Industry need to be going personally to their local members.
- There was the view that the Labour government is supporting the Amendment Bill.
- There were few fishers who had an understanding of the Amendment Bill and only 2 who indicated responding with a submission. They did not understand it.

i) Wild Caught fishers Regional structure and SARC meeting issues. Discussion on:

- The need for a Regional structure and addressing the issues, developing the committees and collectively uniting across the state.
- Essential for meetings to have minutes and attendance records. That these will demonstrate the structure credibility and must be open and transparent across the board.
- Noted that the SARC assessment of the 14 meetings held across the state for the Reform and the statements that fishers were bullying other fishers into taking a stand against the reform.
- Their strategy now is to meet fishers one on one or with the working groups and to influence them accordingly.
- They will not meet the industry collectively because they don't want to be yelled at and fishers are bullied by other fishers.
- There was discussion on the impacts of the environment, the need to have endorsements to catch varying ways due to the nature of the fishery and species responses to the environment they live in region by region
- A Fisher targets King Prawns, drought affects them and subsequently there are years when the catches are low he needs that endorsement.
- There is no succession planning. Discussion further on days, effort, quota and linkages and the expectation of government and the moving of the goal post, catering for new entrants, those whom are slowing down and catch history relevance.

The meeting closed at 11.30 a.m. (approximately).



NSW Wild Caught Fishers Coalition Inc

BY FISHERS, FOR FISHERS

Notes of the inaugural regional 7 meeting held at Bermagui Co Operative members' room on the 9th July 2015. Approximate start time 1.45 p.m.

1. **Attendance:** Vice Chairman; Paul Sullivan, Chairman for this meeting.
Public Officer; Mary Howard.

Fishers: Matt Creek, Drew Mudaliar, Douglas Rose, Dony Rose, M. Steponek, Barry Loader, Roger and Julie Fourter, John Hine, Ben McCulloch, Jamie Puglisi, Josh Jessop, Warren Brandes. 15.

Media: ABC

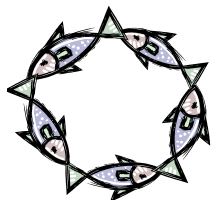
2. **Apology:** President; Dane Van der Neut.

Welcome: The Vice Chairman: Paul Sullivan welcomed and thanked the attendees for attending the meeting.

This meeting was called to first and foremost stop the Reform, then to further develop a consultative, regionally based fisher's consultation structure linking all regions across the state.

3. The following dot points in brief identify the general discussions.

- The coalition started approximately 12 Months ago.
- There was no organisation representing the commercial Wild catch industry denouncing the proposed Reform.
- Meetings were held at the Sydney Fish Markets developing the Coalition that included the Fish Market, co Ops association Groups formed in the State and various individuals as a coalition to fight the reform.
- Realised that NO one else was going to do this for us.
- Have the view that DPI happy to keep the industry fragmented.
- The Reform, due to the efforts of Industry and the election subsequently was put on hold.
- The Reform hasn't gone away.
- The Options are still there.
- DPI apparently wants 500 fishers to go.
- SARC to now hand down their final recommendations.
- The chairman identified how the process would affect his business and the costs to do this from the original intent were unreasonable. He is not prepared to go into further debt.
- The bigger you are the more you will have to buy.
- The Coalition interim Committee has met with the Minister, the coalition is recognised by the Minister and has indicated further discussions.
- It is imperative that we set up a consultative structure, by fishers and for fishers.
- It cost with the PFA \$1000, we are volunteers the cost \$50 and the intent is to work towards keeping everyone in the loop. This is a challenge we are focusing on to overcome the difficulties.
- The Committee are all volunteers and includes the efforts of Danielle and Chris who work at the Clarence River Coop.
- Comments re what happens if the government take out 500 how do we communicate and keep the fishing industry viable we cannot keep the linkages across the state.



NSW Wild Caught Fishers Coalition Inc

BY FISHERS, FOR FISHERS

Page two of notes from the meeting held at Bermagui Co Op on the 9th July 2015

a) Australian Fishing Management Authority (AFMA)

Discussion on AFMA and commonwealth restructure, DPI will do what they want to do irrespective of what the fisher thinks. AFMA makes the rules for Commonwealth.

South East Trawl is a classic example, this has cost the industry dearly.

b) Management Advisory Committees and Seafood Industry Advisory Committee

Discussion: MAC's DPI not meeting and SIAC not meeting yet the management changes continued without consultation with Industry. Fishers at MAC meetings just rubber stamping DPI intent. Consultation with fishers not possible.

c) Industry Meetings across the state after the initial reform Release.

Discussion: The Industry made it very clear across the state that the initial reform proposal was not acceptable. Estimated 99% of the Industry attended meetings across the state. The chair in his time of fishing has never seen come together in this way. This included protest meetings at the fish market.

d) Impacts on Industry from historic Management policies of consecutive Ministers

Discussion: Fisher now has to travel to Eden to market his fish, the linkages with trucks and deliveries to markets are being decimated. We need each other. Further reductions will create a viability and further economic problem, it already is, specifically due to their past mistakes in management policy and closing grounds and removal of fishers.

Minister after Minister suggests viability and sustainability and proceeds to cut the industry in more ways than one. They keep moving the goal post. Since 1994 and introduction of share management the introduction of Aquatic reserves, Marine Parks, Recreational fishing only Havens, over and over again the commercial industry is reduced, removed, restricted, reviewed and now reformed. The recreational fishing Industry just continues without an Environmental Impact Assessment.

They are still trying to tidy their share management policy and in between the goal post has been moved with fishers going from 4000 to less than 1100 in the state.

e) The Job of a Commercial Fisher – Never going to be permanent, there is NO security.

Discussion:

There may be an initial change to the Revised reform, the intent is to soften the approach, the long term they will still reduce the industry from the intent to have total allowable Catch Committees (TAC) and total allowable effort committees (TAE) so the view is the revised reform is still about reducing the number of fishers in the state, they claim there are 500 that can go due to latent effort.

The approach is not scientific.

Some fishers do want quota.

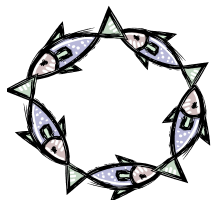
f) The NSW Fisheries Amendment Bill

Discussion: some fishers new of the Bill some had made submissions most did not understand the contents of the Bill.

Consultation was not acceptable.

g) Fishing Business structure and the Reform proposed:

Discussion: Initially the proposal was to scrap the fishing Business structure in the reform outcomes. This became messy when it was clear fishers could amalgamate and manipulate the trading of their shares to profit from the trading process unfairly.



NSW Wild Caught Fishers Coalition Inc

BY FISHERS, FOR FISHERS

Page 3 of the notes from the inaugural region 7 meeting held at Bermagui on the 9th July 2015.

g) Fishing Business structure and reform proposed cont:

Essentially fishers could be paid to sell to themselves.

h) Financial Assistance and loans capability.

Discussion: Loans from a bank are just not on the table – Banks will not lend to a commercial fisher.

Over and over again the industry has been told more security, viability; shares will deliver a secure industry. It makes no difference the industry still has the same issues that the policies deliver.

i) Coalition Membership, Committees and Regions options:

Discussion: Fish shops, partners, Co Op workers, crews are all able to join the Coalition. We need the support of our communities. We need to be expanding our communications across the state with our communities making them aware of what is happening to us.

We need to develop regional based Committees who elect their delegates. There must be minutes and records of meetings that verify meetings with the fishers have taken place and they have agreed to the elected representatives for the Coalition. Then there must be feedback.

This has been tried before. Fishers are what they are.

The delegates assured the group they have the intent to try hard to make this work and to do the follow up and continue to meet.

That the Regions likewise will be required to meet to attend the Coalition meetings.

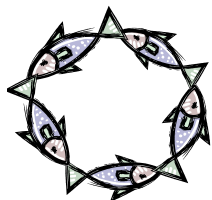
There would be a further round of Regional meetings once the Reviewed reform is released. We have spoken with the Minister and advised him that we want Industry to receive the information before the working Groups meet.

We advised that the Coalition Committee do not accept the Advisory Working group's process that intends to consult with SARC and be given options without first consulting with the Industry to discuss the proposals.

We did discuss the term 'Experts' and how the industry is continually placed in untenable positions which in turn result in stress on the industry which 'EXPERTs' have supposed to have recommended. Clearly the experts are learning at the expense of the Fishing Industry and are NOT experts in the first place.

There was further general discussions on management, future requirements for smart phone, log in every day, electronic capabilities of the industry, where is it all going and why is it necessary given the heavy restrictions the industry is under anyway, cost of management, fish stocks, quota management, management and Ministers such as Ministers Obeid, MacDonald and Steve Dunn, corruption, issues with existing mesh and fish sizes, allowable quota and the fish stocks region by region, charter boats and the Reform, Fish species and allowable catches between sectors., the advantages and disadvantages of Facebook and how best we can use it to reach members into the future.

Meeting closed Approximate 3.45 p.m.



NSW Wild Caught Fishers Coalition Inc

BY FISHERS, FOR FISHERS

Notes of the meeting held at the Dapto community Centre on the 26th June 2015,

1. Attendance: Ian North, Nathan Smith, Brad Horne, Brett Neaves, K.H. Chhua, Esmay Hropic, Craig Aish, Warren Ganderton, Scott Massey, M. Monkey, Col Peterson, Barry Aish, Sandra Aish, P.H. Tran. One name couldn't understand writing. 15.

Committee: Mary Howard, Paul Sullivan.

2. Apologies: Nil

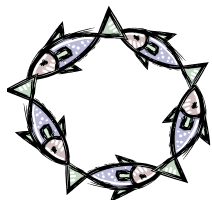
3. Welcome: The Vice President Mr Paul Sullivan welcomed everyone to the meeting.

4. Introduction to the Coalition:

- Constitutions were made available to everyone, along with membership forms.
- The Chairman explained the purpose of the meeting and commented as follows
- The Reform needs to be scrapped entirely.
- The Committee have already held a meeting in Nelson Bay.
- More meetings will be held across the state to ensure the views of fishers are heard.
- It is important for Industry to be united and the aim is for \$50 fishers should all be able to join.
- The impacts to the chairs business is not affordable with the linkages that have been proposed.
- The coalition committee are looking for 500 members.
- The Coalition Committee will be meeting with the minister the following week.

The structure of the Coalition will develop regional committees across the state region by region, fishery by fisher.

- There was a general discussion on the PFA. Comments included covering points that were achieved by the PFA in its time. It also covered the failure of the PFA to get support from industry and the cost to join.
- Concern was expressed by estuary general fishers in relation to the linkages proposed. They had been told that they would have to accept the linkages. They do not accept the linkages proposed at all.
- Mr Aish indicated that he had put a private submission in to the Review.
- Discussion ensued on the attitude that industry will get the reform whether they like it or not.
- That we have to accept the Marine Park closures and this will be no different.
- Discussion ensued on the working groups attitude.
- There were concerns regarding the linkages, the 24 hour day and the number of days provided.
- Concern for the OH&S issue that will see fishers working longer hours than they should in any one day.
- Tracking devices to monitor where a fisher is working.
- The number of days provided are insufficient.
- TAC Committees that will reduce the quota allowable and is not seen to favour the fisher.
- It was supported that the local MP should be contacted by every fisher.
- A general discussion on the Amendment Bill took place.



NSW Wild Caught Fishers Coalition Inc

BY FISHERS, FOR FISHERS

Notes of the meeting held at the Dapto community Centre on the 26th June 2015,

Page 2.

- Fishers will be keeping in contact with the various political parties.
- Some were talking the Water front union could be an option.

There was general agreement that the Reform should be stopped.

The Amendment Bill should be stopped.

There should be regional based consultative committees created.

There was discussion on the election of delegates from the meeting.

They meeting was advised that they need to have contact with every fisher to be able to elect their committees.

- General discussion on the summary of submissions.
- The government wants the fisher to pay so that the government gets the best bang for their buck in the process.
- The Industry have an Environmental Impact Assessment. This is more than the recreational fishers have.
- There are 33 recreational fishing only havens.
- Marine parks have decimated the fishing Industry in the South.
- Marine Parks and recreational access will continue there is no security in the reform at all.
- Discussion ensued on the property right of shares.
- Now they are taking away the value of that property right.
- Fisher has already gone into debt to set up fishing business, can't afford to be going into more debt.

The price of shares is rising.

The allocation of shares across regions seems an issue.

Trading of shares by a few is an issue.

- A general discussion on the lobster fishery, and share management and the price of shares.
- The comparison is not equal it is not comparing apples with apples in the value of the product.

There is no cost assessment provided to the industry to make a decision.

- It was confirmed that associate members could join the coalition.
- Deck hands were welcome.
- Anyone who derives an income from the fishing industry.
- The decisions on management of the fishery would be made by the fishers.

Concern remained for foreign investment or recreational fishers buying up licences and employing a skipper and selling their fish.

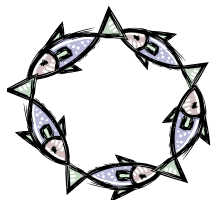
Further discussion ensued on the 'what if', where to from here.

Discussion on the death of south coast fisher and the OH&S issues associated with the linkages now proposed.

Discussion on the targeting of fishers by the department if the fisher is seen to be making trouble.

Discrimination and official warnings.

The meeting was declared closed at 4.35 p.m.



NSW Wild Caught Fishers Coalition Inc

BY FISHERS, FOR FISHERS

REGION 1 Ballina

Thursday 11.06.15

PRESENT:

Dane Van Der Neut
Paul Sullivan
Danielle Adams
Mary Howard
Chris Arnold
Phillip Hilliard
12 members

President
Vice President.
Treasurer
Public Officer
Secretary
Constitution adviser

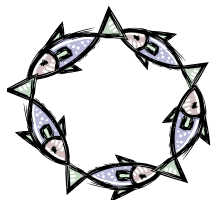
1 Meeting Opening

1.1 Welcome

Dane Van Der Neut welcomed and opened the meeting at the Ballina at 9.30am on June the 11th 2015.

1.2. Discussion

- Mary Howard opened the discussion with giving out pamphlets on the coalition constitution.
- Dane Van Der Neut opened the discussion with what the coalition is trying to achieve and how the coalition does not support the Reform
- Paul Sullivan discussed how he works in the industry and does not support the reform and spoke about how there is little if not no communication between the industry and government.
- The following are points the fishermen made clear
 - a) In grievance that this reform is too difficult to understand.
 - b) Where is the 16 million that is dedicated for the buyout and questioned as to where is the interest on this money.
 - c) Will we benefit and be heard as being part of the coalition.
 - d) Over being told how the reform will fix the problems the fishermen are having
 - e) How the industry self-regulated
 - 1960 there were over 5000 fishermen
 - 1980 there were over 3000 fishermen
 - 2015 there were over 1100 fishermen
 - f) Same issues that are here now were the same issues coming up since 1974.



NSW Wild Caught Fishers Coalition Inc

BY FISHERS, FOR FISHERS

Region 1

Page 2 of the Minutes of the meeting held in Ballina on the 11th June 2015

1.3 Conclusion.

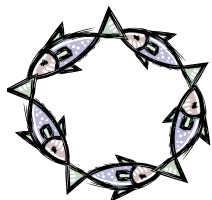
The general consensus is the fishermen do not understand the changes from the bill amendment or the reform. They are tired of being told to change the gold posts every time a new government or Minister is put into place. The fishermen agreed and support the Coalition in its fight to get the Industry back into the hands of the Fishermen.

10 Members signed up on this day.

All comments were recorded.

1.4 Meeting Close

Meeting declared closed at 1pm.



NSW Wild Caught Fishers Coalition Inc

BY FISHERS, FOR FISHERS

Region 2 Iluka, Yamba, Maclean

Friday 12.06.15

PRESENT:

Dane Van Der Neut

Paul Sullivan

Danielle Adams

Mary Howard

Chris Arnold

Phillip Hilliard

President

Vice President.

Treasurer

Public Officer

Secretary

Constitution adviser

Attendance: Steve Kerr, Rob Kay, Noel Everson, Tony Speirs, Brad Thomas, Nathan Lennard, Sean Speirs, Ron Prindable, Glen Bartlett, Graeme Williams, Max Leeson, Allan Farrell, David Hoddle, Rob Duncombe, Len Everson, Brett Potter, Coby Bamford, Jim Rutherford, Daniel Toyer, Cecil Kratz, Steve Pilcher, Donald Anderson, Andrew Hayward, Colin Harris, Kevin Shanahan, Les Davis, Bruce Knevett, Keith Webb, Steven Everson, Matt Essex, Neville Law, Ivan Pateman, Graeme Pateman, Don Mowbray, Marissa Everson, Hank Ellem, Russell Everson, Bill Clarke, Gordon Hareide

Apologies: Donald Johnson, Troy Billin

1 Meeting Opening

1.1 Welcome

Dane Van Der Neut welcomed and opened the meeting at the Iluka at 8am on June the 12th 2015.

1.2. Discussion

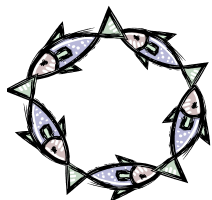
- Mary Howard opened the discussion with giving out pamphlets on the coalition constitution.
- Dane Van Der Neut opened the discussion with what the coalition is trying to achieve and how the coalition does not support the Reform
- Paul Sullivan discussed how he works in the industry and does not support the reform and spoke about how there is little if not no communication between the industry and government.
- The following are points the fishermen made clear
 - g) In grievance that this reform is too difficult to understand.
 - h) Where is the 16 million that is dedicated for the buyout and questioned as to where is the interest on this money.
 - i) Will we benefit and be heard as being part of the coalition.
 - j) Over being told how the reform will fix the problems the fishermen are having.
 - k) How the industry self regulated

1960 there were over 5000 fishermen

1980 there were over 3000 fishermen

2015 there were over 1100 fishermen

- l) Same issues that are here now were the same issues coming up since 1974.



NSW Wild Caught Fishers Coalition Inc

BY FISHERS, FOR FISHERS

Page 2 of Minutes for Region 2

- m) What happens when the fishermen turn around and say no we are not going to take this anymore?
- n) What is our next step?
- o) Whether it is a possibility that the fishermen will have to go to the politician door step to say we are not accepting this.
- p) Where will you be able to buy another licence from when there are no more available.
- q) There are only 18 ocean boats left in this area now so not possible to buy anymore.
- r) To be a lobster fishermen the cost of a share was around \$2000 5 years ago and now they are around \$3500.
- s) The banks will not lend the money on buying more to do the same now. We cannot service the money outlay at all.

1.3 Conclusion.

The general consensus is the fishermen do not understand the changes from the bill amendment or the reform. They are tired of being told to change the gold posts every time a new government or Minister is put into place. The fishermen agreed and support the Coalition in its fight to get the Industry back into the hands of the Fishermen.

1.4 Recommendation

To set up a face book page under control members only.

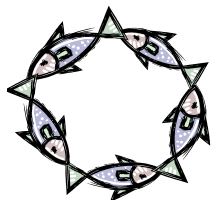
To get fishermen writing letters to their local ministers, state and federal.

To get Local council on board with promoting local seafood industry.

All comments were recorded.

1.4 Meeting Close

Meeting closed at end of day Maclean 2.10pm



NSW Wild Caught Fishers Coalition Inc

BY FISHERS, FOR FISHERS

Region 5 meeting 1.

Minutes of the Coalition Region 5 meeting held at the Sydney Fish Market on the 5th June 2015 commencing at 12.30 p.m.

1. **Attendance:** Tony Bagnato, David Tansey, Mathew Smith, Ian North, Bryon Finch, Joe Bagnato, Robert Ray, Gary Johnson, Thi Hoa Troung, Van Hoag Troung, Ron Beath, W. Alexander, Paul Bagnato, Richard Bagnato, Stephen Reed, Mitch Sanders. Mark Cranston, Jan Reed, Dick Bagnato, Mark Peterson, Dane Van Der Neut, Allan Reed snr, Dick Bagnato, Paul Sullivan, Dave Lindfield, Di Linfield, Ted Allan, John Van Truonh, Robert Zaccaria, Simon Goslett, Tony Clenton, Tony Williams, Rolf Norington, Keith Sewell, Brett Smith, B. Macchia, Donna Goslett, Sandy Gerrish, Carl Moxham, Giuseseppe Bagnato. Thomas Van der Neut, Mary Howard. 42.
2. **Apologies:**
3. Welcome to the meeting was conveyed. The following points were highlighted.
 - The Coalition has been developed due to the proposed Reform
 - 4 meetings were held in 2014 to bring the NSW commercial fishing Industry, Co Ops, Associations, groups and Individuals to the table to unite Industry in opposing the reform proposed by DPI and the Government.
 - The Group decided at a meeting in January 2015 to Incorporate and create the NSW Wild Caught Coalition.
 - The Coalition membership fee was set at \$50 to encourage all of the Industry to join.
 - The Purpose of the regional meeting is to develop up a consultation structure region by region.
 - The Coalition must be developed by fishermen for fishermen.
 - It will be necessary for each region to hold meetings either in a Fishery share class structure and/or a species structure.
 - There will need to be meeting where representatives are elected to become delegates on the Coalition Board.

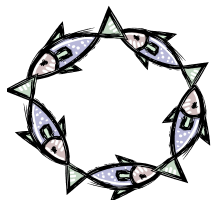
Richard Bagnato Chaired the meeting:

Richard highlighted:

- That the Committee is working hard to progress the Coalition to achieve membership and meetings across the state.
- Industry needs to drive the process.
- Membership by fishers is important so that we can disseminate information to the Industry.
- The Coalition collectively agreed that NO fisher should have to buy his job back.
- The Industry needs a format that is not directed by DPI.

Further points were made to the meeting.

- It is essential that we stop the Reform
- Membership of the Coalition will unite the Industry.
- DPI have disbanded the MACS which leaves the industry unrepresented.
- The consultation with Industry is NON existent.
- Associate membership is important too.



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Region Committees discussion:

There was discussion on the various fisheries in the region and how to move forward to formalise the committees for region 5 covering the following fisheries:

Crab trap, eels, fish trap, meshing, Cat 1 Haul, Cat 2 Haul, Handline Haul Crew, Prawn trawl Off shore Prawn trawling. Ocean Trawl, North and South, Deepwater Prawn trawl, Inshore Prawns etc. Hawkesbury Prawn trawl fishers indicated that two delegates would need to be elected by the Fishers to represent them.

The crab fisher's comments covered the need for the representation to include the fishers who do crabbing the most.

ACTION:

The meeting decided that a survey/questionnaire would need to be created to have feedback from all fishers. Delegates would need to be elected by the Industry participants in each fishery.

It would be necessary for this to take place to get structure in place for the next meeting.

REFORM Discussion:

- Richard advised that at the PFA meeting with the Minister he attended it was made clear that the Reform will proceed and be swift once commenced, he is committed to move forward.
- The Minister doesn't have a fishery advisory committee which needs to be created asap.
- The Minister is still trying to get his head around the Industry.
- Richard made the Minister aware that the Industry should not have to reinvest to do what they do today.
- We must get our voice coordinated quickly.
- Some fisheries will be hard some will be OK and others under review.
- Discussion ensued on the Buy Out and the Sixteen Million on the table. What Interest on the money is available and that it should not be used to restructure the Industry.

Amendment Bill discussion ensued with the following points:

- Not acceptable to reissue shares to others.
- Not acceptable under the redefinition of fisheries to cancel without compensation.
- The amendment Bill is putting the cart before the Horse.
- There has been more than 7 years with No representation No MAC's.
- Most fishers do not understand the context.
- It is necessary for consultation to take place.
- The Bill has been developed under parliamentary secrecy

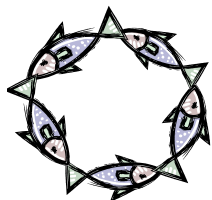
Motions:

Moved: Keith Sewell that the reform be rejected because it is unnecessary.

Seconded: Guy Witchard **carried.**

Moved: Keith Sewell That the Amendment Bill be rejected because it is unnecessary.

Seconded Allan Reed **carried.**



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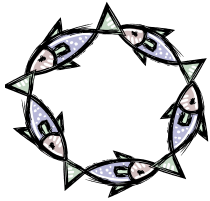
Catchers Trust discussion ensued:

- Concern was expressed that the Catchers trust delegate for region 5 has NO constitution or information on what his roles and responsibilities on the Trust are.
- That documentation made available to the Chair is NOT tabled for discussion.
- That there is NO clear information available on the process of management for the delegates.
- This discussion was centred on the redevelopment of the fish market site.
- Delegates at the meeting were asked to support the region 5 delegate get some answers,

ACTION:

It was agreed that the region 5 contact be made available to all region 5 members so that they may contact with him. That contact be made with the Fish Market to assist in this process too.

The meeting was declared closed at 3.21 p.m.



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Notes of the meeting held at Nelson Bay still to be formally compiled.

18 in attendance.