



# Indo-Pacific Fish Conference (IPFC) and Australian Society for Fish Biology (ASFB) Conference 2022

20 – 24 November 2023

Auckland, New Zealand

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## *Fisheries Management Committee Annual Committee Meeting*

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1pm to 1:30pm (Auckland - NZDST), 21 November 2023

University of Auckland, Auckland, New Zealand and Online (Microsoft Teams)

**NOTE:** ASFB Members invited to observe the ACM in person or via Zoom.

### **FMC Attendees:**

Skye Barrett – SA, Chair

Chris Boon – COM

Jodi Milne – NZ

Bec Oliver – WA

Rick Morton – NSW

Lauren Jubb – QLD (proxy)

Ewan Flannagan – VIC

Shane McGrath – NSW (proxy)

Bec Leaversuch – WA, Executive Officer

### **FMC Apologies:**

Toby Jevons – VIC, Deputy Chair

### **Other Attendees:**

Eliza Kimlin, NT (fisheries manager)

Krystal Keller – Department of Fisheries and Forestry

Lenore Litherland – QLD (research)

Sarah Brown – WA

Te Leah Healy – DCCEEW

## Meeting Summary

Agenda Item	
1.	<b>Welcome and Apologies</b>  <i>Acknowledgement of Country</i>  SB opened the Annual Committee Meeting and welcomed all FMC members and attendees with a welcome to (New Zealand) Country and an acknowledgement of the traditional owners of the area in South Australian in which SB lives and works.



SB noted those FMC members who were apologies and who had arranged proxies to attend on their behalf.

It was also noted that the contribution of all attendees in discussions was welcomes, although any decision-making during the meeting would be the responsibility of the FMC Executive.

#### *Roles and responsibility of the FMC*

SB re-iterated the role of the FMC and its objectives, as outlined in the Terms of Reference (ToRs) (**See Attachment 1**).

- It was noted that the ToRs for the FMC would be briefly discussed during the meeting under *Other Business*, to ensure the document remains fit for purpose.
- SB proposed that particular elements of the ToRs be reviewed comprehensively in early 2024, including:
  - An update of membership arrangements;
  - Re-word FMC responsibilities regarding the Annual Committee Meeting to ensure these meetings are streamlined and achieve required outcomes.

**2.**

#### **Summary of FMC Activities for 2023**

##### *Support of FRDC project regarding mechanisms for allocation decision-making*

SB informed attendees of the current status of the FRDC project, noting that Patrick Cavalli (former FMC Chair) was leading this work, with the support and contribution of Black Taylor (NT representative).

The project was noted to be ongoing.

##### *Workshop: Managing Public Perceptions*

SB provided a brief summary of the FMC-hosted workshop, which focused on considerations and measures for managing public perceptions in fisheries management.

Presentations were provided from both an industry and fishery manager's perspective, and time to receive feedback and answer questions from the audience was provided...

##### *Participation in workshop regarding development of National Harvest Strategy Guidelines*

The FMC were invited to a workshop by New South Wales (project leads) to contribute to the process of revising the National Harvest Strategy Guidelines, used in conjunction with other fisheries management legislation and policy, to provide a clear and consistent process to developing Harvest Strategies for the sustainable management of aquatic resources across Australia.



	<p>SB briefly discussed the role of the FMC in this work, and the future opportunities for the FMC to engage in this process.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>IPFC-ASFB Conference Networking Event</i></p> <p>The FMC hosted a small networking event with its members and other fisheries managers in attendance at the Conference.</p> <p>SB noted that it was a valuable opportunity to meet and informally discuss fisheries management related issues and the work being undertaken across jurisdictions in the fisheries management space.</p> <p>A QR code was provided for attendees to access a survey, which was designed to establish the current state of fisheries management with regard to policy development and local issues, as well as broader foreseeable challenges within and across jurisdictions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The results indicated that there would be benefit in developing policies for fisheries managers to be better equipped to deal with offshore and renewable developments/infrastructure and climate change.</li> <li>• Results of the survey will be used by the FMC to guide discussions regarding future workshop topics that will be delivered by the FMC.</li> <li>• The FMC will also consider opportunities to further incorporate the results of this survey into its Workplans for 2024/2025.</li> </ul>
<p><b>3.</b></p>	<p><b>Incoming Committee for 2024</b></p> <p>The FMC will be seeking the endorsement of a new Chair in 2024.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• With the Committee's support, SB will continue as Chair until an incoming Chair is appointed and has transitioned into the role.</li> </ul> <p><b>ACTION:</b> FMC to continue discussions regarding Chair position</p> <p>Representatives from several jurisdictions will be leaving the Committee and passing membership roles on to new team members.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All outgoing representatives of the Committee were acknowledged and thanked for their input over the past 12 months, and the new representatives (and proxy representatives) were welcomed.</li> </ul> <p><b>ACTION:</b> Provide updated FMC membership contact information to the ASFB for inclusion on their website.</p>
<p><b>4.</b></p>	<p><b>Endorsement of 2024 Workplan</b></p> <p>The 2023 FMC had prepared the draft 2024 Workplan ahead of the ACM and is seeking the endorsement of the Workplan at this meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SB provided a brief overview of the general business and priority work for the FMC in the coming year, as the minimum deliverable activities for 2024.</li> </ul> <p><b>OUTCOME:</b> All FMC members endorsed the 2024 Workplan presented at the meeting to be adopted for 2024.</p>
<p><b>5.</b></p>	<p><b>Other Business</b></p>



### *Workshop Planning*

The Committee considered key themes that have been identified by fisheries managers through surveys at previous workshops, which include:

- AI in fisheries management
- Collection and use of customary (and recreational) fishing information/data.

Results of the survey conducted at the ASFB social event will also be considered in discussions for future workshop topics.

**ACTION:** The social event survey to be provided to the FMC and fisheries management community (i.e. via FMC subscribers list) to gain a broader perspective of fisheries management challenges to be discussed at future workshops.

### *FMC Deliverables*

The Committee highlighted its key priority to continue communications between fisheries managers across Australian and New Zealand.

- The delivery of two workshops in 2024 aims to address challenges identified through engagement with fisheries managers.
- These forums also and facilitate discussions and encourage connectivity and information sharing between jurisdictions.

The FMC also recognised its ability to be more pro-active in providing opportunities, through funding and engagement with the broader community, to encourage attendance at events, such as the ASFB Conference, to increase communication and connectivity between fisheries managers, scientists and others in the field.

### *Terms of Reference*

SB addressed the challenge of support from Executives and the stability of the FMC’s membership over the year and proposed a review of the Terms of Reference to support succession planning of the Committee.

- Noting that the ToR were developed when the Committee was first established in 2017/18, the Committee agreed that it was timely for a review.
- SB proposed move the Committee from one representative from each jurisdiction to two, interchangeable member per jurisdiction, rather than continuing with the proxy model.
- It is envisaged that this will allow for greater contributions and continuity for the activities and work of the Committee.

**ACTION:** Review the FMC’s Terms of Reference and consider the above proposal at the first meeting of 2024.

**NOTE:** The ToRs will need to be reviewed and approved by the ASFB Executive prior to adoption.

6.

**Meeting Close** - 1:30pm (NZDST)



### Discussion Outcomes and associated Action Items:

Item No.	Discussion Outcome	Action	Responsibility	Due Date/Status
3 – 2024 Committee	Endorsement for outgoing Chair to continue into early 2024	FMC to continue discussions regarding 2024 Chair position	All	Early 2024
3 – 2024 Committee	Confirmation of 2024 Committee membership	Provide updated FMC membership contact information to the ASFB for inclusion on their website.	Executive Officer	Early 2024
4 – 2024 Workplan	Committee endorsed the 2024 Workplan	Adopt the 2024 Workplan and provide to the ASFB for endorsement.	Executive Officer	Complete
5 – Other Business, Workshop planning	Workshop planning discussions to consider engagement with fisheries managers (at ASFB Conference)	Provide QR code to survey (provided at ASFB Conference) to broader fisheries manager community (via Mailchimp FMC subscriber list)	Executive Officer	2023/Early 2024
5 – Other Business, Terms of Reference	Consider incorporation of a two-member model for the FMC	Review ToRs to consider incorporation of membership proposal, as well as a general review	All	Early 2024