



Marine Planning Partnership for the Pacific North Coast (MaPP)

***North Coast Marine Planning and Advisory
Committee (MPAC)***

General Meeting Summary – Final

Initial Advisory Group Meeting

June 11-12, 2012

Highliner Plaza Hotel and Conference Center

815 1 Avenue West

Prince Rupert, BC

Objectives:

1. Meet the members of the North Coast MPAC.
2. Provide an opportunity to understand the MaPP process, and to understand the issues and opportunities in the marine environment.
3. Clearly set expectations.
4. Communicate current efforts and work.

Attendance:

MPAC Members:

Mike Ambach - Conservation
Hermann Meuter – Academia
Michael Uehara - Tourism
Jessica McIlroy – Renewable Energy
Vittorio Venturini - Aquaculture
Dave Nicholson - Coastal Forestry
Tracy Hittel – Commercial Recreational Fisheries
Jim McIsaac – Commercial Fisheries (Day 1 only)
Andrew Webber – Local Government

MaPP

Craig Outhet – North Coast Skeena First Nations Stewardship Society
Steve Kachanoski – Ministry of Forests, Lands, and Natural Resource Operations
Charlie Short - Ministry of Forests, Lands, and Natural Resource Operations
Les Clayton - North Coast Skeena First Nations Stewardship Society (Part of day 1)
Colin Rankin – MaPP Technical Support

Special Guests

Clarence Nelson Sr. - Metlakatla First Nation

Observers:

Robert Hauknes
Des Nobles (Day 1 only)

Regrets:

Jeff Beckwith – Public Recreational Fisheries

Day 1

Welcome and Opening:

- Chief Clarence Nelson Sr. provided a welcome on behalf of First Nations
- Les Clayton and Charlie Short provided a welcome on behalf of the MaPP Working Group and MaPP Coordination Team.
- Steve Kachanoski reviewed agenda.
- Introductions of all the participants.

Introduction to MaPP

- Background of MaPP and accomplishments to date.
- Key agreements including First Nations and B.C. Letter of Intent.
- MaPP organization.

Key Discussion Items

- Question around provincial capabilities of representing commercial fishing interests. Provincial response is that there are common goals, and areas where the province can be involved. There are also many aspects of the industry the province can address, such as marketing and seafood processing although it was acknowledged the process would not be able to address everything.
- Concern was raised, suggesting that the fact this table is not consensus based means that issues could arise down the line. The committee expressed that there is value in noting when a consensus decision has been made at the table.

MaPP and North Coast Linkages

North Coast Skeena First Nations Stewardship Society

- Relationship between First Nations community planning and MaPP.

Key Discussion Items

- Details regarding the relationship between local First Nations and the North Coast Skeena First Nations Stewardship Society (NCSFNSS) were provided.
- It was explained that First Nation community plans will need to be implemented in multiple places, both collaboratively and bilaterally.

Province of British Columbia

- Relationship between current and past marine and land use planning processes and MaPP.

Key Discussion Items

- Questions were raised around the cumulative effects framework and how issues will be prioritized.
- Questions and concerns around what can be implemented within this process
- Noted that all the inland waters (or 'between the jaws of the land') are provincial jurisdiction.

Role of Advisory Group and Meeting Schedule Review

- Overview of the roles and expectations for the MPAC, based on the NC MPAC terms of reference.
- Review of concerns and questions about the MaPP process and the role of the committee.

Key Discussion Items

- Two main points for the terms of reference were raised for members to consider:
 - Process for communicating information to the broader public and the importance of being able to discuss the MaPP process with other stakeholders.
 - Meeting procedures piece: It was stressed that items or advice from previous meetings that require follow up should be open to a discussion or update in the next meeting. Specifically, has the advice been heard, and is it being acted upon, etc.)
- Was identified that an “advice log” would be maintained, and made available for review throughout the planning process.
- Members were asked to help identify alternates as the committee structure currently only has once area with an identified alternate.

Advice Given

- The NC MPAC Terms of Reference should read “Draft Final” as opposed to “Final” while discussions around the terms of reference are ongoing.
- At the start of NC MPAC meetings, items discussed at the previous meeting should be addressed at the beginning of the next when we review the advice log.

Day 2

Building Understanding

- What would an effective North Coast Marine Plan look like to you?
- What are the current opportunities and challenges that you see?

Key Discussion Items

- A challenge was identified when creating new regulations (specifically within zoning i.e.: protected areas for eelgrass) and then communicating these regulations effectively to resource users and the general public in an understandable way.
- Stress was placed on doing good planning, that is effective and not so overly complicated as to create more goals than can actually be achieved.
- Concern was expressed that the federal government and oil and gas industry were not present, and how this might impact what the plan can accomplish. .
- Important to keep all topics up for discussion at this stage of the planning process. .
- Local government’s involvement in planning processes has struggled in the past (acting in the role of a stakeholder) and they would rather be engaged as a level of government.

Draft Plan Topics

- Overview of the MaPP outputs currently under consideration for inclusion in the MaPP planning process.

Key Discussion Items

- Broadening the fisheries marketing opportunities to tourism and other ‘branding’ possibilities
- Relationship between sub-regional outputs and the larger regional framework.
- Focus on local tenuring outputs and not coast wide policy.
- Clarification was sought on what tenures would be addressed - shore based only or also marine?
- Need to clearly articulate the distinction between seafloor and shoreline.

Advice Given

- Marine fisheries sub-regional output is out of place. Combine with broader economic outputs, or remove.
- Change the wording regarding tenures in the outputs table from shore-based to marine.

EBM Definition and Principles

- Overview of Ecosystem Based Management.
- Definition and principles adopted from previous planning process work, mainly PNCIMA.

Key Discussion Items

- Historically sectors have been managed individually, with a sector-specific scope in mind and not much integration involved. EBM encourages the integration of all sectors, and is how this approach is different to what we would otherwise do.
- We will review previous work done on EBM measurements and indicators for possible application to our process and outputs and how they relate to the interest represented on this committee.
- Adaptive management is a component, but has not yet been defined for this process in terms of monitoring and timelines.

Action Item

- Distribute EBM literature references.

Base Case Introduction

- Introduction to the base case that will be used to describe the current conditions of plan components.
- A draft table of contents and two component examples were presented.

Key Discussion Items

- Base case will include values and measures that will be used to review/monitor the plan.
- A general conversation around what components may be missing from the base case, and ensuring transparent selection criteria for what is included.

Action Item

- Distribute document identifying and listing provincial marine tenures.

Advice Given

- Clearly identify criteria used for selection of base case components.