



Marine Planning Partnership for the Pacific North Coast (MaPP)

North Coast Marine Planning and Advisory Committee (MPAC)

General Meeting Summary - Draft

Advisory Group Meeting #4

January 29-30, 2013

North Coast Meeting and Convention Centre

240 West First Ave. Prince Rupert, B.C.

Objectives:

1. Share updates on MaPP, MPAC member and other related activities since last MPAC meeting.
2. Review draft objectives and strategies for key marine issues for the North Coast planning area for: (a) aquaculture; (b) renewable energy; (c) stewardship & monitoring and compliance & enforcement; and (d) commercial, recreational and First Nations fishing.
3. Share MPAC member understanding of what makes an area “high value” and what can be done to support sustainable access, use and/or benefits from high value areas.
4. Build understanding of MaPP tools and outputs supporting marine spatial planning – spatial zoning framework.
5. Confirm actions for next NC MPAC meeting (March-April 2013)

Attendance:

<p><u>MPAC Members:</u> Mike Ambach – Conservation Dan Edwards – Commercial Fisheries Bill Johnson – Renewable Energy Dave Nicholson – Coastal Forestry Vittorio Venturini – Aquaculture</p>	<p><u>MaPP:</u> Craig Outhet – Co-lead (NCSFNSS) Steve Kachanoski – B.C. Government (MFLNRO) Megan Dickinson – MaPP Technical Support Marjan Bagheri – B.C. Government (MFLNRO) Erin Mutrie – Marine Planner (NCSFNSS) Colin Rankin – MaPP Technical Support Matthew Justice – MaPP Coordination Team</p>
<p><u>Alternates and Observers:</u> Robert Hauknes – Commercial Fisheries Barb Faggetter – Observer Des Nobles – Observer Kennard Hall – Observer</p>	<p><u>Regrets:</u> Hermann Meuter – Academia Tracey Hittel – Recreational Fishing Services Jeff Beckwith – Public Recreational Fishing Andrew Webber – Local Government Michael Uehara – Tourism</p>

Day 1

Welcome and Updates:

- Agenda review and introductions of all the participants.
- First Nations, Province and MPAC member updates.
- PNCiMA update provided, specifically in relation to MaPP.
- Review of MPAC Meeting #3 and Advice Log.

Updates

- Have identified a member for Skeena Queen Charlottes Regional District Karl Bergman, who will likely attend next meeting.

Issues, Objectives and Strategies

- Draft objectives and strategies around a number of topics were presented.
- For each objective, participants were asked:
 - Do you feel that this set of strategies addresses the objective and supports the identified MaPP output? Is anything missing?
 - Do you have any advice or examples of actions to support implementation of the strategies (e.g., priority actions or areas, existing related and complementary projects or proposals)?
- A number of comments were received during group discussion. Key pieces are summarized below, and all comments will be used in refining plan components for climate change.

Issues, Objectives and Strategies – *General Marine Tenures*

Key Discussion Items

- Clarification of language such as “work with” to make clear what (if any) resource and capacity are available to do that work.
- Strategies should be inclusive of industry and others, where appropriate.
- Streamlining the tenuring process and reducing duplication or redundancies in referrals.
- Importance of public access to the shore in tenuring decisions.

Issues, Objectives and Strategies – *Aquaculture*

Key Discussion Items

- Promoting and building the aquaculture industry on the North Coast as a large focus of these strategies.
- Understanding and benefits of a special zone for aquaculture.
- Aquaculture management plans (IWAPs) and how they tie to MaPP planning.
- Local ownership and participation and the problem of ensuring effective strategies in limiting large corporation monopoly of the industry.
- Interest in exploring the concept of “ocean (salmon) ranching”. Conversation focused on activity in Alaska, carrying capacity of the North Pacific Ocean, and impacts on wild native salmon stocks.

Issues, Objectives and Strategies – *Renewable Energy*

Key Discussion Items

- The importance of the education and understanding of clean energy projects, including what they physically look like.
- The cumulative impacts and cost/benefits of clean energy activities, including human well being values, need to be recognized and considered in management decisions.
- The idea of conflict resolution mechanisms was recognized as an overarching gap in current processes and planning.
- General comment on the overall ordering of objectives and strategies and value of leading with positive, proactive objectives and strategies.
- Demonstration projects in this sector with a focus on education.

Issues, Objectives and Strategies – *Compliance and Enforcement and Monitoring and Stewardship*

Key Discussion Items

- Monitoring and enforcement is a big issue for North Coast First Nations. They would like to see their responsibilities and authority increased. Examples exist where the province is working with First Nations to move towards this.

- Importance of specifics around who and what is being monitored.
- Challenges in transparency and access for monitoring information .
- Funding and capacity to do monitoring.
- A regional compliance and enforcement framework is a MaPP output, and will provide guidance and definitions.

Day 2

Issues, Objectives and Strategies – Fisheries

Participants were asked to comment on initial draft objectives and strategies for fisheries, including what should be considered in the development of MaPP outputs taking into account the issues identified. These comments will be utilized in the further development of objectives and strategies to fulfill MaPP outputs. Draft objectives and strategies for fisheries will be discussed at an upcoming MPAC meeting.

Key Discussion Items

- Concern around the continued loss of key fishing infrastructure such as marinas and processing facilities.
- Widely recognized that the jurisdictional limitations of the province in the area of fisheries make developing objectives and strategies in this area difficult.
- The absence of the recreational fishing services and public recreational fishing sector representatives was noticed. Difficult to fully discuss this topic without their representation.
- Access to marine harvest for traditional and food purposes should also include the requirements of non-native individuals.
- Focus should be to build upon existing monitoring programs, and improving the access and transparency of monitoring information.
- Access to local educational opportunities in this industry is challenging due to isolation and limited enrollment, and start-up costs for new or expanded participation in the sector is a limiting factor.
- The certification and traceability of fisheries are important components to marketing of products.

Building Understanding – Marine Spatial Planning

- Roundtable opportunity for MPAC members to build a shared understanding of individual sector's spatial requirements and limiting factors to the successful realization of their interests.
- Discussion focused on 2 key questions:
 - What makes a high value area?
 - What can we do to support sustainable access, use and/or benefits from high value areas?
- Common themes included but were not limited to:
 - Proximity to infrastructure is a key measure for most sectors.

- Conflict resolution mechanisms a very important as areas are typically viewed as high value for numerous activities.
- It's a tough exercise to identify high values areas as some activities are highly variable in nature.
- Scale of activity will affect the value of an area.
- The effectiveness of MPA development and zoning in a fluid environment.
- Attention should be paid to enabling/fostering industry specific conflict resolution mechanisms.

Spatial Zoning Framework – presentation and discussion

- Matthew Justice, MaPP Marine Coordination Team, Ministry of Forests, Lands, and Natural Resource Operations.

The MaPP Spatial Zoning Framework that has been developed to guide and coordinate spatial planning across the four MaPP sub-regions was presented. This framework has been developed through discussions between the Province and First Nations, and has had the review and advice from advisory group members at the regional MaPP table (RMAC).

What's on tap and wrap up

- Next meeting date is tentatively set for April 3-4th in Prince Rupert. This has subsequently been updated to the week of March 18-20th.
- Meeting adjourned at 4:00pm.