



Marine Planning Partnership for the Pacific North Coast (MaPP)
**North Vancouver Island Marine Plan Advisory
Committee (MPAC)**
Final Meeting Summary

Meeting #9
February 19-20, 2014
Maritime Heritage Centre, 621 North Island Highway
Campbell River, B.C.

Objectives:

1. To review the changes to the plan based on internal review and MPAC comments
2. To discuss next steps and identify potential open house dates

Attendance:

MPAC Members and Alternates:

Jim Abram – *Local Government (SRD)*
Gord Curry, Kat Middleton – *Marine Conservation*
Heather Mearns – *Commercial Fishing*
Richard Opala, Dave Minato [Day Two] – *Finfish Aquaculture*
Michele Patterson – *Shellfish Aquaculture*
Rick Snowdon, Mairi Edgar – *Commercial Recreation*
Heidi Soltau, Doug Aberley – *Local Government (MWRD)*
Bruce Storry - *Coastal Forestry*
Alan Thomson, Nick Heath – *Public Recreation*
Mo Vahafidar – *Renewable Energy*

MaPP:

John Bones – *Nanwakolas Council (Technical Team Co-Chair)*
Matthew Justice – *Ministry of Forests, Lands, and Natural Resource Operations (Technical Team Co-Chair)*
Scott Harris - *Nanwakolas staff*
Greg Johnson - *Nanwakolas staff*
Jillian Tamblyn – *MaPP Technical Planner contractor*
Josie Byington – *MaPP administrator*

Facilitator:

Craig Darling - *CanAccord*

Regrets:

Jonathan Armstrong - *Coastal Forestry*
Nick Heath – *Public Recreation*
Brian Kingzette – *Shellfish Aquaculture*
Paul Kariya, Ellen Bird – *Renewable Energy*
Dwayne Mustard – *Recreational Fishing Services*

Observer:

Samil Atwall, *Finfish Aquaculture [Day Two]*

Day 1

Welcome and Opening:

- John Bones and Matthew Justice welcomed the group on behalf of the NVI Technical Team.
- Craig Darling, facilitator, was introduced.
- Introductions were made around the table (including alternates, staff and observers).
- John reviewed the agenda and purpose of the meeting.

Updates and Next Steps:

- Matthew described the process used to incorporate internal review comments to the Plan.

- Matthew provided a summary of MPAC#8.
- Jillian provided an update on the Advice Log.
- John discussed the timelines and next steps to Plan completion (documented below).
- John requested local government members to assist in setting dates for public open houses.
- Matthew provided an update from the RMAC#4 meeting held Feb 4-5, 2014 in Richmond.
- Scott described the MaPP project to develop Geographic Response Plan project and the opportunity for MPAC member participation in a meeting to be held in Campbell River.
- MPAC members provided updates of their sector planning activities.

Items Discussed and Clarified:

1. Clarification of how deletions from text were identified in the current Preliminary Draft 4 Plan.
2. Clarification of the process used to record internal review feedback and that specific comments are not currently available to the MPAC.
3. Clarification that sector representatives can request the rationale for how co-leads handled specific advice they provided.
4. Clarification that the Current Conditions and Trends will be completed in March and the MPAC will have an opportunity to review it.
5. Clarification on the level of obligation for the co-leads to incorporate internal review comments.
6. Clarification provided on Provincial sign-off of Plan and commitment of all ministries to implement the Plan.
7. Discussion about timing of public meetings, with suggestion that Campbell River open house be held week of March 17, and Port Hardy & Port McNeill meetings be held in first week of April.
8. Discussion about MPAC review of the final version of the Plan.
9. Comments about input by non-participating sectors and government agencies.
10. Clarification about opportunities for non-participating First Nations to review the Plan.
11. *See advice log regarding additional and more specific comments.*

Review & Discussion: Chapter 1-3 Revisions

- Jillian presented the changes to Chapters 1, 2 and 3.
- Detailed comments were provided.

Items Discussed and Clarified:

1. Discussion about the importance of Johnstone Strait as an important marine mammal area; appropriate level of background information on mammals; reference to SRD zoning of areas for cultural heritage in marine use pattern; Plan reference to the aquaculture moratorium in the Discovery Islands area.
2. *See advice log for specific advice given regarding chapter 1 ,2, 3 text.*

Review & Discussion: Chapter 4 Revisions (and lunch)

- Scott, John and Matthew presented the changes to Chapter 4.
- Detailed comments were provided.

Items Discussed and Clarified:

1. Discussion related to: clarification on reference to infrastructure upgrade priorities; clarification on shellfish contamination closure statements; inclusion of staffed light houses as part of marine spill response strategies; wording related to habitat resiliency; economic value of non-extractive recreation and tourism; bonds to cover restoration of log dump sites, aquaculture context statement respecting multi-trophic aquaculture opportunities; aquaculture strategies on assessing capability and reserve establishment; maintenance of aquaculture moratorium; inclusion of local governments in aquaculture siting guideline review; conservation concern related to shellfish aquaculture effects; lack of referral of notations to local government; use of the term “EBM-based fishery” for salmon ranching; inclusion of salmon ranching in the Plan; clarification of language on environmental assessments in governance; need to reference new technology in monitoring programs, need to identify priorities for research on pollution.
2. *See advice log for specific advice given regarding chapter.*

Review & Discussion: Chapter 5 Revisions

- John provided an overview of changes, and Matthew and Scott presented specific changes to Chapter 5.
- Detailed comments were provided.

Items Discussed and Clarified:

1. Discussion held on: inclusion of reference to local government marine protection governance tools; definition of off-bottom aquaculture; defining “due consideration of feedback” from stakeholders; need for referral of new and replacement tenure applications to local government in all zones; language for referral to protection agencies where uses are proposed adjacent to a protection area; need to strengthen provision on local government zoning; and provision referencing assessment of impact on seasonal migration; and other SMZ emphasis area conditions and provisions.
2. *See advice log for specific advice given regarding chapter text.*

Wrap-up and Look ahead to Day 2

- Craig closed the meeting. Discussion on Chapter 5 to continue on Day 2.

Day 2

Welcome and Opening

- Craig welcomed participants back to the meeting.
- New attendees introduced themselves.
- John reviewed the agenda.

Review and Discussion (continued): Chapter 5 Revisions

- Scott presented changes to Chapter 5.
- Greg presented the changes to zoning maps.
- Detailed comments were provided.

Items Discussed and Clarified:

1. Discussion about: need to reflect local government zoning in Community Emphasis SMZ; specific PMZ area boundaries; recognition of cumulative effects impacts; removal of abandoned or discontinued tenures from PMZ areas; Conservation Sector need for more PMZ to capture and protect ecosystem function and representation; Forestry sector's need for flexibility.
2. *See advice log regarding additional and more specific comments.*

Review and Discussion: Chapter 6 Revisions

- John presented the changes to Chapter 6.
- Detailed comments were provided.

Items Discussed and Clarified:

1. Discussion about the plan variance review process, clarification that no decision has been made on a Regional Plan Implementation Committee in addition to four Sub-regional Plan Implementation Committees.
2. *See advice log regarding additional and more specific comments.*

Review and Discussion: Appendices Revisions

- Jillian presented the changes to the Appendices.

Items Discussed and Clarified:

1. Discussion about humpback whale habitat designations.
2. *See advice log regarding additional and more specific comments.*

CLOSURE

- Commercial Fisheries comments will be deferred to their bi-lateral meeting.
- John summarized the meeting, encouraged sectors to set up meetings with the Technical Team over the next week, and thanked everyone for their participation.
Matthew confirmed that any written feedback on major problem statements or map boundaries in the draft Plan must be received by February 28, 2014 to nvi-feedback@mappocean.org in order for to be considered and reflected in a final draft plan to be posted for the Public Comment period.
- Next MPAC meeting (if required) would be held in May in Campbell River, for the purpose of updating MPAC on any changes resulting from activities and input during the public review period.
- Stakeholders provided closing comments.
- Craig thanked the participants for their commitment and for assisting in this pivotal MPAC meeting to commence the "closure" phase of the process.
- The co-chairs adjourned the meeting 12 pm.

TIMELINES FOR NVI MARINE PLAN

- By March 1 – Receive any written MPAC comments on draft plan for consideration in draft being posted for public comment; or hold meetings with interested stakeholders for same purpose
- By March 10 – Revisions to draft Plan from MPAC meeting, other meetings; letter to non-participating First Nations

- By March 15- Plan posted on MaPP website
- March 15 – April 30 -Public Review period
 - TBA – Open House CR
 - April 2-3 – Open Houses Port Hardy and Port McNeil
 - Meetings with sectors, First Nations
- May 1 – Public Review Ends
- By May 1-15 – Final changes to document
- May 15-30 – MPAC advised of any further Plan changes and potential final meeting
- By June 30 – Secure endorsements, hold signing ceremony (target date of June 8)