



*North Vancouver Island
Marine Plan Advisory Committee (MPAC)
2017-18 Year End Meeting*

MEETING SUMMARY

May 7 & 8, 2018

Location - Maritime Heritage Centre, 621 Island Hwy, Campbell River, B.C.

Objectives:

1. To present and receive feedback on the NVI Annual Report
2. To seek input on 2018-19 Work Plan projects.
3. To provide updates on related planning and zoning initiatives.

Attendance:

MPAC Members and Alternates:

Bruce Storry – *Coastal Forestry*
Christina Mardell – *Coastal Forestry*
Bharat Adhikari – *Coastal Forestry*
Rick Snowdon – *Commercial Tourism*
Mike Kelly – *Harbour Authorities*
Kim Wright – *Marine Conservation*
Peter Stockdill – *Public Recreation*
Chuck Ashcroft – *Public Recreational Fishing*
Don Tillapaugh – *Shellfish Aquaculture*
Jim Abram – *Local Government (SRD)*
Heidi Soltau – *Local Government (RDMW)*
Fred Robertson – *Local Government (District of Port Hardy)*

MaPP:

John Bones – *Nanwakolas Council (Technical Team Co-Chair)*
Andy Witt – *Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development (Technical Team Co-Chair)*
Scott Harris – *Nanwakolas Council*
Barb Dinning – *Nanwakolas Council (Day 1)*
Alex Barron – *MaPP Technical Planner*
Josie Byington – *MaPP NVI Planning Assistant and MaPP Communications Assistant*

Regrets:

Dan Edwards – *Commercial Fishery*
Jim McIsaac – *Commercial Fishery*

Richard Opala – *Finfish Aquaculture*

Larry Samson/Charlie Cornfield – *Local Government (City of Campbell River)*

Leightan Wishart – *Local Government (District of Port Hardy)*

Day 1

Welcome and Opening

John Bones and Andy Witt welcomed the group on behalf of the NVI Technical Team. Introductions were made around the table. The agenda and purpose of the meeting was reviewed. John highlighted the NVI MPAC Terms of Reference for new members and provided a summary of the last MPAC meeting.

General Discussion:

Errors in the MPAC membership list were noted for correction.

ACTIONS:

- **NVI team to update the NVI MPAC membership list in documents and on the MaPP web site.**

Annual Report Presentation & Review

Alex Barron presented the draft 2017-18 annual report and feedback was received and discussed.

General Discussion:

Discussion took place regarding MaPP implementation funds and funders, as well as on specific sections of the annual report. Clarification was provided that: the NVI sub-region receives a proportion of MaPP funding; and that specific suggestions for changes to the annual report will be considered.

- *Advice received on the annual report can be found in the MPAC advice log (#74-#79).*

ACTIONS:

- **Co-leads to provide the MPAC with a list of funders and in-kind contributors and their role.**
- **Alex to update the annual report as discussed.**
- **MPAC members to provide further feedback to the draft annual report by May 21, 2018.**

Current and Completed Projects Update

The **MaPP Strategic Approach** for the implementation of plan strategies was presented by Andy Witt.

Presentations were made on current and completed NVI Plan projects. These were the **Tlowitsis Shellfish Aquaculture Pilot Project**, the **Recreation and Tourism Economic Development**, the **Polluted Areas Restoration Strategy**, the **Culture and Heritage study** and the **Guardian Program**.

General Discussion:

Discussion took place on: the drivers/criteria for determining the list of polluted sites for restoration; the need for future projects to start with notification of MPAC members; the need to include local recreation and tourism organizations in identifying next steps for implementing the Recreation and Tourism Economic Development report; and the process and use of updated cultural and heritage data.

- *Advice received on the current and completed projects can be found in the MPAC advice log (#80, #81).*

ACTIONS:

- **Alex to follow up with Heidi on the name of the NVI/Regional District of Mount Waddington Tourism Board co-ordinator.**
- **Alex to follow up with the consultant regarding the definition of “pollution” used in the preparation of the Polluted Areas Restoration Strategy.**
- **When the consultant’s report is received, Alex to provide the MPAC members with the list of polluted sites for identified for restoration and the priority sites, for their feedback.**
- **NVI Team will ensure that MPAC members receive an introductory email about future consultations by consultants.**

Protection Management Zone (PMZ) Management Plan Progress

Andy Witt and John Bones provided an update on progress in the development of PMZ management plans.

General Discussion:

Discussion occurred on location, timing and participants for the next workshop and language about sustainable fisheries.

- *Advice received on the next PMZ planning workshop can be found in the MPAC advice log (#82, #83).*

ACTIONS:

- **Alex to resend the email regarding updated language about sustainable fisheries to Kim, Dan and Chuck for language discussion.**
- **Alex to notify MPAC members when updated PMZ management plans are in the Dropbox.**

Update on Related Planning Activities

John Bones provided an update on Federal Ocean initiatives.

General Discussion:

General discussion focused on: complexity of organizing for involvement in Ocean Protection Plan (OPP) initiatives; agreement being developed with First Nations on OPP activities in Northern Shelf Bioregion; upcoming stakeholder advisory committee meeting on Marine Protected Area (MPA) Network; and MPAC members’ concerns regarding a lack of integration of federal processes with MaPP.

Day 2

Welcome and Opening

John Bones summarized Day 1 discussions and reviewed the agenda for the day.

General Discussion:

General discussion continued on the purpose and format of the upcoming federal MPA Network advisory committee meeting for NVI.

ACTIONS:

- **NVI Team to share relevant Marine Protected Area Technical Team files on the MaPP Dropbox as discussed.**
- **John to provide Fred Robertson with the MPA NVI advisory committee membership list.**
- **Andy to follow up with Kristin Worsley about provincial agency (BC Timber Sales) membership on the MPA stakeholder advisory committee.**

Recently Initiated Projects – Review and Comment

Andy Witt presented NVI's recently initiated projects and made reference to the **Strategic Overview**. The projects are: **EBM Indicator Monitoring** and **Kelp Modelling**. After the discussion, the NVI Team thanked Heidi Soltau for her service to the NVI MPAC and congratulated her on her retirement.

General Discussion:

Discussion focused on: EBM indicator monitoring project and relationship of sub-regional-to-regional indicators; use of federal marine infrastructure as sampling sites; consideration of historical trends in kelp coverage through use of air photo records. Clarification made that the kelp modeling project covers the entire NVI sub-region, although any field sampling will initially be done for Nanwakolas member territories; that the NVI data collection includes information for both the Regional EBM indicators and NVI sub-regional indicators.

Advice received on datasets and scope for the kelp modelling and EBM indicator monitoring projects, can be found in the MPAC advice log (#84-#87).

ACTIONS:

- **NVI Team will consider federal infrastructure as possible site monitoring locations.**
- **NVI Team will review availability and need for photo analysis of historical trends in kelp bed locations.**

2018-19 Work Plan Projects – Review and Comment

John Bones and Alex Barron presented the projects in the NVI 2018-19 Work Plan. These are: **Communications Strategy, Infrastructure Assessment, Marine Governance & Jurisdiction Communications, Training and Human Resource Needs, EBM, Cultural & Heritage, Compliance and Enforcement, Restoration Training.**

General Discussion:

Discussion took place on individual projects, with particular focus on communications strategy and training needs. Clarification provided that these projects have been allocated funding, but that the NVI Team is still working to make the projects of highest utility, and is receptive to suggestions.

Advice received on the projects in the 2018-19 Work Plan can be found in the MaPP advice log (#88-#94).

ACTIONS:

- **Alex to distribute the more detailed work outlines to MPAC members for feedback and specific suggestions.**
- **Alex to follow up with MPAC members for important communications messages that should be included in communications strategy development.**

Co-chair wrap up; Date of next meeting

John provided a summary of the meeting and thanked the MPAC members for their participation. Andy provided closing comments. Action items were reviewed.

The next meeting will likely be the mid-year progress meeting, combined with another PMZ workshop in late September or early October 2018 and may be held in Port Hardy or Port McNeill.