



Central Coast Marine Plan Implementation Advisory Committee (MPIAC)

Online meeting (via Zoom)
Monday, May 3, 2021
10:00-12:00am

Objective

To present and discuss the Central Coast 5-year ('Phase 2') work plan.

Participants

- **MaPP, Central Coast Implementation Technical Team (CCITT):** Sally Cargill (Co-chair), Vicki Sahanatien (Co-chair), Desiree Lawson, Philip Akins
- **MPIAC members and alternates:**
 - Michael Bissonnette, Marine Conservation (Alternate)
 - Scott Benton, Commercial Tourism (Member)
 - Lauren Eckert, Youth research and planning (Member)
 - Jim McIsaac, Commercial Fisheries (Member / Alternate)
 - Warren Warttig, Coastal Forestry (Member)
 - Anne Salomon, Marine Academic (Member)
 - Nick Heath, Public Recreation (Member)
 - Richard Opala, Finfish Aquaculture (Member)
- **Members not in attendance:**
 - Erin Latham, Shellfish Aquaculture (Member)
 - Sid Keay, Recreational Fishing Service Provider (Member)
 - Phil Dawson, Recreational Fishing Service Provider (Alternate)
 - Kim Olsen, Commercial Fisheries (Member / Alternate)
 - Sarah Friesen, Marine Conservation (Member)
 - Paul Manson, Renewable Energy (Member)

Material(s)

- Five Year Work Plan

Meeting Summary

Welcome and opening comments

- Sally and Vicki welcomed the group, reviewed previous meeting (December 2020).
- Committee members introduced themselves.

Five-year work plan presentation and discussion

- Following an overview from Sally of the five Outcome Areas that will guide MaPP implementation in Phase 2 (2021-26), we went through each of these areas in turn and discussed the activities / projects currently included in our draft five-year work plan.
- A summary of the discussion follows. Also see the Advice Log for a record of advice received.

Outcome Area #1: Advancing Collaborative Governance and Reconciliation

- Discussion focused on the development and implementation of a regional indicator to monitor collaborative governance. Committee members expressed strong interest in this indicator and getting it right – emphasis on coming up with metrics that are “measurable and verifiable.” What has changed in the past 5 years? There has been a lot of work to measure collaborative governance that we can draw on. A member also noted that this is not just about G2G... “the communities and stakeholders involved will also strengthen [collaborative governance].” Members also provided input on the proposed project re. ‘Aquaculture economic benefits’, noting other, non-economic interests related to aquaculture (e.g., food security).

Outcome Area #2: Maintaining Marine Plan Relevance and Responsiveness

- In response to questions about this year’s Plan amendment process, Sally explained that our intent is to present a set of draft amendment proposals to the Committee ahead of our next meeting (late June) and incorporate advice before forwarding the proposals to the MaPP partners for approval.
- Sally also confirmed that we can share the Haida Gwaii Log Handling Facilities Best Management Practices (BMPs) with Warren (Marine forestry rep) and any other interested members once we have received and reviewed document(s).
- Members offered some suggestions (PDF maps, electronic marine atlas) to support communications / public awareness of various aspects of the Plan.
- Scott expressed interested in seeing draft of the protocol guidance doc when available; noted that most members of the Wilderness Tourism Assoc. have protocol agreements on the Central Coast (those agreements only apply to commercial operators, not general public).
- Michael raised the importance of decision makers (not just the public) being aware of the Marine Plan. Sally confirmed that BC keeps track of this on the provincial side; to date has found a high level of consistency with the Plan in tenuring decisions.

Outcome Area #3: Strengthening Rural Economies and Communities

- Jim flagged [a recent report](#) on commercial fisheries policies and extended offer to work with the Central Coast Commercial Fisheries Association (CCCFA) on discussing / implementing recommendations.
- Jim also suggested that we connect with the [BC Young Fishermen's Network](#), and Lauren offered to provide support on any projects.

Outcome Area #4: Collaboratively Measuring, Monitoring and Managing our Coastal Resources

- Richard and Jim stressed the importance of developing socioeconomic / wellbeing indicators “sooner than later”. Do we have any idea where we are with regard to wellbeing, trends? Are the MaPP initiatives that the Committee has endorsed actually meeting objectives? If not, what can we change?
- Anne noted the relevance of climate change to many of the projects under this outcome area, including marine plant harvest management and site restoration.
- Sally let the Committee know that we would like to hear of any ideas for project funding; Anne pointed to the [Pacific Institute for Climate Solutions](#) as a good source to tap.

Outcome Area #5: Improving Marine Safety and Coastal Protection

- On marine response plans, Warren noted lack of protocols and infrastructure to rescue wildlife exposed to catastrophic oil spills.
- On Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment, Jim noted a recent study looking at climate change issues and adaptability within the fisheries sector (see Nature Conservancy story on 'climate-ready fisheries' [here](#)).

Final discussion

- Jim reiterated interest in initiating a fisheries economy discussion in the Central Coast context that would involve all sectors (commercial, rec, FN) to build a common vision of fisheries, aim to strengthen the local economy. Michael agreed that this would be an interesting conversation and suggested that Anne’s earlier point re. food security would also be an important part of that conversation.
- Anne broached idea of a ‘quick-acting pipeline’ to connect people, students working in relevant academic fields to the work that is going on / needed within MaPP. “It would be great if there was a structure by which to mobilize the amazing capacity” that is out there; could be an amazing opportunity for youth (mentorship, training), and provide cheap labour for MaPP partners w. limited resources, capacity to answer some questions, get some work done.

Closing

- Sally reminded the Committee that any further feedback on the 5-year work plan is welcome. **Please provide input by Friday, May 28.**
- Next meeting: Date in late June TBD. Topics:
 - Project updates
 - Plan amendment
 - EBM monitoring program review and strategy

- Sector updates

Actions arising

- CCITT to schedule next Committee meeting for late June to discuss Plan Amendment and EBM indicator monitoring. Will provide material to review ahead of time, including items outstanding from last meeting:
 - Plan amendment proposals
 - EBM Report Summary
 - EBM indicator reports – final drafts for ‘red flag’ review (before making public)
- CCITT to share the Haida Gwaii Log Handling Facilities Best Management Practices (BMPs) with Warren (Marine forestry rep) and any other interested members once we have received and reviewed document(s).
- Vicki to pass on to Jean (CCIRA) Warren’s comments re. handling / rescuing wildlife exposed to marine spills; offer to provide training through the [MARS Wildlife Rescue Centre](#).
- CCITT to extend to CCCFA offer from Jim / Commercial Fisheries Caucus to discuss / collaborate on recommendations from 2021 report re. commercial fisheries policies ([Comparative analysis of commercial fisheries policies and regulations on Canada’s Atlantic and Pacific coasts](#)).