

## Fisheries Liaison Group Meeting Record

Fisheries Liaison Group for 6 Wharf Development  
 Meeting held at Napier Port and via Teams  
 July 6, 2022 - 3.00 pm to 4.40 pm

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**Present:**

**Independent Chair**  
 Eileen von Dadelszen

**Area 2 Committee Representatives**  
 Rick Burch - Commercial Fisher

**Napier Port**  
 Paul Rose - Environmental Advisor  
 Te Kaha Hawaikirangi - Pou Tikanga - Infrastructure  
 Environmental & Cultural Advisor

**Note-Taker**  
 Grant Russell - Stantec

**Recreational Fishers**  
 David Scott - Legasea  
 John Stewart - Legasea

**Co-Opted**  
 Karl Warr - Independent Fisher

**HBRC**  
 Alice McNatty – Biosecurity  
 Irena Mikolic – Compliance

**Pre-circulated material:** Unconfirmed Minutes of 6 April 2022.

Ref:	Item:
1.	Present and Welcome  The meeting was opened with Eileen von Dadelszen welcoming all in attendance.
2.	Apologies - None received.  <b>Absent:</b> Hamish Quested, Commercial Fisher, Rawinia Lewis (FINZ) - Area 2 Committee and Jim Yeoman (Recreational Fisher).  Michel de Vos was <b>noted</b> as a tentative attendee.
3.	Confirmation of Minutes of Meeting of 6 April 2022  <b>Moved: That the minutes of the meeting held on 6 April 2022 be accepted as a true and accurate record.</b>  <b>Stewart / Rose</b> <span style="float: right;"><b><u>Carried</u></b></span>
4.	Matters Arising from Meeting of 6 April 2022  None.
5.	Agenda Review (anything to be amended or re-ordered)  General Business: (a) Lack of attendance by Area 2 Committee (FINZ representatives).
6.	a) and b) Outcomes of special meeting held on 17 February 2022 and Biosecurity dive/survey discovery of <i>Styela</i> (on/about 8 June 2022) in Inner Harbour.  Alice McNatty – HBRC Biosecurity provided the following update:  ( <b>Noted</b> in email – 29 June 2022) from Alice McNatty:

	<p><i>“Over the past week we [HBRC] have been in discussion with a number of marine biosecurity experts to assess control options for Styela clava found on the hull of a fishing vessel and Clavelina lepadiformis on the Nelson Quay catwalk/pontoon.</i></p> <p><i>For both pests it is agreed that wrapping/encapsulating the hull of the vessel, and catwalk, and then treating it with chlorine is the best method of control. We are currently determining the logistics and costs associated with this.</i></p> <p><i>There is the risk, in both situations, that these organisms may have already spread into areas that were not searched in the survey, and therefore eradication within the Inner Harbour would not be achieved with this control.</i></p> <p><i>Please note that in my past email I stated that C. lepadiformis was also found on the Custom Quay catwalk/pontoon – this was incorrect.”</i></p> <p><b>(Noted</b> in email 21 June 2022) from Alice McNatty: <i>“In terms of the vessel that had the Styela clava and Clavelina lepadiformis found on it, all visible individuals were removed by the dive team which removed the immediate risk these organisms posed. We are now in discussions with a specialist based in the South Island to determine the logistics and timing of wrapping and treating this vessel in case any juveniles are present.</i></p> <p><i>Later in the dive survey the lightbulb ascidian (Clavelina lepadiformis) was found under the floating pontoons on Nelson Quay and Custom Quay<sup>1</sup> – this organism appears relatively well established on these pontoons. We are meeting this week with a marine biosecurity response specialist to discuss if it is feasible to attempt to eradicate this species from the pontoons and/or Inner Harbour.”</i></p> <p><b>Noted</b> that HBRC are in discussions with NCC re: options for control, feasibility, etc.</p> <p><b>Queried</b> by Paul Rose and <b>confirmed</b> by Alice McNatty, that vessel owners pay for the removal and other associated costs associated with eradicating unwanted marine pests. Other removal costs of unwanted marine pests on public assets i.e. on pontoons, are generally covered by ‘HBRC General Rates’.</p> <p><b>Noted</b> – that a vote of thanks to Alice McNatty is recorded for keeping the FLG informed on the current biosecurity matters.</p>
	<p>c) Marine Cultural Health Programme and Plan update</p> <p><b>Noted</b> that Stats NZ examined the MCHP survey questionnaire and any suggested changes have been adopted.</p> <p><b>Noted</b> that the MCHP monitoring will commence following updates to Eagle 123. Eagle 123 is a GIS product to gather data and information and then it is able to present it in a user friendly manner.</p> <p><b>Noted</b> that Napier City Council are interested in possibly using the MCHP as a tool for stormwater monitoring.</p> <p>The concept of IP was <b>tabled</b> in regard to information / knowledge contained within the MCHP.</p>
	<p>d) Update on the reef 1 protection/rahui options - update following our meeting between Mana whenua / Legasea and the Port.</p>

<sup>1</sup> Please note that in the previous HBRC email (21 June 2022), it was stated that C. lepadiformis was also found on the Custom Quay catwalk/pontoon – this was incorrect.

	<p><b>Note</b> that a 'working group' consisting of the Mana Whenua Steering Komiti and Legasea are currently examining options to 'protect and enhance' the artificial reefs. For example, by utilizing rahui, mātaítai and fisheries bylaw and temporary closures and restrictions on fishing methods (Section 186A closures under the Fisheries Act 1996).</p> <p>Post meeting follow-up, for information purposes: <a href="https://www.mpi.govt.nz/fishing-aquaculture/maori-customary-fishing/managing-customary-fisheries/">https://www.mpi.govt.nz/fishing-aquaculture/maori-customary-fishing/managing-customary-fisheries/</a></p>
	<p>e) Pania Reef Dive Report (emailed out on 16 June 2022).</p> <p><b>Note</b> that this has been circulated and received.</p> <p>Pania Reef monitoring continues as per the 6W consents in place and between the agreement between Napier Port and Legasea. The Executive Summary of the Cawthron Report, Sneddon R 2022. Ecological transect surveys of Pania and Town reefs: December 2021. Prepared for Port of Napier Ltd. Cawthron Report No. 3761. 87 p. plus appendices, notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>All lines of evidence from the Pania Reef monitoring record suggested that there has been no deterioration since the baseline in the marine communities the Reef supports.</i></li> <li>• <i>Diver observations and the photographic and video record also gave no indication of an ecologically significant change in the prevalence of sand and silt accumulations on the reef.</i></li> </ul>
	<p>f) Update the WQ Management Plan around the fishing aspect to better manage moving forward.</p> <p>Paul Rose <b>tabled</b> updates to the WQ Management Plan. Tracked deleted and amendment version <b>attached</b>.</p> <p>A <b>request</b> for comments to be supplied to Paul Rose is <b>noted</b>. This will assist Napier Port to amend the WQ Management Plan for its endorsed at the November 2022 FLG.</p>
	<p>g) Update from commercial fishers on how commercial fishing is going in Hawke Bay.</p> <p>John Stewart <b>spoke</b> to the pre-circulated 'ramp surveys' emailed to the FLG on 30 June 2022. – copy <b>attached</b>. The email notes the following:</p> <p><i>"The 'Colin Murray Ramp Survey' graphs, include catch rates in each of the Hawke's Bay Sports Fishing Clubs competitions over the 2021/22 season.</i></p> <p><i>A special thanks to HBSFC and their members for their continued support of the survey. Also another great piece of support from our Commercial sector in agreeing for the 6th year in a row not to bottom trawl in the "Springs Box "area from 1 December to 28 February each year. This is playing a part in increasing fish stock in the Bay.</i></p> <p><i>Our thanks to the Napier Host Lions for conducting the survey this season at the HBSFC and the Napier Sailing Club ramps and to Sarah Bicknell for collating the data and producing the graphs."</i></p> <p><b>Rick Burch</b> and <b>Karl Warr</b> offered fishing knowledge and comments on fish stocks, noting some decrease in some species i.e. flat fish and the areas where they are now caught compared to previous numbers and locations.</p> <p>Keen to be able to use technology on hand i.e. NIWA ROV (remote operated vehicle).      Post meeting follow-up, for information purposes <a href="https://niwa.co.nz/our-services/instruments/instruments/remote-operated-vehicle">https://niwa.co.nz/our-services/instruments/instruments/remote-operated-vehicle</a></p>

	<p><b>Noted</b> the cause of diminishing fish stocks, amongst other things, may be due to:</p> <p>(a) sediment discharges from rivers into Hawke Bay smothering seabed habitats and killing juvenile fish stocks.</p> <p>(b) Increase in water temperature, as a result of climate change.</p>
7.	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>(a) The constant 'no shows' from Area 2 Committee members and an update to FLG membership.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• It was <b>strongly voiced</b> regarding the lack of attendance at the FLG meetings of the members from the Fisheries Inshore NZ (FINZ) Area 2 Committee representatives on the FLG. This non-attendance is disappointing and reflects a poor performance of those representatives entrusted to the FLG as the 'voice of FINZ'.</li><li>• It was <b>agreed</b> that a FLG letter seeking the formal removal of Hamish Quested and a new nominated FINZ (Area 2 Committee representative) is sent to FINZ for immediate action.</li></ul>
8.	<p>There being no further business, the meeting closed at 4.40 pm.</p>
9.	<p>Next scheduled meeting in 2022 will take place on <b>Wednesday 9 November 2022 at 3.00pm</b> at Napier Port.</p>

## 7.2 FISHERIES BASELINE AND MONITORING

The general principle is to use one commercial fisher as a proxy for all commercial effort at and around the ODA. The fisher is to be contracted by Napier Port.

### 7.2.1 BASELINE FISHERIES DATA REVIEW

~~Subject to agreement to release historical catch data held by Fisheries New Zealand to the contracted fisheries scientist in order to establish the baseline fisheries data set that relates to the project area, and the estimated area of potential effects — the use of the data is restricted to the purposes of undertaking the work set out above~~

~~This data, and that from other commercial fishers working in the area, to be analysed and reported by a recognised fisheries scientist agreed to by the FLG~~

~~Data to be analysed to determine:~~

- ~~• Whether the work related to above is typical of the wider commercial fleet~~
- ~~• What other fishers catch effort data may be useful~~
- ~~• The consistency of the data over time~~
- ~~• Patterns over the last decade that may provide a baseline activity pattern~~
- ~~• Any major changes to catch methods, such as net size~~
- ~~• Useful signals based on previous disposal activities at the consented inshore disposal areas~~
- ~~• Any gaps in data which may need to be filled from alternative sources.~~

Baseline Fisheries Report has been completed by Trident (Oct 2019). This report has been circulated to the FLG

### 7.2.2 BASELINE AND ONGOING TARGETED MONITORING

#### Baseline Monitoring:

~~The appointed commercial fisher used the same fishing set up (net) for the baseline surveys to allow for further comparison to historical fishing data.~~

~~Six (6) x Baseline surveys have been conducted with 2 x trawls per survey event. In addition to Fisheries New Zealand requirements, fish caught were characterised and individually measured.~~

#### Ongoing Targeted Monitoring:

Ongoing targeted monitoring at the ODA is required in order to collect more detailed structured information on fish by:

- Establishing species and location specific data
- Establishing if there any seasonal variations in fish immediately at/or adjacent to the ODA including spawning status, size and structure of the full catch.
- Monitor the recovery at the ODA following disposal activities.
- Establishing relationships between the results of benthic surveys and fisheries at and adjacent to the OSD.

Where practical the commercial fisher is to record and provide additional data, such as full trawl tracks which will enable a better understanding of the spatial extents of the fisheries and full catch including returns to the sea. The commercial fisher is to use a sustainable fishing method (Cage) for ongoing targeted monitoring surveys. This is the current method used for normal fishing activities by the

commercial fisher since 2015 in Hawke Bay. The localised flat fish stock body normally caught and found between Tongoio and Cape Kidnappers is the main concern of the appointed commercial fisher. Additional fishing monitoring data collected during normal fishing activities by the commercial fisher can be used to understand the wider context of this local fish stock body.

#### Surveys

- Surveys to be conducted within proximately to the ODA, with tracks recorded.
- Targeted monitoring surveys where practicable, are conducted once per month. These may are to be conducted over two consecutive days every 2 months. This aspect was proposed by NIWA scientists.
- Each survey consists of two(2) x 3hr tows per day with the cage.
- Each full catch tow including returns to the sea, is to be characterised (species), counted, spawning status, and individually measured.

If monitoring results indicate a major change, then the FLG can request additional research to be conducted.

Subsequent frequency of surveys may be reduced with agreement of the FLG between dredging stages.

The cost of the targeted monitoring surveys and additional research shall be borne by Napier Port.

### 7.2.3 REPORTING

Fisheries report to be completed bi-annually by a fisheries scientist on the yearly catch data held by Fisheries New Zealand provided by the appointed commercial fisher. The FLG can request additional reporting by a fisheries scientist if required. The report is to include data from ongoing targeted monitoring at the ODA and any additional fishing monitoring data collected during normal fishing activities by the commercial fisher. The report should identify (if any) impacts on fishing activity for the year when compared to statutory catch effort and landings data previously reported.

In accordance with the conditions of consent, baseline and subsequent survey reports are to be made available publically on the Napier Port website. It is recognised that the reports may contain information that is commercially sensitive.

- ~~The overarching intent is to have all reports available to the public, as this builds community knowledge, awareness and understanding. That said, it is understood that the Reports resulting from 7.2.1 contain confidential and commercial information which may be tracked back to individuals. A commitment is made to obtain the expressed permission of persons or organisations to which the data relates each year, prior to presentation at the FLG and publication on websites, or to provide edited public versions of the reports where data is significantly aggregated in order not to reveal private and commercial information.~~
- ~~Data resulting from the activities of 7.2.2 are considered not to be commercially sensitive and shall be made available publically in accordance with the conditions of consent.~~

### 7.2.4 LONGEVITY

The Port consent is for 35 years, and this fisheries these fisheries baseline targeted monitoring surveys is envisaged are envisaged to span this period to continue for a minimum of 3-5 years following completion of stage 1 dredging (June 2022) This requirement may be changed with agreement of the FLG. If/When capital dredging stages 2-5 commences in the future then the targeted monitoring survey requirement will also be reviewed and agreed by the FLG before commencing. Given the

duration of time, it is anticipated that critical people or fishing methods may change over this time. This includes fishers, science advice, membership of the FLG and Napier Port personnel.

- Critical elements of the baseline survey to be identified and when necessary contracted in
- Napier Port will take responsibility to oversee transition to other fishers, and fishing method.