

Pipi Fishery Management Plan Steering Committee

Chair's summary – October 2016

The Pipi Fishery Management Plan Steering Committee held its fourth meeting in Melbourne on Monday 17 October 2016.

Key outcomes from that meeting were:

1. The Steering Committee (SC) discussed and resolved several administrative matters.
2. The SC endorsed the Draft Management Objectives to guide the development of the Pipi Fishery Management Plan.
3. Sector Views – SIV, VRFish advised that there was no change from their previous position provided to the committee.
4. The SC noted the draft Fishery Background Paper for public release and agreed that it should be amended following discussion at the meeting, endorsed out-of-session and published on the Fisheries Victoria website.
5. John Morrongiello from the University of Melbourne presented an overview of the Venus Bay Research project 'Assessing the sustainability of Venus Bay's pipi fishery'. The key outputs of the project will be:
 - Spatio-temporal analysis of abundance and size
 - Recruitment time series
 - Size at maturity assessment
 - Oceanographic dispersal model to identify populations contributing to recruitment
 - Estimates of angler activity
6. The SC discussed possible management options for the fishery provided upon request by Fisheries Victoria. This included the data/information required to implement the options to advise research and data collection needs for the plan. The SC will further consider these options as the plan is developed.
7. The SC met with three members of the bait supply industry to get feedback regarding the current state of the bait market and its interaction with the management planning process.

The next meeting of the Steering Committee (#5) will be held in Venus Bay in early December, with the date to be confirmed.

Peter Appleford

Chair

October 2016