

Minutes from PSCHA AGM held August 6th, 2021
Bowen Park Auditorium, Nanaimo, B.C.

Attendees: Thom Liptrot, Barb Shanks, Al Shanks, Bob Hegedus, Clint Ridgway, Raf Kalus, George Dennis, Cory Jackson, John Lindsay, Mark Ulanowski, Eric Ponsford, Stefan Lejer, Glen Dennis, Geoff Krause, Sheila Wood, Darin Macey-Human, Jennifer Harder, Charlie Greaves, Christina Burridge

There were 35 licenses represented in person or by proxy.
19 in attendance

Motion to approve agenda: Motion to approve by Al Shanks, Seconded by Mark Ulanowski – approved

Motion to approve 2020 AGM minutes: Motion to approve by Sheila Wood and seconded by Clint Ridgway – approved

President's Address

We have some new ground re-opening this year on the West Coast of Vancouver Island in Kyuquot.

This area was surveyed last summer, and results showed an allowable annual harvest of 18,000 lbs.

Due to the logistical challenges of trucking and validation, we are going to harvest two years' worth of quota this upcoming season. Give it a two year rest and repeat.

This new quota as well as the three new quotas in Nootka / Tahsis have enabled us to lower the annual quotas in the Gulf.

Another challenge with all the West Coast product is the water loss reported by all buyers.

It comes down to the absence of de-watering that we all get done in Port Hardy, Prince Rupert and Campbell River.

We need three portable de-watering platforms to service our West Coast offloads.

With regards to the annual lottery, we need to draw 8 licenses to move from North and Central for their turn in balancing our fishery.

Five will be needed on the West Coast, and three on the inside waters.

Last year Slow Mo took three central licenses to fish Nootka/Tahsis. Fishing was good but transportation and off loads had its challenges.

Due to the long runs back to Gold River and the cost of validation, boats that fish this area will need to be able to hold two-day loads.

Legal Challenge

In June this year we joined eight other fishing associations in a civil claim against the federal government for loss of access to traditional fishing grounds in Gwaii Haanas national park in Haida Gwaii.

The UHA is leading the charge on this legal challenge.

To date, UHA lawyers and crown lawyers have met before a judge to determine if there is grounds for a trial.

Not sure when the judge will rule on this.

The costs associated with this are substantial, and all associations that have joined the fight are contributing to the immediate costs incurred by the UHA.

This legal challenge, if successful, will set the stage for future loss of access to fishing grounds in the Northern Shelf Bio Region.

On the survey front, three areas had transect surveys completed in May and June.

Laredo Channel, Surf Inlet, Queens Sound, and Spider/Kildiht.

Motion to build a dewatering system: Moved by Charlie, seconded by John - approved

Lottery drawn by Sheila – 9 tabs:

Floater: Tab 79

8 Tabs: 87, 13, 68, 18, 4, 80, 73, 42

Motion to accept lottery results: John moved, Raf seconded – approved

Discussion started by Charlie who gets the west coast – decided to pull 4 west coast tabs within those pulled to decide

Motion to draw 5 west coast licenses of the 8 tabs – made by Charlie, seconded by Bob, approved
Sheila to draw – Tab #'s: 42, 80, 68, 87, 73 (replaced tab 18 with 87)

Barb - discussion around a private forum for owners on the website

Motion for a membership owners site asap – motioned by Sheila, seconded by John – approved

Question by Charlie –? Trade is official once Thom gives tab #'s to Pauline and they get registered

Financials

Barb briefly discussed the financials, highlighting the expenses this past year to redo the website and hire a contractor to do social media like Facebook, Instagram, Twitter to get some industry information out there. As well the lack of spending for trade shoes due to Covid 19. Geoff was able to get most of the spending on the social media approved with Agri Canada.

Motion to accept financials: Bob moved, Charlie seconded - approved

Geoff Krause

- February and March meetings took place that were advertised to address issues of concern for various sectors
- Marine Protected Areas Technical team (MPATT) introduced their Second Draft Scenario
- FN seems to be demonstrating good faith on the need to work together. Seeking new balance based on their priorities include identifying and growing economic/business opportunities with an environmentally sound framework
- MATT reported improvement on impacts between 1st and 2nd drafts for the Central Coast in terms of the number of zones protected, down by 34%
- Hoping some of the Management Partners are apparently starting to see reality on the impacts of North Shelf Bio-Region MPA network.
- FN people and enterprises currently account for about a third, and rising, of all commercial licences on the Pacific coast so although there are undoubtedly a lot of issues still under study and negotiation, it seems to me that most of them have been around the block and are practical and realistic enough that they are not wanting to blow the industry up. It is after all an industry that holds possibly the most potential for them to find and develop modern economic opportunities that fit in with their world view, lifestyles, community plans and even their values.
- Still members on the governance council yet to declare what they feel about “The Plan”
- The Plan essentially rejects the regional approach developed by science and management over the past Century in favour of a balkanized territorial system which treats each area separately and independently of adjacent ones without the sort of integration that characterizes a true system
- It also seems the conservation and ecological targets are in some cases subordinate to cultural priorities of individual FN's, probably something they like to hear on both counts
- 10 year review of the California Marine Life Protection Act (MLPA) which gave rise to the MPA network that ENGO's active up here consider such an exemplary success, is coming up next year
- It seems the biological findings of independent work done to date are reportedly mixed while the economic impacts are not
- On the biology side, part of the problem is that the findings from studies looking at the effects of treatments (like the establishment of an MPA) are generally open to some degree of interpretation
- This complicates things as different groups bring different priorities and perspectives to the table
- One party for example might see a clear positive effect in say the abundance of large fish in a certain refuge, while others see more random confounding sampling errors which quite simply confuses the whole issue

- Depending on the “Science process”, the one which uses the peer review process to reconcile opposing viewpoints and ensure assumptions and findings reflect reality (data) is the best way forward
- We are now too easily beset by accusations of bias, misinformation, and fake news and that even in science, manipulation of public opinion often counts for more than facts
- ENGO’s have been accused of cherry picking data to support their claims while ignoring unsupportive or contradictory data
- It now seems that there will be more time for scientists to review the reality(ies) in the California experience before BC and Canada actually irrevocably make that jump

Election of Directors:

Slate to present – Thom Liptrot, Bob Hegedus, Clint Ridgway, Barb Shanks, Paulo Demee, John Parkin, Cory Jackson, Raf Kalus, Alfa Wong.

Cory Jackson will be taking Al Shank’s place

Thom - any more nominations for directors?

Motion to accept the slate as presented: Rafi moved, John seconded - approved.

2020 D&D Pacific Presentation

CANADIAN PACIFIC SEA CUCUMBER FISHERY

SEASON SUMMARY

2020 Management Plan Review

- ☑ **2020 Fishing Season** was October 1, 2020 to December 7th, 2020 with scheduled Quota Management Area (QMA) openings and closures
- ☑ **An Adaptive Rotational Fishing Strategy (ARFS)** initiated in 2011 continues in its’ fourth 3-year cycle
- ☑ **Total Allowable Catch (TAC) for 2020** was 1,275,000 pounds split weight, a reduction of 1,000 lbs. per licence
- ☑ **ZD Quota** at 15,000 pounds split weight per licence
- ☑ **Area Licensing** in 2020 (a Vessel can be registered in several areas):
 - ☑ NC = 31 licenses. (31 in 2019)
 - ☑ CC = 25 licenses (28 in 2019)
 - ☑ ECVI = 24 licenses (23 in 2019)
 - ☑ WCVI = 5 licenses (3 in 2019)

2020 Harvest Summary & Fishery Dynamics

- ☑ The 2020 fishing season opened October 1st in the North Coast in QMA 6F, and in the ECVI region in QMA 11A
- ☑ Harvest effort was organized and the fleet worked through Quota Management Areas (QMAs) efficiently
- ☑ First dive date: October 1st 2020. Last dive date: December 10th, 2020. An extension was granted due to weather issue in Rivers Inlet
- ☑ The Association utilized a sequential QMA opening format for the 2020 season
- ☑ As in the past, landings dominated in October by very strong margins: Almost 90% of landings occurred in October. This is the same patterns as in prior seasons as the fleet size drops near the end of the QMA Schedule
- ☑ Eighty-five licenses were registered this season.
- ☑ Thirty-one vessels were active in 2020 (35 in 2019)
- Nine vessels active in two licence regions
- One vessel was active in three regions).
- ☑ Total landings amounted to 1,277,408 lbs.
- ☑ 2,408 lbs. over the TAC, an overall overage of 0.19% (.4%. overage in 2019)

Activities by Region and QMAs

North Coast

- ☑ The North Coast was active for the month of October with 15 vessels
- ☑ One in-season re-designation occurred in the north coast
- ☑ Prince Rupert and Klemtu were the landing ports

- 2 vessels fished the NC region and packed their own product to port and utilized a packer during the season

Central Coast

- Harvest in the central coast ceased in first week of November, and resumed harvest activity later in the month and into December due to a landslide in Rivers Inlet, extending the closing date of the fishery to December 10th, 2020 in this region only
- The central coast fishery had 13 vessels active
- One re-designation occurred during the season (10 in 2019)
- Klemtu and Port Hardy were the landing ports

East Coast Vancouver Island

- The ECVI opened the same time as the North Coast (Oct 01) in efforts to harvest around weather patterns that hinder visibility in QMA 11, and can push harvest past the closing date of the fishery
- Harvest started on October 1st, and continued until the last day of harvest Dec 07, 2020
- 3 in-season re-designations occurred in the ECVI in-season
- 13 vessels were active overall
- Multiple Landing Ports used on the East Coast of Vancouver Island and the Sunshine Coast
- Primary Landing Ports were Port Hardy and Wal Can Seafoods on Quadra Island
- A fallback quota was optioned as the bio-mass in 18A seemed to be low by industry and
- 13D quota increased by 9,000 lbs. and 18A was reduced to Zero
- A quota correction in the IFMP had 16D replaced with 16C during the season

West Coast Vancouver Island

- 5 tabs active, with 3 tabs being fished by one vessel
- Tofino and Gold River were the landing ports

Landings by Quota Management Area

- Overall achievement rate of 100.19% (100.43% last season)

License Activity

- Eighty-five licenses were active and fished by 31 individuals vessels
- Seven re-designations occurred this season (2 prior to the opening date)

Overages and NTOs

Buyer / Processor Activity

- There were 12 buyers active for the 2020 season (7 in 2019 & 8 in 2018)
- Landings were mainly shared between three buyers purchasing 65% of the product. The remaining 35% was split between nine buyers, a dramatic increase in buyers
- The number of processing plants are similar to previous seasons which indicate more custom processing in certified plants for other buyers
- Comments from buyers are few. They were related to random issues with their vessels, packers and logistics within their own business plan
- Comments relating to product were minimal and related to size of product received
- Certain buyers took breaks throughout the season in order to maintain processing levels due to manpower and time to process

Compliance

- The Pacific Sea Cucumber Harvesters Association (PSCCHA) provides fleet coordinators who assist in daily logistics from the fishing grounds with managers at D&D. The coordinators communicate to the fleet updates from D&D on fishery related issues
- 76 incident reports were issued this season (68 in 2019)
- Breakdown of Incident Reports:
 - High Priority: 0
 - Medium Priority: 76
 - Low Priority: 0
- Medium Priority of Incidents varied in definitions, and their infractions to the Conditions of Licence.
- The majority of Incidents related to:
- Missing Harvest information, NTO's, Incorrect or missing harvest data, Wrong statistical sub area or wrong QMA recorded on log page.

- ☑ The majority of Non-Compliance issues were dealt with each vessel during the course of the fishery.
- Reports were received, forwarded to DFO C&P and/or dealt with D&D in a timely manner

Problems & Issues

- ☑ Problems were minor this season and were dealt with as they occurred
- ☑ Landslide in Rivers Inlet rendered visibility to zero. The fleet delayed fishing and extended the season in the Central coast to December 11th, 2020
- ☑ 2 licenses were still outstanding on missing information as of June 1st 2021. All data received and sent to DFO SDU

Conclusion

- ☑ Minor issues occurred, and were dealt with in real time
- ☑ The sequential opening format supported the fishing effort and processing capacities Changes to the sequence of openings occur in-season
- ☑ All Harvest Data and Charts received by D&D from industry have been digitized, and delivered to DFO's Shell Fish Data Unit
- ☑ Electronic Charts, IFMP and other relevant fishery information provided by D&D online was received well and will continue
- ☑ It is D&D's point of view that problems and issues that arise in commercial fisheries are best resolved in a timely fashion, and the Management of the 2020-2021 season would not have been so effective if it was not for the dedicated time and effort of; The PSCHA On-Ground Coordinators who were in contact with D&D daily ensuring communication to the fleet from D&D. We thank all of them
 - ☑ The Buyers/Processors who assisted D&D in issues that arose during the course of the fishery
 - ☑ DFO Resource Management for expediting D&D requests in the short timeframe of the Sea Cucumber fishery
 - ☑ Ha'oom Fisheries Society for organizing their vessels with D&D and the PSCHA prior to the fishery, and
 - ☑ Kitasoo First Nation for organization of their vessels and processing facility for validation in Klemtu
 - ☑ The PSCHA Management staff for organization of the fishery logistics prior to the opening of the season

Motion to keep D&D Pacific as Validation Contractor as approved – Mark moved, Clint seconded -approved

2021 Management Plan presentation – DFO (Thom presented)

Working together with Kitasoo/Xaixais First Nations (KX)

- KX hold several commercial licence eligibilities and process Sea Cucumbers in Klemtu. They've also been an important partner on Sea Cucumber research for 28 years.
- Partnering with KX on research, assessment and management of Sea Cucumbers in the KX area to give them opportunity to fish and process locally.
- Working together to increase the number of assessment surveys in the KX area.
- Making several changes in 2021 and beyond to support this partnership including:
 - Changing boundaries of some Quota Management Areas
 - Moving some Quota Management Areas in the NC and CC from a rotational schedule to an annual schedule
 - Considering different harvest rates to support a research initiative
- Recommendations: From survey completed by the KX team and contract divers with support from DFO Science for the transect placement and analysis
 - This area is not productive so we will use a lower harvest rate moving forward
 - Will move it from a rotational strategy to an annual strategy
 - Will split 6-12 (Surf Inlet) off from the old QMA

Planning for the 2021 Fishery

- Total Allowable Catch = Return to 1.36 million pounds
- Individual Quota = Return to 16,000 pounds
- 2021 is Year 2 of the 3 year cycle of the Adaptive Rotational Fishing

Strategy (ARFS). Some QMAs will be fished on a rotational schedule and some on an annual schedule.

- Plan is to move 2 licences from CC to NC to support the KX initiative
- Licences will also need to move from NC and CC to ECVI and at least one licence needs to move to WCVI for 2021 to fish in Kyuquot.

North Coast Licence Area – 2021 Fishery

- 4C North Porcher 94,885 Rotational 2018
- 5A West Banks 68,277 Rotational 2018
- 5D South Porcher 72,065 Rotational 2018
- 5I Grenville South 33,113 Rotational 2018
- 6G Kitimat Arm 51,885 Rotational 2018
- 6H Douglas Channel 78,660 Rotational 2018
- 6I Gribbell Island 96,062 Rotational 2018
- 6E Princess Royal Channel 20,417 Annual 2020
- 6J Surf Inlet 6,528 Annual 2017
- 6K Laredo Channel 6,108 Annual 2017
- **Total 528,000 33 Licences**
- Fallback Quota available in QMA 5A = 10,276 lbs.
- Boundary Change – QMA 7B split into 2 smaller QMAs
- Note: QMA 7P will be fished annually. Starting with a quota of 5,000 lbs but will reassess after it has been fished in 2021.
- QMA 7Q is still a rotational area and its next scheduled harvest is 2022.

Central Coast Licence Area – 2021 Fishery

- 7F Denny Island 172,554 Rotational 2018
- 8B Calvert Island 155,652 Rotational 2018
- 7N Finlayson North 10,701 Annual 2020
- 7O Finlayson South 12,382 Annual 2020
- 7P Milbanke Sound 5,000 Annual 2019
- 10A Smith Inlet 27,711 Annual 2020
- **Total 384,000 24 Licences**
- Fallback Quota in QMA 8B Calvert Island = 5,018 lbs.

ECVI Licence Area – 2021 Fishery - Rotational

- 11E Allison Harbour 34,430 Rotational/10% 2018
- **12M Port Hardy (NEW) 44,000** Rotational/10% 2018
- **12N Goletas Channel (NEW)**
- **66,000** Rotational/10% 2018
- **12O Walker/Deserters (NEW)**
- **20,000** Rotational/10% 2018
- 12K Port Harvey 29,552 Rotational/10% 2017
- 13B North Area 13 33,723 Rotational/10% 2018
- 13C East Thurlow Island 58,295 Rotational/10% 2018
- **Total 286,000**
- ECVI Licence Area – 2021 Fishery Annual
- 11A Belize Inlet 8,000 Annual 2020
- 11B Seymour Inlet 8,000 Annual 2020

- 15A West Redonda Island 5,000 Annual 2020
- 15B East Redonda Island 5,000 Annual 2020
- 15C South Desolation 5,000 Annual 2020
- 16A Sechelt Inlet 5,000 Annual 2020
- 16C Texada Island 5,000 Annual 2020
- 16D Lasqueti Island 9,000 Annual 2019
- **Annual Type Total 50,000**
- **Licence Area Total 336,000 21 Licences**
- Note: Fallback Quota is available in most of the annual QMAs in 2021
- Proposal to reopen portions of Management Area 26

WCVI Licence Area – 2021 Fishery

- 24A North Clayoquot 20,000 Annual 2019
- 24B South Clayoquot 12,000 Annual 2019
- 25A Nootka/Tahsis 20,000 Annual 2020
- 25B Muchalat/Tlupana 28,000 Annual 2020
- 26A Kyuquot* 32,000 Rotational/2yr n/a
- **Licence Area Total 112,000 7 licences**
- *Further consultation needed
- 5,925 lbs of Fallback Quota is available in QMAs 25A and 25B

IFMP Timeline

- Draft 2021/22 IFMP 30-day consultation period between July 9 and August 8, 2021
- Mid August – IFMP goes for sign-off by RDG
- Mid September – Licensing begins.
- October 1 – North Coast Licence Area and some of ECVI Licence Area opens
- October 8 – Central, ECVI, WCVI licence areas open.

Thanks!

- For advice on licence movement between licence areas
- For filling out and submitting harvest questionnaires each season
- For advice on quotas and boundary changes
- Thanks to those that offered their licence eligibilities in the last Pacific Integrated Commercial Fisheries Initiative (PICFI) purchasing round. DFO was able to acquire 2 licence eligibilities that will be used to increase First Nations participation in the commercial fishery. DFO is interested in acquiring more licences so please consider future PICFI purchasing rounds.

Break for lunch

Marketing & Expo report by Geoff

- Have been approved for AMP funding for another couple of years
- The total budget comes in at about \$163 K over 2 years with the AMP providing half (\$~ 81.4 K). If everything works as planned (hoped) PSCHA would be on the hook for about \$51.4 K for the 2 years with members and processors in for about \$30 K between them- those are generally 50% of their travelling costs
- Planning for this year is some continuing market research as well as updates to the video on the fishery, social media, and website
- May be able to slide in a new model in this section as well, a soft silicone model
- Increased that part of the budget because when we got the approval the budget included about \$17K (~\$8.5 K at 50% dollars which is what AMP provides) for a trip to China in November to the CFSE. That

not being a particularly attractive prospect at this point, I thought it best to reallocate those funds so we could use them. I went with providing an extra \$6K boost for the marketing materials- that would include the social media, video and website. The government folks also seem to be focusing a bit more on translations of stuff we do into French so I was thinking getting a few more pieces translated might be a not bad idea

- Boston is still planned for March 2022 (hoping to have fellow travellers)
- Barcelona still planned for April 2022
- Comox Valley planned for June 2022
- we received all the funds we claimed from the government to support our program for the past year. Spending last year was approved to about \$84 K but was limited to \$21 K because all the travel parts were eliminated
- We did manage to get a website and video refresh and an enhanced social media campaign included which brought things up to about \$35 K
- our claim last year had to reconcile all the spending and claimed funds over the 3 years up to that point, part of the problem there being that we claimed more than 50% in Year 1 with the intention of paying more than 50% over the next 2 years
- instead of getting about \$17.6K to cover 50% of project spending last year we only got about \$12 K so contributions from AAFC and PSCHA over the 3 year course of the project balanced out at 50% each

BC Seafood Alliance – Christina Burridge

1. Devastating economic consequences for entire BC coastal economy, not just in Northern Shelf Bioregion and not just commercial fisheries and participants (Indigenous and non-Indigenous) but communities coastwide.

2. Undermines ability to advance Reconciliation as loss of critical infrastructure will mean First Nations unable to maximize economic opportunities.

3. Impossible to meet Blue Economy Strategy goals for more value from commercial fisheries and more jobs in coastal and Indigenous communities.

4. Governments need to commit to a comprehensive Reconciliation transition plan, including compensation, for BC commercial fisheries.

“[A sustainable blue economy strategy]...will provide good jobs and be inclusive, advance reconciliation with Indigenous peoples, respect regional differences and needs, and contribute to a clean and healthy ocean.”

“...marine spatial planning brings together relevant decision-making authorities to collaboratively design an integrated plan that will guide the use and management of marine spaces in order to achieve a full range of ecological, economic, and social objectives.”

“Commercial fishing is incredibly important to the local economies of Canada’s coastal regions and the well-being of Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities. Whether it be large- or small-scale operations, commercial fishing is often the single largest source of local jobs in these regions.”

Canada’s Marine Conservation as of December 31, 2020

Source: Canada’s Conserved Areas – Canadian Environmental Sustainability Indicators, ECCC (May 2021)

- BC bearing disproportionate share of Canada’s marine conservation
 - 24.4% already conserved
 - 35.5% when Offshore AOI designated
- Northern Shelf Bioregion (NSB)
 - only 1.7% of Canada’s marine territory
 - 16.4% of NSB already conserved, contributes <0.3% to Canada’s marine conservation

Small Conservation Gains for Canada, Big Economic Losses for BC

Devastating economic consequences

- losses for coastal communities will be coastwide, long-lasting and hard to reverse

- loss of commercial fishing operations in NSB and throughout coast, with smaller operators and young fishermen being hit particularly hard
- loss of critical infrastructure (fuel docks, offload stations, ice houses, seafood processing, trucking, gear/equipment/electronics suppliers)
- loss of local and international markets
- loss of programs needed to support DFO's mandate for sustainable resource management
- (research, surveys, catch data, monitoring and compliance)

Conflicts with Canada's goals for Reconciliation

- First Nations will not be able to maximize commercial fishing economic opportunities
- fish harvesting alone can't do it, need supporting infrastructure

Conflicts with Canada's goals for a Blue Economy Strategy (BES)

- decimated commercial fisheries without infrastructure, supply chain and markets cannot deliver BES objectives: sustainable economic growth impossible
- creation of more jobs in coastal and Indigenous communities impossible

Marine Planning Team (MPT)

- established by BC Seafood Alliance members in 2017 to integrate input from commercial fisheries into marine spatial planning processes:
 - Gwaii Haanas National Marine Conservation Area (NMCA) zoning
 - Northern Shelf Bioregion (NSB) MPA Network
- help design marine spatial plans that balance ecological, cultural and socio-economic objectives consistent with the goals outlined in the Blue Economy Strategy Engagement Paper

NSB MPA Network Governing partners

- Canada, BC, 17 First Nations
- draft zoning scenario 1 released Feb 2019 adds another ~0.3% to Canada's marine conservation
 - advice requested from stakeholders on achieving ecological and cultural conservation targets using a network of protection zones while minimizing socio-economic impacts
 - commercial fishing by far the most impacted stakeholder group
 - reduced access to most productive fishing grounds by up to 40%
 - MPT launches process to engage fishermen

MPT Advice:

- **new zoning map that: met or exceeded conservation targets significantly reduced economic impacts**

Goal:

- achieve a network of MPAs within NSB that meets conservation targets at least as well as draft Scenario 1 while minimizing socio-economic impacts

Comprehensive process:

- based on successful approach MPT used for Gwaii Haanas NMCA zoning
- 36 meetings in 9 coastal communities
- over 700 participants (First Nations and non-First Nations) from 27 different commercial fisheries
- 14+ meeting with First Nations Partners, ENGOs and coastal community groups provided advice February 2020

Primary objectives Draft Scenario 9 June 2021

- Reconciliation
- Direct conflict with Blue Economy Strategy Achievement of ecological conservation and cultural conservation targets

Achievement of ecological conservation and cultural conservation targets

- Individual FN territory level, leading to zone-by-zone approach

- Results in overshooting of targets and greater economic costs

Ability to make trade-offs in zoning at the regional and network level to mitigate socio-economic impacts while still achieving conservation targets

- Very limited or not possible with zone-by-zone approach
- No longer focused on targets

Ability to assess relative ecological merits of scenario and alternative scenarios Possible

- Not possible (because zoning phased in over time and northern Vancouver Island and part of North Coast not included)

Ability to undertake comprehensive socio-economic impact analysis of entire network and revisions

- Not possible

Incorporates existing effective fisheries management measures and associated protections

- No

What this means

1. Massive impacts and change for BC commercial fisheries and coastal and Indigenous communities

– removing at least \$125 million annually from BC coastal economy

– will make the Blue Economy Strategy meaningless for commercial fisheries

– will undermine ability to advance Reconciliation

2. Governments must acknowledge what NSB MPA network and Reconciliation will mean for BC commercial fisheries, including First Nations fishing operations and fishermen, and pro-actively and honestly engage impacted stakeholders

3. A comprehensive Reconciliation transition plan, including compensation, is essential

– Reconciliation is a national imperative and one that BC commercial fisheries support

4. BC commercial fishing families should not have to disproportionately bear the cost of Reconciliation through loss of livelihood without compensation and transitional support

Sheila Wood thanked the members for the going away gift of a day spa. Sheila was secretary/treasurer for 20 years for this association and has been a valuable member of this association.

Motion to adjourn meeting was made by Al Shanks, seconded by Clint – approved

Meeting Adjourned at 315pm.