

## Communique

Meeting No: 2018.04  
25 June 2018

### **The Aquaculture and Wild Catch Industry Reference Committee (IRC) held a meeting on 25 June 2018 in Melbourne.**

This was the fourth meeting for 2018 with the committee welcoming two new organisational members joining the IRC from South Australian Oyster Growers Association and Southern Rock Lobster Ltd. In addition to the usual business responsibilities of the IRC, a training session on Evidence Based Decision Making was incorporated for their professional development.

#### **KPMG – Evidence Based Decision Making**

Two representatives from KPMG presented a 90 minute session on Evidence Based Decision Making. This was a professional development opportunity highlighting why it is important to ensure information produced from an IRC is reliable and can be defended in the face of criticism. There was active discussion and break-out groups as part of the training covering;

- Different bias in decision-making
- How the IRC can improve their decision-making
- Strengthening the IRC case in the written word when reporting data
- Stepping the IRC through the framework process
  - ✓ Identification of issue and framing the criteria
  - ✓ Generating options
  - ✓ Gathering evidence
  - ✓ Evaluating options
  - ✓ Selecting an option
  - ✓ Reviewing the decision-making process

#### **IRC Skills Forecast & Proposed Schedule of Work 2018 - 2021**

The IRC were pleased the AISC had approved the latest Skills Forecast and in particular supported their priority one, case for change – Seafood Industry Compliance.

The IRC discussed the timing of the Skills Forecast and collection of industry intelligence. The Skills Forecast is an evolving document and the committee agreed that key information relevant to the Skills Forecast of industry trends, skills gaps, barriers and challenges need to be collected now. The Committee welcomed the recent appointment of an Industry Research Manager at Skills Impact to assist them with work going forward.

#### **Current Projects Update**

Skills Impact provided an update to the IRC, on the Subject Matter Expert meetings that had been held in June in Adelaide, Sydney and Melbourne.

As part of the report the following information was noted;

- All sector agreed outcomes
- Aquaculture, Fishing Operations & Biosecurity agree outcomes
- Post-Harvest agree outcomes
- Proposed Skills Sets
- SME Feedback
- Next Steps

# Aquaculture and Wild Catch Industry Reference Committee

The IRC discussed the ongoing involvement of the Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) and the proposed locations for the national *SFI Public Consultation Roadshow*. The IRC were satisfied with the eleven (11) locations plus six (6) webinars for the consultative process to occur. They approved the consultation plan and the development of a flyer to assist in the promotion of the dates and encourage participation.

## Case for Change

The IRC approved the proposed plan for the Seafood Industry Compliance project. The Committee was satisfied with the approach and rationale for the plan and contributed further to the stakeholder matrix, nominating a number of SME's to kick-off the project.

The IRC also approved the rationale for a project extension request to the Department of Education and Training for all three current projects end date to be extended by four months. The extension, if approved, will ensure the national *SFI Seafood Industry Training Package* is submitted to the AISC for endorsement in full, at the same time.

## Project Expectations

The IRC approved the Project Expectations document that was drafted at their request, which outlined project definitions and timeframes of the training package development process. They requested a minor amendment. The document will assist stakeholders understanding the process and the expectations of their time and input. The IRC supported the document be accessible beyond themselves.

## Other Business

General discussion was had around online delivery difficulties, possible use of conservation and land management (AHC) biosecurity units of competency linking into the SFI Certificate IV Aquaculture.

Discussion was had around various data sources that can be used when collating statistics and best methods for the purpose of evidenced based decision making.

Enrolments in Certificate III Aquaculture and the pros and cons of skills sets was discussed and their link, if any, to state based funding.

Information for career and educational pathways support for the industry was also discussed and what is already available to assist industry in this area.

## Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Aquaculture and Wild Catch IRC is to be advised.