

Not relevant



38

MAFF0007/03CS

Aquaculture Advisory Committee Membership
APPROVED

Not relevant



MINUTES forming ENCLOSURE to

MAFF 03/0007CS

TO: THE PREMIER FOR CABINET SUB COMMITTEE

RE: AQUACULTURE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

1. PROPOSAL

1.1 To seek Cabinet endorsement for the extension of the Aquaculture Advisory Committee's current membership until 22nd May 2005, and for the appointment of Ms Margi Prideaux to the vacant Environment and Conservation position on the Committee.

2. BACKGROUND

2.1 The *Aquaculture Act 2001* established the Aquaculture Advisory Committee (AAC) whose role is:

- (a) To advise the Minister on any matter relating to aquaculture that should, in the opinion of the AAC, be brought to the Minister's attention; and
- (b) to advise the Minister (on its own initiative or at the request of the Minister) on-
 - i. the administration of the Act; and
 - ii. the policies that govern, or should govern, the administration of the Act; and
 - iii. proposals to make regulations under the Act, or to make amendments to the Act; and
- (c) any other functions assigned to the AAC by the Act or the Minister.

2.2 Initial appointments to the AAC were made in May 2002 under the provisions of the *Acts Interpretation Act 1915*, prior to the commencement of the Aquaculture Act on 1st July 2002.

2.3 Section 65 of the Aquaculture Act states that "a member of the AAC will be appointed on conditions determined by the Governor for a term, not exceeding 3 years, specified in the instrument of appointment and, at the expiration of a term of appointment, is eligible for reappointment".

3. DISCUSSION

3.1 Extension of the AAC's membership to the 22nd May 2005 will bring the terms of the majority of current members to three years, as allowed for in Section 66 of the Aquaculture Act.

3.2 Following initial appointments the Local Government Association's interim nomination, Garth Heynen, resigned on 9th September 2002 and was replaced by Fred Pedler as the Local Government representative on 23rd September 2002.

3.3 Further, the Environment and Conservation member, Michelle Grady, resigned on 22nd October 2002 due to work commitments. According to Section 65(1)(f) of the *Aquaculture Act 2001*, this position is required to be filled by a person who has an appropriate practical knowledge of and experience in environmental conservation and advocacy on environmental matters on behalf of community organisations. In addition, Section 65(2) requires that at least one member of the AAC must be a woman and at least one must be a man. A recent nomination from Ms Margi Prideaux meets the necessary criteria.

3.4 Since the AAC's establishment members have been involved in the development of a range of policies including Cost Recovery, Environmental Management, Resource Management, Tenure Allocation, Leasing and Licensing and the Lower Eyre Zone Policies, as well as providing advice to the Minister to support decision making. Continuity of membership until May 2005 will enable the key policies supporting the Act to be finalised and brought into operation.

3.5 Economic, financial and budget implications

AAC members are currently paid a sitting fee of \$160 per four hour session, while the Presiding Member is paid a sitting fee of \$190 per four hour session. Sitting fees are not paid to government employees or officers of the Crown.

The Presiding Member has indicated that a review of sitting fees may be appropriate given the substantial amount of out of session work undertaken by members.

In the meantime, however, provision has been made in PIRSA Aquaculture's budget for sitting fees and associated meeting expenses.

3.6 State development, social, environmental and other impacts

The AAC ensures an integrated approach to the development and endorsement of statutory policies that will ensure the ecologically sustainable development of aquaculture in South Australia.

3.7 Staffing implications

Executive support to the AAC is performed by existing PIRSA Aquaculture staff.

3.8 Consultation

A comprehensive consultation process was conducted during the development of the Aquaculture Act. This included the establishment of an interagency group where the composition and function of the AAC was discussed at length.

This proposal to extend membership has been referred to the Departments of Treasury and Finance, Human Services, Environment and Heritage, Water Land and Biodiversity Conservation, the Office of Economic Development, Office of Regional Affairs and the Department of Premier and Cabinet, however no issues were raised.

3.9 Executive Council

The *Aquaculture Act 2001* requires that the Governor in Executive Council will appoint members to the AAC.

4. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Her Excellency the Governor in Executive Council:

- 4.1 Endorse the appointment of the following members to the Aquaculture Advisory Committee in accordance with Section 65 of the *Aquaculture Act 2001* for the period 23rd May 2003 to 22nd May 2005.

Presiding Member
Mr Richard Stevens

Industry Representatives
Mr Bruce Zippel
Mr Brian Jeffriess
Mr Michael Whillas
Mr Hagen Stehr

Research and Development
Professor Anthony Cheshire

Aquaculture Act 2001
Mr Ian Nightingale

Environment Protection Act 1993
Mr Peter Dolan

- 4.2 Endorse the proposal to appoint the following member to the Aquaculture Advisory Committee in accordance with Section 65 of the *Aquaculture Act 2001* for the period 30 September 2003 to 22nd May 2005.

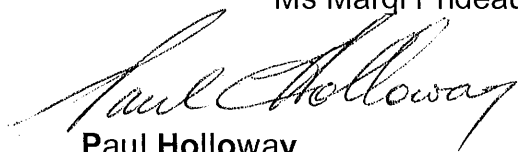
Local Government

Mr Fred Pedler

- 4.3 Endorse the appointment of the following member to the Aquaculture Advisory Committee in accordance with Section 65 of the *Aquaculture Act 2001* from the date of Executive Council approval until 22nd May 2005.

Environment and Conservation

Ms Margi Prideaux

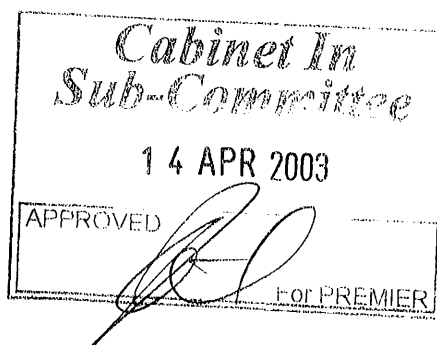
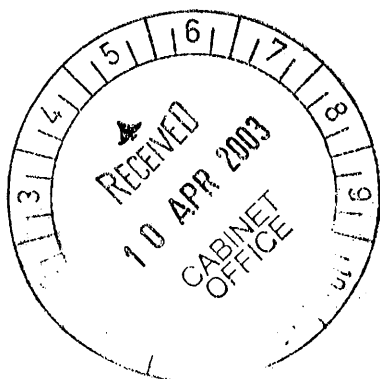


Paul Holloway

Minister for Agriculture, Food and Fisheries
Minister for Mineral Resources Development

Date:

10/4/03



AQUACULTURE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MEMBERSHIP

RICHARD STEVENS

Mr Stevens has an excellent knowledge of government and the aquaculture and fisheries sectors, having been the Executive Officer of the South Australian Fishing Industry Council (1977 – 79), Director of Fisheries (1980-87), Managing Director of the Australian Fisheries Management Authority (1992-98) and Deputy Chief Executive of PIRSA (1998-2000).

BRUCE ZIPPEL

Mr Zippel is a shellfish farmer at Smoky Bay, primarily focused on pacific oysters but now investigating other species. Mr Zippel is the Chairman of the National Aquaculture Council, having been a Board Member since it's inception. In addition, Mr Zippel is the Inaugural and current Chairman of the South Australian Aquaculture Council and has also been a Chairman of South Australian Oyster Growers Association (SAOGA), the inaugural director of the South Australian Oyster Research Council and a representative on the National Seafood Industry Training Advisory Board and the National Aquaculture Development Committee.

BRIAN JEFFRIESS

Mr Jeffriess is the President of the Tuna Boat Owners Association, Director of the Aquafin CRC, Chair of the National Aquaculture Agenda and seafood member of the Quarantine and Export Advisory Council. These positions, in addition to Mr Jeffriess' role as a member of the previous Aquaculture Advisory Committee, demonstrate his commitment to sustainable development of aquaculture and a strong appreciation of the roles that various stakeholders contribute.

MICHAEL WHILLAS

While Mr Whillas' background is in oyster farming, he has been an active participant in a number of more broad aquaculture fora that have provided strategic and policy direction to State and Federal governments. Mr Whillas has been the President of SAOGA since 1998 and a Director of the SA Seafood Council since 1999.

HAGEN STEHR

Mr Stehr has been involved in many areas of the aquaculture industry, including tuna farming, yellow tail kingfish and mulloway. In addition, he has been heavily involved in the hatchery development at Arno Bay, and has plans underway to establish a Southern Bluefin Tuna (SBT) propagation site later this year. Mr Stehr is a member of the South Australian Aquaculture Council, the Chairman of the Seafood Industry Training Council and Founder and Chairman of the Australian Fisheries Academy.

PROFESSOR ANTHONY CHESHIRE

Prof Cheshire is the Chief Scientist with SARDI Aquatic Sciences. His first research program relating to aquaculture was in 1994, with the objective to establish the foundation for the assessment of the environmental effects of tuna farming. The past two years have been concentrated into the development of projects primarily focused on the environmental effects of seacage culture, addressing monitoring methodologies, the quantification of waste streams, approaches to waste mitigation and the development of methods for regional environmental assessments.

FRED PEDLER

Mr Pedler is the Executive Officer of the Southern and Hills Local Government Association. Prior to taking up this role in December 1999, Mr Pedler was the Town Clerk for the City of Port Lincoln from 1984 to 1999, and District Clerk with three Councils in different areas of the State. He has tertiary qualifications in local government administration and accounting, is a Fellow of Local Government Managers Australia, a Professional National Accountant and a Justice of the Peace. Mr Pedler's involvement in aquaculture includes his membership of the Eyre Peninsula Local Government Association's Aquaculture Advisory Committee, membership of the Community Reference Group for developing the Aquaculture Bill, and was a member of the former Aquaculture Advisory Committee.

MARGI PRIDEAUX

Ms Prideaux has a private consultancy focusing on the development of International Policy for Cetacean Conservation and is the Australasian Director of the Whale and Dolphin Conservation Society. Her academic background is in International Relations and Marine Policy and she has just completed her PhD on International Cetacean Conservation Policy and Regional Agreements.

IAN NIGHTINGALE

The *Aquaculture Act 2001* requires that one person engaged in the administration of the Act be nominated by the Minister. As General Manager of PIRSA Aquaculture, Ian is well versed in the area of policy development and resource management, and can also provide advice on the Group's strategic direction and activity.

PETER DOLAN

Mr Dolan has been nominated as the member involved in the administration of the *Environment Protection Act 1993*. Mr Dolan is the Manager, Strategy Branch with the Environment Protection Agency (EPA) and served as a member of the former Aquaculture Advisory Committee.

Monday, 24 March 2003



Margi
Prideaux
Cetacean Conservation

Margi Prideaux Cetacean Conservation

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Her academic background is in International Relations and Marine Policy and she has just completed her PhD on International Cetacean Conservation Policy and Regional Agreements.



Her experience has been generated through over a decade of marine conservation policy work that has focused primarily on issues surrounding fisheries and cetacean conservation.

Margi maintains a close communication and working relationship with the Australian Government on a range of issues including the development and negotiations of a South Pacific Regional Agreement/MOU for marine mammal conservation.

She regularly attends meetings of the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species, the International Whaling Commission, the Convention of the Regulation of Trade in Endangered Species, has participated on numerous delegations and is a technical advisor to the Australian Government on the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission.

Margi also maintains strong academic interests, attending conferences and publishing work on a range of issues to do with marine conservation and the mitigation of threats to cetaceans and other marine mammals.

As well as a well-developed knowledge of international marine conservation and cetacean issues, Margi draws on a solid working relationship with a strong network of international expert contacts working within the science, policy and law fields.

She has a strong commitment to communications with, and representation of, the wider conservation non-government sector from committee positions and within the bounds of confidentiality constraints will maintain appropriate communications with key stakeholders throughout her involvement in any committee process.

Margi has served as a conservation member on:

- South East Trawl Management Advisory Committee (Commonwealth)
- South East Trawl Management Advisory Committee Bycatch Working Group (Commonwealth)
- South East Trawl Management Advisory Committee TAC Sub-Committee (Commonwealth)
- Fisheries Resources Advisory Board (South Australia)
- Fisheries Resources Advisory Board (National)
- Stakeholder Reference Group for Marine Protected Areas (National)

Margi Prideaux
Cetacean Conservation
PO Box 720
Pt Ad Business Centre
Port Adelaide
South Australia 5015

P 61 (0)8 8242 5842
F 61 (0)8 8242 1595
E margi@whales-online.org