

**Draft Minutes – Fisheries Management Committee Meeting
12th August 2024**

Date: 5.00pm Monday 12th August 2024
Location: George Fam Council Chambers

1. Declaration of Opening

Azmi YON declared the meeting open at 5.00pm

2. Record of Attendance / Apologies / Leave of Absence / Declaration of Financial, Proximity or Impartiality Interest

Fisheries Management Committee

Chairperson	Azmi YON	Brady COLLETTE
Committee	Kristen SHANYGINA Kelvin LEE Chris SU Mark ROCHFORT	Shahrin JAMIL

Apologies	Gordon THOMSON	David PRICE
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National Parks	Yousef ATTI Allyn WHITE
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Guests by video

Scientific Partner Pew Trust	Kendra TRAVAILLE Christabel MITCHELL
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3. Confirmation of Previous Minutes

3.1 Confirmation of FMC meeting of 5th June February 2024

FMC Resolution

Moved: Shahrin JAMIL

Seconded: Brady COLLETTE

Res. No:

FMC 5/24

That the minutes of the 5th June 2024 be confirmed as a true and accurate record.

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Carried: 7/ 0

3.2 Receiving the Community Consultative Committee draft minutes of 17th July 2024

FMC Resolution

Moved: Chris SU

Seconded: Kelvin LEE

Res. No:

FMC 6/24

That the draft minutes of the 17th July 2024 Community Consultative Committee where the FMC were invited as guests be received.

Carried: 7/ 0

4. Action Items / Business Arising

- 4.1 Action Item from November 30th 2023 meeting:
Sign-Off/Sign-On board at the boat ramp. David PRICE and Chris SU to explore the logistics of installing a Sign-off/Sign-on board. Boaters would be able to self-report their movements which would be useful when VMR volunteers are not onsite. VMR volunteers are usually on Saturday and Sundays.

5. Agenda

5.1 Presentation by DCCEEW on Release of CI Draft Marine Park Management Plan 2024-2034

Allyn WHITE and Yousef ATTI presented the Draft Marine Park Management Plan 2024-2034 and advised that the statutory public comment period had commenced on 9 August and will end 19 Sept 2024.

FMC noted the deadline and will review the document and make a formal submission.

Allyn WHITE advised the FMC that CI National Parks will be creating a Community Advisory Committee that will provide community feedback to both the Terrestrial and Marine National Parks on Christmas Island. Distributed the *Draft Terms of Reference for the CINP Community Advisory Committee*. Advised that there was the provision for the FMC to nominate three persons to join the Advisory Committee.

The FMC noted, and requested to know when CINP would like to be advised of its three nominees? Allyn WHITE advised early 2025 would be sufficient.

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Allyn WHITE advised that a full time marine park officer will be engaged for Christmas Island, and two part time marine park officers will be engaged on CKI.

5.2 FMC representatives on FAC raised three concerns

Chris SU, Brady COLLETTE and Kelana ARSHAD were nominated to be the FMC representatives at the IOT Marine Park Community Advisory Group meetings. Allyn WHITE advised that the IOTMPCAG was being retired, as this broader CINP Terrestrial and Marine Park group was being formed.

a) Fishing Attraction Devices in the Inner Yellow Zone

Meeting discussed the Draft Management Plan's to include FADs in the yellow zone, in line with this being the standard practice for mainland Marine Parks' yellow zones.

FMC took in consideration the negative impressions FADs had on Christmas Island, being the only exposure the island has had with illegal Indonesian FADs floating into island waters requiring removal and overall marine debris.

FMC also considered the FAD as a possible economic asset for the right local entrepreneur properly capitalised to be able to meet the stringent conditions the Director of National Parks would place on any FAD application.

Dr Kendra TRAVAILLE provided some background on the way FADs were used in mainland waters under permission from the Director of National Parks and the conditions placed upon how long they can be in the water for and who was responsible for their maintenance.

FMC understood that it would not be CINP placing FADs in the water; it would be private applicants, or possibly a local group, who would be responsible for its use and removal according to the Director of National Park's condition.

FMC elected not to pass proposed resolution to resolve to request removal of FADs from the Draft CI Marine Park Management Plan.

b) Ballast Dumping

FMC raised that concerns about possible improper ballast dumping was had. Allyn WHITE advised that at the FMC's request he had sent advice on how islanders can report on this in previous month. Chris SU to re-distribute to members.

c) Commercial Fishing in Inshore Yellow Zone

The Advisory Group noted that Commercial Fishing was allowed in the inshore, which might be beyond the scale needed for the existing commercial fishing license holders.

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4.3.3 of the Draft CI Marine Park Management Plans provides for a kind of grand-fathering for existing commercial fisherpeople to continue to fish with a permit the Director of Parks issues just for them in a 'Class Approval.'

Allyn WHITE was to share details of how 'Class Approval' would be managed in terms of Christmas Island commercial fishers.

5.3 10kg ban on fish into mainland

Chris SU provided to FMC a draft letter to Dept. of Biosecurity 5.8.2024 and requested FMC to provide guidance on elements to be added or removed.

Dr Kendra TRAVAILLE advised that more submissions from cultural and community groups on Christmas Island on the matter would also be helpful in the review to have IOTs excluded from 'international restrictions.'

Dr Kendra TRAVAILLE and Chris SU still exploring ways to get the 10kg limit lifted before the 2026 review of the Biosecurity Act through the BIOCON platform.

6. **General Business:**

7. **Close of Business:**

8. **Next Meeting Date:** TBA