

N T GUIDED FISHING INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION INC

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

17th NOVEMBER 2011

NIGHTCLIFF SPORTS CLUB.

Meeting opened 7.30 pm.

The association welcomed Roz Vulcano, Special Projects officer for fisheries and Steve Matthews, Manager for Aquatic resources, Sri Srinivas Marine Survey.

Roz gave a very brief and inconclusive outline as to progress on FTO issues raised in the GFISMSC. The question of charter licences and guide licences was raised and a number of FTO's failed to grasp the concept. These categories were originally designed for multiple users under a single licence. This has since been retained to bypass the nomination process.

The question of when the white paper would go to public comment was raised and unfortunately not adequately answered.

President Rob Marchant reiterated the agreement with Roz that there would be a perusal of the final document prior to it being sent to the minister, this was not guaranteed. Additionally the zoning issue was raised and Rob reminded Roz that the NTGFIA agreement with the Steering Committee, that there be no imposts on current licence holders, accepting that new licences could have restrictions on future activities.

Graeme provided the meeting with a summary of this process

- **1 November 2008 agreement on questions to be asked.**
- **2 August 2009 White Paper released for 3 month public comment.**
- **3 February 2010 GFISMSC established to implement changes agreed.**
- **4 November 2010 Roz announced an additional paper to FTO.s.**
- **5 December paper released for comment.**
- **6 January 2011 NTGFIA has to rework a viable answer to the paper.**
- **7 April to July 2011 continuing negotiations.**
- **8 November 2011 Roz indicates no further movement on these issues.**

Steve Mathews raised the barotrauma issue relating to Snapper and Jewfish, specifically in the 1230 reporting zone. Justin Jones pointed out that the main contributors to issues relating to Barotrauma were not in attendance. Chris Jones pointed out that Barra guides who do limited targeting of Snapper and Jewfish do not experience barotrauma, especially since survey limits them to one Nautical mile.

Graeme Williams also raised AFANTS paper “who’s catching what “Which states FTO,s take 7.5% of the Snapper and 7.0% of the Jewfish, included is our 65% release rate.

Steve outlined that the reporting grids will become smaller and that it is highly likely that there will be future decreases to bag limits.

The merits of size restrictions upper and lower were discussed.

The protection of Threadfin was also raised.

Sri Srinivas outlined that a new federal body was slowly implementing changes across the board nationally, he indicated that new 5m vessels and under will no longer be exempt from survey. Additionally older boats will have to comply with survey by July 2013. All surveyed vessels will have to have Coxswains tickets (a note was provided to all present which is attached and also listed on the web site.)

Rob Marchant thanked our visitors and suggested a short break before the AGM.

8pm 2011 AGM

Attendees.

Rob Marchant, Dennis Sten, Greg Murdock, Mike Jones, Chris Jones, Justin Jones Karl Skyring, Renee Skyring, Geoff Corry, Jarrod Godson, Peter Barnes, Jason Bettles, Kurt Oswald, Mark Sedman

Apology's Greg Trouchet Duane Trouchet, Peter Fabriss, Dick and Carol Perry, Michael Benton, Shaun Uden. Len Sibio, Dean Jackson John Dagen, Alex Julius Micky Quaiser, Steve Compain, Steve Goodhew.

Rob addressed the meeting and spoke of his experience in the President's position, his frustration with Fisheries and his need to give someone else a go.

All those present thanked him for his long contribution and wished him well in the future.

1. The 2010 minutes were presented and accepted, seconded by Karl skyring.
2. The Financials were presented and accepted, seconded Geoff Corry.

The 2011 committee officially stood down, Graeme Williams conducted the election which resulted in:

President: Greg Murdock

Vice President: Greg Trouchet

Treasurer: Dennis Sten

Committee Members: Mike Jones, Shaun Uden, Rob Marchant.

Graeme Williams indicated that if any member wishes to participate in the committee to please contact him.

The New committee took their positions without any objections.

Graeme Williams handed down his summary as Executive, listing the NTGFIA activity's during 2011.

- A GFISMSC preparation which is ongoing.
- B Blue Mud bay forum discussions.
- C Barramundi advisory panel.
- D Kakadu Tourism Forum.
- E General discussions and liaising with FTO, s.

General Business:

This area was discussed at length in regards to our guest's presentation, whilst the meeting appreciated the information provided by Steve Mathews and Sri Srinivas. The question of Roz Vulcano and her ability to progress the Government white paper was raised.

Members noted that she was evasive on topics and does not seem to grasp some of the issues at hand. Graeme pointed out that there is a tacit agreement that we would see any recommendations to the Minister before it is delivered; Graeme said that he has this understanding with Ian Kernow Executive Director of Fisheries

Meeting decided that the Executive and President should meet as soon as possible with the Dir of Fisheries, conveying strongly our concerns on progress to date. It was also decided that the committee meet to look at ways to enhance our web site

At this point some members were getting a little rowdy, as there was no more business to discuss the meeting was closed.9.30 pm.

-END OF MINUTES-

**CHANGES TO PREVIOUSLY PROPOSED FTO VESSEL
REQUIREMENTS FROM 1.1.2013**

As part of the proposed single National jurisdiction for marine safety following will be required:

- From 1.1.2013 , Masters of all FTO vessels less than 5 metres in length be required to hold a Certificate of Competency as a Coxswain
- From 1.1.2013 all new FTO vessels less than 5 metres in length are to be built to survey standard , carry safety equipment to survey standards and will need to be issued with a certificate of survey [if National regulation comes into force on 1.1.2013] . Periodic surveys will be required as per National standard.
- From 1.1. 2013 all existing FTO vessels may continue to operate to the existing standards but will require an Operational certificate issued by MSB listing the details / limitations on the operation[format yet to be decided] – currently no certificate is issued by MSB