



SIV Board Meeting #203 of 10 August 2022

Location: Zoom Meeting

Meeting Summary

This was the 203rd meeting of the SIV Board.

Key items discussed included:

- Finance & Audit Committee Report (FAC)
- SIV Draft Budget
- SIV Annual General Meeting
- Future Fish proposal to for Recreational Fishers to use commercial Rock Lobster pots in Victorian waters
- Pre-Election Commitments
- Offshore Wind proposals – industry policy
- Stakeholder Priorities for VIC RAC

Finance & Audit Committee Report (FAC)

- 2021/22 financial reports were tabled and approved by the Board.
- The Board noted that the financial reports are currently being independently audited, ready for insertion into SIV's 2021/22 Annual Report, which will be tabled with our membership at the October Annual General Meeting.
- The Board noted that the 2022/23 Budget is currently being finalised by the FAC and will be presented to the Board for approval.

SIV Annual General Meeting

- The Board noted that the proposed new SIV Rules, along with Proxy forms and Board nomination forms will be sent to members via Australia Post for their consideration.
- In compliance with current rules, members will be given 60 days' notice of the meeting.
- The Board noted that the SIV Annual General Meeting is scheduled for Friday 14th October 2022.

Future Fish proposal to for Recreational Fishers to use commercial **rock lobster pots in Victorian Waters**

- SIV does not support the proposal to allow recreational fishers to use commercial Rock Lobster pots due to safety, sustainability, economic and biosecurity matters. Recreational fishers are currently able to dive and/or use hoop nets to catch Rock Lobster and SIV sees no reason as to why this position should change.
- The Board agreed to write to the Minister for Fishing & Boating about this matter on behalf of our members.

Pre-Election Commitments

- The Board agreed to write to both Government, the Coalition and the Greens asking for eight key election commitments that focus on:
 - increasing industry access to fish stocks so that it can increase the supply of fresh Victorian seafood to Victorian consumers; and
 - implementing a number of IT and system reforms at the VFA that will lead to a reduction in the administration burden, and therefore, the cost recovery levies imposed on entitlement holders.

Australia's First Offshore Wind Strategy

- The Commonwealth Government has just commenced a 60-day public consultation process on the first formal release of water for offshore renewable energy.
- The Board reaffirmed its support for renewable energy, but not at the expense of commercial fishing and agreed that a unified approach with Seafood Industry Australia, South East Trawl Fishing Industry Association and our interstate counterparts was the best way to make a submission and advocate on behalf of the commercial fishing industry.

Stakeholder Priorities for Vic RAC

- The Board discussed and agreed to submit a number of priority project concepts to Vic Rac that would support current industry concerns such as Blue green algae toxicity in seafood, spawning of KGW, spatial fishing effort on pale octopus, decommissioning of oil and gas structures and the impact of offshore renewable energy projects on viable commercial fishing operators.

Next meeting: September 2022

Joanne Butterworth-Gray

SIV Independent Chair