Stakeholder engagement: A key element of harvest strategy development

Katherine Farag-Page
Senior Fisheries Management Officer (Abalone)

IAS Presentation – March 2023
Tasmanian Abalone Wild-Caught Fishery

~ 25% of global harvest

GVP ~ $50M

nitipa/Blacklip (Haliotis rubra)
makarina/Greenlip (Haliotis laevigata)
Tasmanian abalone fishery is managed under a sustainable harvest strategy

- Control fishing effort to maintain stocks
- Protect spawning biomass to maintain recruitment
- Spatial distribution of effort to avoid localised depletion

- TAC (Quota/Bag limit)
- Size Limits
- Regional Catch Caps
Tasmanian abalone fishery is managed under a sustainable harvest strategy.

**Sustainable harvest**
- Control fishing effort to maintain stocks
  - TAC (Quota/Bag limit)
- Protect spawning biomass to maintain recruitment
  - Size Limits
- Spatial distribution of effort to avoid localised depletion
  - Regional Catch Caps

**The bigger picture...**

- **Working Group**
- **Develop strategy**
- **Public consultation**
- **Refine strategy**
- **Ministerial approval**
- **Implement**
The Tasmanian Experience: Implementing the Abalone Harvest Strategy

Overall recreational take is negligible but it’s socially, economically and biologically significant

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MCDA Score</th>
<th>&lt;1</th>
<th>1-2</th>
<th>2-3</th>
<th>3-4</th>
<th>4-5</th>
<th>5-6</th>
<th>6-7</th>
<th>7-8</th>
<th>8-9</th>
<th>&gt;9</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TACC Adjustment</td>
<td>-75%</td>
<td>-25%</td>
<td>-20%</td>
<td>-15%</td>
<td>-10%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Fisheries (Abalone) Amendment Rules 2019

➢ Proposed: - 50% state-wide
➢ CONSULATIONS...
➢ Enacted: - 50% east coast only

2021 Disallowance motion revoked changes
WHY?

“…A difference between advising, consulting and crucially, involving people in decision making. Affected stakeholders in this decision-making process felt neither involved, nor particularly well consulted but merely felt advised…”

– Meg Webb
Independent member
If a shared vision for the fishery is to be achieved all stakeholders need to be engaged throughout the development process from conception to implementation

- FAC review
- Increased capacity
- Recreational Fishing Strategy
- Abalone Future’s Workshop
Evidence based management decisions underpinned by best-practice scientific advice AND...

Stakeholder engagement is key!

good governance
Katherine Farag-Page
Senior Fisheries Management Officer (Abalone)

049 9947 277
Katherine.farag-page@nre.tas.gov.au

Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania