

Marlborough Marine Futures

Scoping Paper (Draft for distribution to Stakeholders)

This draft scoping paper is presented to clarify the focus and role of Marlborough Marine Futures in relation to other relevant entities and processes. This draft will be presented to stakeholders for their consideration and comment.

A revised version will be considered by the Stakeholder Working Group (once formed) and their comments will be taken into account prior to it being finalized by the Trustees. The final version will be distributed to stakeholders and available through the website.

Further documentation including process and structure maps and draft terms of reference for the SWG and other groups will also be distributed and will ultimately be read as a whole.

Working vision and core purpose:

“A rich and healthy marine environment that meets the economic, recreational, social and cultural requirements of our community.”

Comment: The working vision was distilled by John Hellstrom after listening throughout SWG workshop. It was broadly endorsed by participants and will be subject to further development via subsequent workshops and SWG input.

The core purpose of MMF is to achieve the vision of a rich and healthy Marlborough marine environment through:

- Community leadership and responsibility, increasing local engagement, understanding and opportunity to make good decisions;
- Joining dots and filling gaps: To provide an integration in relation to everything that affects the Marlborough marine area.

Principles to guide scope:

Big picture, future focused:	MMF serves an integrative function through keeping its gaze on the big picture/vision and acting as required to achieve that. Enables best decisions to be made for the future without distractions of the ‘issue of the day’.
No duplication:	MMF is to ‘join the dots’ and ‘add value’ not to repeat, undermine, or confuse other processes or operational matters. Where there are gaps or processes missing, MMF will act to have it filled.
Value add:	Engage only where doing so will result in enhanced outcomes for the Marlborough marine area.
Results oriented:	MMF is committed to ‘doing what works’ and to achieving results that matter in timeframes that enable both inclusion and traction.

Geographical scope:

- Marine area within Marlborough District Council coastal marine area (including feeder catchments);
- Land to the degree it affects the sea.

Subject area scope:

The following subject areas are interrelated but are presented in this document as distinct areas to enable clear assessment of scope. For example, with fishing activity the relationship between sustaining the environment, sustaining customary practices, protecting our treasures and fishing for abundance is acknowledged but articulated within this scope document primarily in '4. Fishing for abundance'. Likewise, each subject area is relevant to the topic of aquaculture. A graphic representation of the different aspects of the scope and the relationships between them will be developed prior to scope being finalised.

<i>1. Sustaining the environment</i>	
Value add:	Big picture, integrated, future focused. Efficient process including significantly reduced conflict and litigation.
Subject areas:	RMA deals with effects of land on sea; amenity values, placement of structures; water quality; and extraction activities; Biosecurity Sedimentation processes Transport including ferries and cruise ships Energy (oil, gas, tidal) issues
Current processes:	MDC to notify integrated district and regional RMA plan July 2015. Biosecurity pathways planning Marine codes of practice Sedimentation research No current energy proposals for area however have been previously and are possible in future
Relationship with:	MMF will work towards longer timeframes than are presented in RMA planning and will cover issues not provided for through the Plan. These may be relevant to future planning. MMF process is bigger scale than RMA or these other distinct subject areas and potentially provides relevant context for future processes.
Out of scope:	MMF will not be submitting on the Draft Plan nor engaging with legal processes associated with it.

<i>2. Sustaining customary practices</i>	
Value add:	MMF is offering a streamlined integrated vehicle for iwi to have their interests recognised and provided for including through mataitai and taiapure should they be desired.
Subject areas:	Relationship between use and protection; allocations between sectors; amenity issues for those who practice ahi ka roa.
Current context:	New Settlements being implemented.
Relationship with:	It is for iwi to define what they want through MMF. Progressing MPA's successfully requires engagement with iwi-defined interests.
Out of scope:	Resolving intra or inter iwi conflict.

<i>3. Protecting our treasures</i>	
Value add:	MMF offers a vehicle to achieve regional marine protection within an integrated context & process that takes into account intrinsic, ecological functioning, biodiversity, and human centred values. It also enables management of the tensions between protection and other values.
Subject areas:	Potential to use a range of protective tools from non-regulatory community implemented initiatives through to legislative.
Current context:	National Marine Protected Areas legislative reform being developed (discussion paper due March/April 2015). Minimal formal protection currently exists in region. Regional processes currently underway in Otago and Hauraki. Political support indicated for recreational fishing area to be established and for Marlborough to be 'next cab off the rank' given the issues and the opportunities presented through this process and others e.g. national science challenges.
Relationship with:	MMF provides a vehicle to develop a regional marine protection strategy. Works with close reference to MPA criteria and also incorporates broader sector issues and interests to achieve fully integrated results (note above - MPA success will depend on good relationship with iwi defined interests amongst others).
Out of scope:	Need to negotiate agency/funder 'givens' up front and respond to as appropriate.

<i>4. Fishing for abundance</i>	
Value add:	Big picture, integrated, future focused. Efficient coordination of consultation and statutory processes via broad sector representation and integrated process. Addresses points of potential conflict/litigation in a relationship and evidence based forum. Enables balance between utilization and other community values.
Subject areas:	Agreed future strategy in relation to aquaculture, commercial, customary and recreational fisheries. Agreed approach relating to the effects/benefits and costs of utilisation on the environment and community.
Current context:	Fisheries are managed by species and in very large stock units. Multiple existing processes underway including blue cod management group, proposal for recreational fishing areas, aquaculture strategizing and standard fisheries management operations. There is no regional fisheries management plan.
Relationship with:	MMF offers an integrated ecosystem approach at a regional scale that is future focussed. Will engage with existing processes only to the extent compatible with the principles (i.e. value add and no duplication).
Out of scope:	Need to negotiate agency/funder 'givens' up front and respond to as appropriate. Current blue cod process and fisheries operational management.

<i>5. Sustainable seas - provision of public information and engagement</i>	
Value add:	Cohesion, public engagement, education & 'social science' opportunities. The development and use of new and effective ways of engaging with, and embedding knowledge in, our society will be critical to the success of the Sustainable Seas mission. These processes are essential if society is to play a greater role in decisions about investment, resource use, conservation and stewardship.
Subject areas:	National science challenge sustainable seas - all aspects but in particular 'our seas'. Education initiatives.
Current context:	Sustainable Seas science challenge recognises that reaching out and communicating effectively with the general public is a challenge but will be crucial to the success of Sustainable Seas. They will explore expansive and innovative ways of capturing and engaging public attention, and new decision making models.
Relationship with:	MMF provides focal area which includes multiple, potentially conflicting uses and significant opportunity for enhanced resource use and growth of the marine economy. Provide stakeholder interface for national sustainable seas science challenge.
Out of scope:	Specific communications about operational issues or current regulatory processes.