



SGaan Kinghlas – Bowie Seamount Protected Area

Advisory Committee Meeting, June 28 & 29, 2011

Record of Meeting

Desired Outcomes

- Update on SGaan-Kinghlas – Bowie Seamount MPA (the Protected Area)
- Approve the SGaan-Kinghlas – Bowie Seamount Advisory Committee terms of reference
- Develop a common understanding of the stressors-based approach to developing conservation objectives
- Provide key advice for the development of the management plan for the Protected Area by identifying and discussing Significant Ecosystem Components, activities, and potential stressors

Advisory Committee (Members and Alternates have not been identified)

Sector	Representatives	Regrets
Commercial Fishing	Robert Fraumeni, Canadian Sablefish Association	Gregg Holm, BC Tuna Fishermens Association
	Chris Acheson, Canadian Sablefish Association	Peter deGreef, BC Tuna Fishermens Association
	Jim McIsaac, Commercial Fisheries Caucus	
Recreational Fishing	Urs Thomas (day 1 am), Sport Fish Advisory Board	
Conservation	Hussein Alidina, World Wildlife Fund	Sabine Jessen, Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society
Academia	Rosaline Canessa (brief participation – however suffered technical issues), University of Victoria	John Dower, University of Victoria
		Isabelle Côté, Simon Fraser University
Shipping/Transportation*	No rep at this time	
Regional District/Local Communities	No rep at this time	

*BC Chamber of Shipping is unable to participate at this time

Facilitator

Alan Dolan, Alan Dolan and Associates



Sgaan Kinghlas – Bowie Seamount Protected Area
 Advisory Committee Meeting, June 28 & 29, 2011
 Record of Meeting

Ex-Officio and Observers

Sector	Representative
Council of the Haida Nation (SK-BMB member)	Jason Alsop
Council of the Haida Nation (SK-BMB member)	Robert Davis
Council of the Haida Nation – Haida Oceans Technical Team	Jason Thompson
Council of the Haida Nation – Haida Oceans Technical Team	Catherine Rigg
Fisheries and Oceans Canada (Oceans)	Coral Keehn
Fisheries and Oceans Canada (Oceans)	Hilary Ibey
Fisheries and Oceans Canada (Fisheries Management)	Adam Keizer
Fisheries and Oceans Canada (Oceans)	Amy Wakelin (phone – day 1 pm)
Fisheries and Oceans Canada (Oceans)	Denise Zinn
Fisheries and Oceans Canada (SK-BMB member)	Jeffrey Lemieux
Fisheries and Oceans Canada (SK-BMB member)	Mel Kotyk (phone – day 1 pm)
Fisheries and Oceans Canada (Science)	Miriam O (phone)

Meeting Notes

Day 1 – June 28th, 2011

1. Welcome/Introductions/Opening Prayer

Jeffrey Lemieux (DFO)

Robert Davis (CHN)

2. Agenda Review (Alan Dolan)

- Acceptance of agenda with Terms of Reference (TOR) discussion moved to 1:00

3. Review and acceptance of Minutes from March 21st, 2011 Advisory Conf. Call (Hilary Ibey)

- Minutes accepted

4. SK-B Protected Area Update (Coral Keehn)

- Information was presented on an activity plan that has been submitted by Jim Boutillier, DFO Science Branch that proposes the deployment of acoustic monitoring devices and survey of the benthic community on Bowie Seamount with a Remotely Operated Vehicle and Autonomous Underwater Vehicle for 3-4 days within the period July 29th until August 3rd, 2011.

This activity plan has been approved.



Sgaan Kinghlas – Bowie Seamount Protected Area

Advisory Committee Meeting, June 28 & 29, 2011

Record of Meeting

- Information was presented on the development of a request for science advice. Currently the science lead has been identified as Rob Kronlund, DFO
Next steps: Currently refining scope of the question

5. Stressors-Based Approach and Conservation Objectives (Hilary Ibey)

- Information was presented on the Stressors-Based Approach and the proposed approach to developing conservation objectives.

6. Identification and Discussion of Significant Ecosystem Components (SECs)

- It was noted by participants that reports have been produced from previous science based workshops in 2008 and 2010 that can provide additional science knowledge to inform the selection of SECs and guidance on possible monitoring variables for the Management Plan.
- The group identified Significant Ecosystem Components it feels are within the MPA.

SECs identified:

- Three parts: Biodiversity, Ecosystem function, and Structural habitat
- Productivity: Primary, Benthic
- Structural invertebrates: Coral, Sponges
- Benthic Complexity: Biological, Structural
- Abundance of migratory species: marine mammals, fish, birds
- Resident community: Invertebrates, roughey and yelloweye rockfish and rockfish in general.
- Functioning trophic relationships: interactions – coastal and off shore species
- Haida eddies
- Localized currents and circulation: Taylor cones
- Crabs: Stone crab, King crab, Brown rock crab, Tanner crab (potential food source for rockfish/sablefish)
- Unique endemic species
- Squid (food source for sablefish)
- Skill Fish
- Keystone species (Beamish paper on rockfish as keystone - trophic impacts)
- Top predators: Sea lions, Alaska fur seal
- Sperm whale
- Halibut (mid summer migration)
- Tuna – mobile fish species – moves in and out of protected area
- Pelagic fish species
- Temperature regime: El Nino, Pacific Decadal Oscillation (PDO), climate change, tuna moves in with increase of temperature
- Kelp
- Brittle stars, Squat lobster
- Rockfish communities: on bottom, & in water column (clouds)
- Sharks



SGaan Kinghlas – Bowie Seamount Protected Area

Advisory Committee Meeting, June 28 & 29, 2011

Record of Meeting

- SARA Species: Rougheye type 1 and 2, Bocaccio Rockfish, Yelloweye Rockfish, Thornyheads
- Increased nutrients – upwelling, iron is not deficient

7. Review Draft Advisory Committee Terms of Reference (TOR) (Jeffrey Lemieux)

- Amy Wakelin and Mel Kotyk on the phone.
- Overview of how latest draft of TOR reflects comments received from the March 2010 Advisory meeting.
- Discussions are ongoing with the Management Board on final form of the TOR.
- CHN did not receive a copy of the draft TOR until June 21st, 2011. CHN expressed concern with the way the current document is framed. The CHN expressed a desire that the TOR language be adjusted to reflect consistency with the language of the *Memorandum of Understanding* between DFO and the CHN, and further that they wished it be made clear that the reporting structure reflect that the Advisory Committee would provide advice to the Management Board.
- Advisory Committee suggested DFO and CHN work together to come to a mutually agreeable solution and that the TOR include a complete information sharing structure focusing on how Management Board discussions and information would be shared with the Advisory Committee.
- The commercial fishing sector confirmed they were in accord with the process/Roles and Responsibilities presented in the tabled draft and committed to moving forward with the TOR.
- Discussion on structure of membership concluded with the following comments:
 - Recreational sector expressed concern about alternates, with limited resources need to utilize SFAB members in various communities rather than one person travelling to all meetings.
 - CHN suggested a minimum of 2 members of Management Board present at each Advisory Committee meeting to provide for dialogue and improved understanding of issues, and concerns. (With other federal agencies as ex-officio.)
- The following list of membership was suggested by the group:

Sector	Members	Alternates
Commercial Fishing	2	2
Conservation	2	2
Local Government (Regional Dist)	1	1
Transportation/Shipping	1	1
Academia/Research	2	2
Recreational Fishing	1	3
Other	TBD	TBD



SGAan Kinghlas – Bowie Seamount Protected Area

Advisory Committee Meeting, June 28 & 29, 2011

Record of Meeting

- Members of the group expressed their desire to see participation by Transportation/Shipping sector and Transport Canada.
- A suggestion was made to include Tourism as a member (Wilderness Tourism or Dive Tourism was suggested).

ACTION ITEM	DFO will continue to approach transportation/shipping sector and Transport Canada regarding participation on the Advisory Committee.
ACTION ITEM	DFO to approach Tourism sector for membership on Advisory Committee.

8. Identify/discuss activities currently permitted in the MPA (Hilary Ibey)

- Slide-show by Bob Fraumeni, Canadian Sablefish Association, showing Sablefish fishing presence at Bowie since the 1980's.
- Group identified the following list of current activities they wished to be considered in the Management of the MPA:
 - Commercial Sablefish Fishing – Zone 2
 - Tuna (not open)
 - Halibut (historically, but not currently open)
 - Rockfish (historically, but not currently open)
 - Recreational Fishing
 - Food, Social & Ceremonial Fisheries (executed by the Council of the Haida Nation)
 - Commercial Tourism (permitted but not currently active)
 - Commercial shipping and transportation (Canada Shipping Act – ballast water – potential for introduction of invasive species)
 - Tanker traffic
 - Fishing vessels (including occasional Alaskan vessel travelling north/south)
 - Bulk container vessels
 - Buoy tenders
 - Cruise ships
 - Scientific research – various types
 - DND – Military/security/sovereignty
- A review of the pathways of effects examples drawn from the SGAan Kinghlas - Bowie Seamount Marine Protected Area Monitoring Indicators, Protocols and Strategies - Science Advisory Report 2011/036 listed in the working document titled “A Stressors-based Approach SGAan Kinghlas – Bowie Seamount Marine Protected Area” was completed by the group. Specifically, looking for any additions for the listed “Activity” and the corresponding “Stressor” and “Effect” of that stressor.



Sgaan Kinghlas – Bowie Seamount Protected Area

Advisory Committee Meeting, June 28 & 29, 2011

Record of Meeting

- The following lists the changes/additions to the tabled working document identified by the group:

Activity	Stressor	Effect
Tourism <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Documentary Film making (potential Activity) 	Add Removal of species and Harassment of species (benthic) – stressor as well as an Effect, can be caused by anchoring, or divers on the bottom (for example)	
Fishing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First Nations • Recreational • Commercial 	Split - Removal of target species & Removal of non-target species into separate entries change “Habitat Damage” to Seabed/bottom contact Add: Noise, Type of gear used	Add Water Quality Changes to effect list.
Vessel Traffic <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tankers • Fishing vessels • Tourism vessels • Research vessels 	Change Tanker oil spill to “Vessel oil spill” It was noted that climate change is a stressor for which fuel consumption by vessel traffic is a contributor.	
Scientific Research and monitoring	Change Habitat damage to “Bottom Impacts” Add: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Noise • seismic • Vibrations • Sediment disturbance • Contamination of water column 	Competition with native biodiversity should be added as an effect of exotic species introduction. Water Quality Changes can be an effect of several stressors



Sgaan Kinghlas – Bowie Seamount Protected Area
Advisory Committee Meeting, June 28 & 29, 2011
Record of Meeting

Day 2 – June 29th, 2011

9. Welcome and Agenda Review (Alan Dolan)

- Agenda for June 29th was altered to complete remaining agenda activities

10. Haida Gwaii Marine Use Planning (HG MUP) (Catherine Rigg)

- Update and information provided on HG MUP Initiative.
- Currently the Marine Coordinating Committee (MCC) (CHN, Parks Canada, BC, DFO) is reviewing membership applications for the Haida Gwaii Marine Advisory Committee (anticipate 15 members).
- Next steps, MCC will forward recommendations to the CHN for the final decision on membership.

11. Revisit Terms of Reference (Hilary Ibey)

- DFO and CHN staff reviewed and discussed the version of TOR revised by the CHN last night; DFO was unable to bring necessary personnel together in time for discussion today.
- The Advisory Committee members present expressed a desire to move forward on the TOR for the Advisory Committee as quickly as possible. DFO and the CHN committed to work together to produce a revised draft for the Advisory Committee.

ACTION ITEM	Management Board members will attempt to provide Draft TOR to Committee by end of July.
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12. Complete Stressors discussion (Hilary Ibey)

- Completed group discussion on possible stressors for tourism, fishing, vessel traffic and scientific research and monitoring
- See table (stressors/activity/effect) at end of Day 1 for complete list.
- Following a brief discussion on Haida Fishing activities at the MPA, clarification on CHN's position regarding commercial and food, social & ceremonial (FSC) fishing access was requested.
- CHN Management Board representatives explained that the CHN would not endorse commercial fishing operations that are in contravention to DFO regulations, and all operations would have to be consistent with conservation objectives of the MPA. FSC fishing would still be upheld and executed under the guidance of the CHN.



13. Management Plan Expectations (Alan Dolan)

- Participants were asked to identify their top 3 issues and the suggested management approach for each. This list is a summary of some of the comments and issues raised by meeting participants.

Management Plan Expectations

Sector	Issue	Possible Management Approach
Commercial Fishing	Protecting significant ecosystem components	Continued research
	Process for allowable activities	Administration/protocols on what activities allowed - timeline
	Communication/education	Documentary/marketing plan
	Resolve and clarify objectives	
	Management – governance & communication	
	Roles and Responsibilities clearly defined within the Management Plan	
	Indicators truly measurable & monitored effectively to evaluate achievement of CO's	
	Management of activities – with achievable enforcement measures	
	Conservation objectives are achievable	
Conservation	Able to assess the current activity with regard to the established CO's	Good flow of information for all processes.
	Completion of Management Plan	Clear timelines and process for completion of Management Plan
	Process to deal with new activity proposals under Regulations that is transparent and addresses risk	
	Effective management measures that provide a better linkage to existing processes (IFMPs etc)	



SGaan Kinghlas – Bowie Seamount Protected Area

Advisory Committee Meeting, June 28 & 29, 2011

Record of Meeting

Sector	Issue	Possible Management Approach
Council of the Haida Nation / Haida Oceans Technical Team	Continued development of the working relationship between DFO & CHN	Communications, collaboration, united front and transparency
	Gathering of useful data	all activities include a research component
	Continued Haida connection with SGaan Kinghlas	Documentary/education/CHN involved in surveillance & monitoring
	Sustainability of current Sablefish fishery	Agreed upon approach to evaluate sustainability of the fishery.
	Vessel Traffic	Possibility for shipping lanes necessary sectors engaged in this process
	Monitoring and enforcement	clarify the who and how and the availability of resources
	Better connections between Fisheries Management and the Advisory Committee.	Improve communications and information flow
	Adaptive Monitoring and Management Plan	Ensure committed resources
	Best available information	A science co-ordinator with connections to international research community.
	Dialogue between DFO and CHN	
	Continuity from Department side – staff changes cause disruptions to process.	Need good documentation and strong corporate memory
	Joint relationship – final say needs to come from both CHN & DFO.	
	Flexibility to review Management Plan more often than every Five years	
Lack of resources is an issue.	Needs to be a priority	



Sgaan Kinghlas – Bowie Seamount Protected Area
 Advisory Committee Meeting, June 28 & 29, 2011
 Record of Meeting

Sector	Issue	Possible Management Approach
Government-Federal	Conservation Objectives that address management concerns.	
	Governance (e.g. jurisdictional issues with <i>Fisheries Act</i> vs. <i>Oceans Act</i>) and management objectives need to be addressed.	
	Education and outreach.	
	Ensure consistent/sustainable management of fishery.	Clear roles and responsibilities
	Communication connection with Fisheries Management.	Ensure decisions made under Fisheries Act are consistent with CO's made under the Oceans Act.
	Ensure consistency with regard to permitted activities	Decision making framework – transparent decisions.
	Lack of information due to remoteness, need for more knowledge to inform Management Plan.	Acknowledge data gaps.
	Need language to be consistent and contribute to the larger landscape-MPA network.	Connection to other planning processes.
Resolve issues and move MPA management forward.	May never resolve everything- need to move process forward	

14. Next Steps/How did we do?/Evaluation (Alan Dolan)

Stressors next steps – Hilary Ibey

- Will work with DFO Science through the summer on the material gathered from the group. Looking at having a product from collaboration with science by the end of December. Will be sharing information as it becomes available via email/teleconference as developed.

General Comments

- Commercial Fishing – Expressed desire to meet with Management Board to address specific concerns. Would like complete transparency – Specifically - minutes/discussion points from Management Board circulated to Advisory Committee.

ACTION ITEM	Jeffrey Lemieux committed to finding out appropriate policy regarding this and returning with an answer to the Advisory Committee.
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Sgaan Kinghlas – Bowie Seamount Protected Area

Advisory Committee Meeting, June 28 & 29, 2011

Record of Meeting

- Advisory Committee members present acknowledged the value of face to face meetings is hard to measure – can't do it all by e-mail or over the phone.

How did we do?

- Met objectives for meeting other than approval/endorsement of draft TOR – flushed out a few details but need to do a bit more work to complete the draft.

Evaluation of the Session

Positive:

- Facilitator did a good job – but direction at beginning could have been better.
- 1st meeting since designation – thank you for getting us together – better understanding achieved.
- Good to talk face to face – very valuable.
- Stressors exercise cumbersome but needed to collectively understand the process – group discussion useful.
- Face to face meeting very valuable – need more – dealing with complex issues.
- Last exercise most valuable of the day – shows how similar our trains of thought are.
- Formalization of stressors approach good – cumbersome but necessary
- Flexibility with agenda good – Allowing Bob to give his presentation we have a better sense of what Bowie means to everyone – heard other perspectives.
- Invaluable to come up here and share our perspectives – great to have CHN members with us.
- This is the best meeting for Bowie thus far.

Improve upon:

- Writing on flip charts too small
- Challenge for all initiatives in North Coast is isolation and budgets.
- Speaker phone, ventilation, ambient organizational noise – challenging to hear.
- DFO and CHN to be better coordinated in working on and completing the Management Plan.

Jeffrey Lemieux thanked everyone for attending and adjourned the meeting.