

Marlborough Marine Futures Forum

14 May 2017

STRAW POLL:

Bad idea: One person thought it was a bad idea, but if it was a marine management area he would be in favour of that.

More information: Five people needed more information before forming an opinion.

Good idea: Most of the people in the room felt it was a good idea.

DISCUSSION

The orange group wanted it to be called a “maritime park” because it encompasses the land as well. The whole group was in favour.

If you have a management area it could be split into zones where you could have a park. A park overall is probably harder to achieve than management areas.

It is imperative how it is set up, it needs to be structured and managed. It could still fail if not set up properly.

Definition is quite important - to sell the concept of a park may not be popular, you need to be able to sell it.

One of the biggest challenges is communication, it's a big idea, bold idea, but complex idea, and getting that distilled out to messages that the rest of the community can understand and then get behind is one of the biggest challenges you will face. You need more champions to lead and give clarity for what you want to achieve.

John Hellstrom: This process is about getting everyone engaged and we are trying to facilitate as best we can. People don't like the word 'park'.

We can't continue to do what we're doing, everybody contributing to the degradation of the Sounds, we've all got to give a little or we won't have what we have now.

Concerned about timing, before this group could get to a stage to make strong submissions we could have the Sounds compromised even further - three to four years is a bit of a difficulty, maybe your group could look at ways of speeding that up. I believe there are great expectations but if it's going to take another three years people will get disillusioned.

Larncé Wichman: That's an important point and we are conscious of it.

There's the idea of getting a UNESCO Biosphere -can that happen more quickly?

John Hellstrom: We'll be summarising the information and picking up on that.

The Guardians have access to that UNESCO Biosphere option. Balance of environment uses versus other uses of the Sounds in a sustainable way.

In terms of time frame you need to get a governance model sorted quickly to get a broader community buy-in.

ERIC - WHERE TO FROM HERE?

I haven't had a discussion with the rest of the Trustees yet. There are critical points that the Trust will ruminate on. It seems to me that it's fairly obvious something needs to change. It seems that running with a concept broadly around marine parks is a good approach.

We will be able to get feedback to you on what are the risks and rewards to the approach and what were the barriers moving forward previously? There is a lot of work to be done which will involve discussions with politicians to try and get momentum. If we build a strong community we can take the politicians with us. We will commit to providing a report back of our take from the meeting and the sheets which everyone here will be able to comment on (within a month). We will work hard to describe the principles and mechanisms that a marine park might hold.

We are committed to this and committed to being open, so anyone can come and talk to us. The way we move forward is not as individuals or as an individual group. The time has come for our community to start working as a community and building the courage to say this is what we want and why isn't it happening?

The whole thing of today for us is because we want to test people who are interested and see if we can get momentum behind it. Messaging is something I'm not strong at but there are experts who have connections that can make that happen.

Comment: You mentioned governance - I believe the Trust is not the right vehicle to take the next step. Maybe you should look at having representative sitting around the table like an incorporated society, who is able to truly represent the community. Maybe give consideration for something along those lines.

Eric: I don't think we've ever gone away from the notion we will have to form a stakeholder working group. It's too early to say what form that will take. Regards quick wins which a lot of people identify as necessary, it's an age old issue - how do you plan for the horizon three (long term) stuff and address today's immediate needs to build support and gain momentum? Today there are certain matters that need fixing now without losing sight of our long-term objectives. We need to remember also, when someone is gifting something you're giving it to the environment, so the environment is always the winner in those gifts and gains concepts.

Comment: Today was valuable to me because Peter presented a conceptual picture for me to look at, and the places he visited around the world so I can get a better idea of the conceptual idea I can have here. It's a big step from where we've been before.

Question: Out of today, are there media outlets you plan to use?

Eric: No, but we certainly realise that we need to talk to people outside of our Trust around how we can use some of those tools to our advantage.

Roy Grose: what we've gained is that good science underpins making good decisions. Without the knowledge of science you can have people going in the wrong directions and getting things wrong. Your gift to us was that you're all here and present and engaged in a process where your contributions are immensely important to us as a Trust. Peter, thank you for bringing your experience and travels to this group so we have been able to engage meaningfully. We've got a very united voice that we should proceed along this path.

Raymond closed and thanked everyone for their valuable input. There's a lot of work in compiling this for the next one. Thank you to the Waikawa Boating Club for letting us have this venue. It's good to see the children here today because this is for the future generations.