

# Pacific Urchin Harvesters Association

AGM 2018  
August 27, 2018  
Beban Park  
Nanaimo

## Attendance

### Members:

Mike Featherstone  
Karolyn McLeod  
Darin Macy  
Geoff Krause  
Ross Morris

Mike Steinman  
Briana Waldeck  
Rosemary Gant  
Bob Hegedus  
Ken Ridgway Jr.  
Dave Lansdowne

George Dennis  
John Parkin  
David McRae  
Geoff Forester  
Al Shanks  
John Lindsay

### DFO:

Pauline Ridings

Janet Lohead

Erin Wylie

## 1.0 Approval of 2017 Annual General Meeting Minutes

Motion to Approve 2017 AGM minutes. 1°: M. Featherstone. AIF. Carried.

## 2.0 Introduction and Recognition

Karolyn McLeod was introduced to the members as the new Secretary- Treasurer for PUHA. Ross Morris was recognized and thanked for his 30 years of outstanding service to the Association.

## 3.0 Approval of new Constitution/by-laws

Mike provided an overview of the new Constitution and Bylaws of PUHA. The purposes of the Association have expanded a bit- but the changes are not enough to be of much mention. Quorum for directors meeting is 4 and for AGM is 12. Votes for proxies are based on one vote per person representing the licence so 1 person representing multiple licences gets one vote while multiple people representing one licence only get one vote.

Motion to adopt the new Constitution and Bylaws. 1° David McRae AIF. Carried

## 4.0 Election of Officers

Karolyn ran through the list of Directors and Officers. Chris Grant may be exiting the fishery but is willing to stick around for consultations. 3 calls for other nominations were put out.

Motion was put forward to acclaim the current Board. 1° . Bob Hegedus. AIF. Carried.

## 5.0 Financial Report

Karolyn ran through the Financials as provided by Dave Van Gruen and approved by the Board at a previous Directors meeting in mid-July. The financials are based on 47 GSU and 88 RSU license activations and resulted in a net surplus of about \$23K this past year compared to a deficit of about \$2K last year. Big changes included decreased research costs (~\$28K) program and miscellaneous (~\$4.3K) costs.

All funds are combined into PUHA - there is no separation of GSU and RSU funds.  
Funding for OGC is \$200

Motion to adopt Financial Report. 1°. John Parkyn. AIF Carried

## 6.0 President's Report

We are continuing on an upward trend with regard to markets and prices. New markets in the US that are working out and even our traditional markets are doing well. Prices are up to about \$1.40/lb- reflects product factors as well- including good quality product - and better optimization on the logistics side (which reduces the unit cost associated with each pound). Weather last year was OK in comparison to the previous year. We try to manage fishery to save some protected areas for the parts of the year that are stormy.

There were some changes to the surveys this year. DFO had been saying that they were going to pay for all the surveys but this changed just a few weeks ago to they are not going to fund any research. This news surfaced about 6 days before the Carpenter Bay survey was to start. DFO is moving to a multi-species survey protocol and there is a lot of uncertainty on how it is going to develop moving forward. Geoff filled in as contract biologist so the survey could be completed.

He is also representing the dive fisheries on the North Shelf Bioregion Marine Protected Area (NSB-MPA) Network development process. There was some discussion on the Gwaii Haanas process and the impact on the fishery and the multiple meetings that were undertaken by industry to kind of spread the pain.

There is also the kelp recovery project that PUHA was to undertake with the Archipelago Management Board (AMB) around 3.5 km of coastline around Murchison Island. That was set to go in early September but some things went sideways and the project was put out to bid which kind of delayed things. PUHA was relieved about that development but unfortunately no bids were submitted and the project is again in limbo. Lynn Lee is again phoning PUHA for assistance and we will see how it turns out.

Mike feels things are moving in a positive direction in regard to prices and new markets. More challenges to fulfilling quotas are expected as otters move into new areas and Haida Gwaii may be key to sustaining the fishery and we should keep pressing to get a quota increase in Haida Gwaii. Fishermen can do their part to increase cooperation so keep costs down.

Motion to accept Presidents report. 1°: Mike Steinman. AIF. Carried

## 7.0 D&D Reports

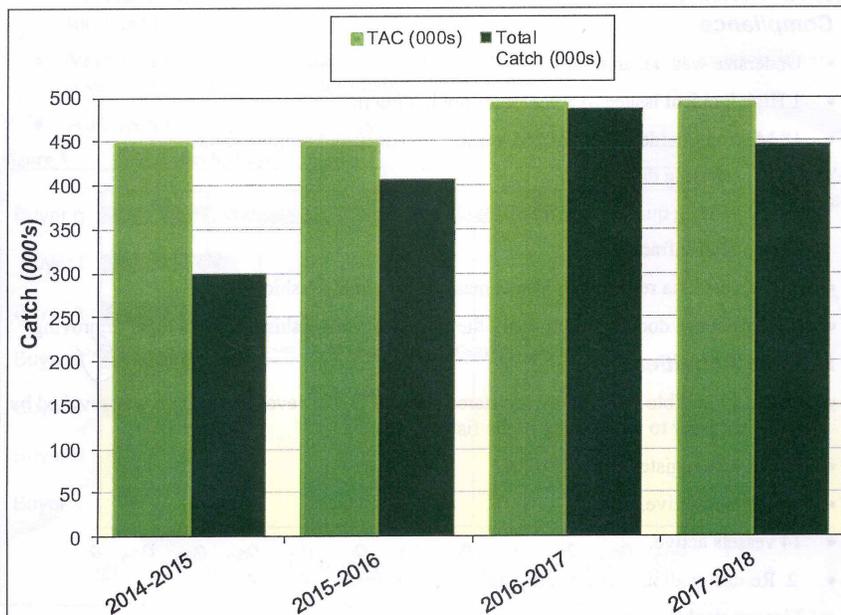
### 7.1 Green Urchin Report

Fishery opened on Sep. 1 and fishing commenced on the same day in QMA 13A (Mudge). That was also the first area completed (Sep. 14) even as activity in 13B, C and D remained low throughout the season. High abundance in 13B is affecting quality.

Harvest in Area 12 started around Sep 25. Of the 9 QMA opened for the fishing, 8 were active and 7 achieved 95% of their TAC (Table 1) while overall 91% of the coastwide TAC was taken (Fig. 1). Fishing trend was similar to previous years with an early surge in September, slowing through Oct-Nov. and then peaking in December (Fig. 2). 47 tabs were active on 14 vessels and no high priority incidents were reported.

**Table 1** Landing by Quota Area

Region	QMA	Name	Quota Allowed	Catch	R.Q.	% taken
S	11	Area 11	3,000	0	3,000	0%
S	12	Pt Hardy/Pt McNeil	252,964	252,922	42	100%
S	13A	Cape Mudge	51,000	51,211	-211	100%
S	13B	Kelsey Bay	57,000	17,153	39,847	30%
S	13C	Cordero Channel	30,000	25,851	4,149	86%
S	13D	Campbell River	25,000	25,231	-231	101%
S	18	Sidney	29,750	30,176	-426	101%
S	19	Victoria	36,450	36,039	411	99%
S	20	Sooke	6,600	6,946	-346	105%
		<b>Total</b>	<b>491,764</b>	<b>445,529</b>	<b>46,235</b>	<b>91%</b>



**Figure 2:** TAC vs Total Catch (from D&D Pacific Fisheries)

The Cape Mudge and Campbell River population of GSU is starting to push RSU out. Both species are abundant but harvesters have noticed a shift.

In 2018-19 the quota is increasing to 11,880 lbs. per tab.

Vancouver needs an explicit listing as a designated landing port- it is different than Steveston.

PFMA 17 has no assigned GSU quota but there are apparently sufficient stocks there that a survey is warranted.

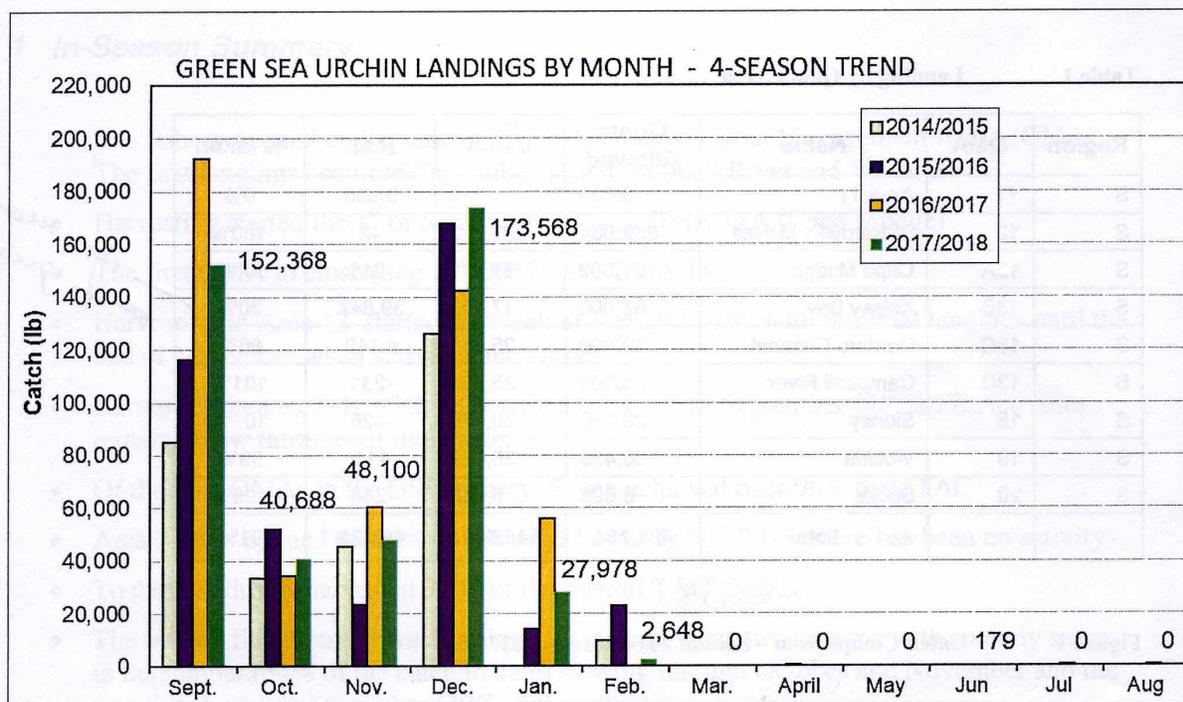
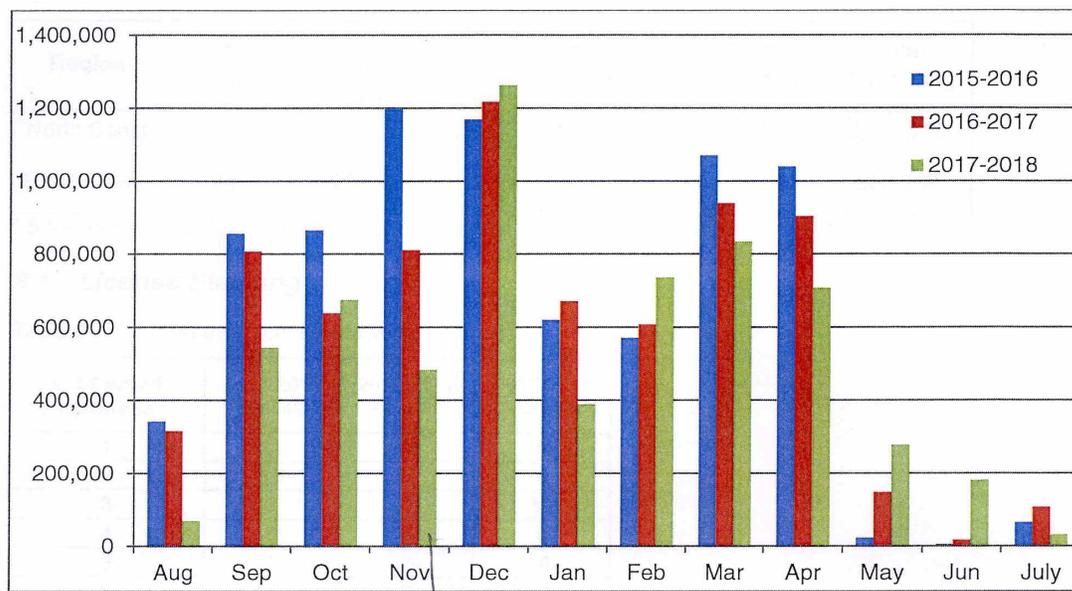


Figure 2: seasonal landings trends (from D&D Pacific Fisheries).

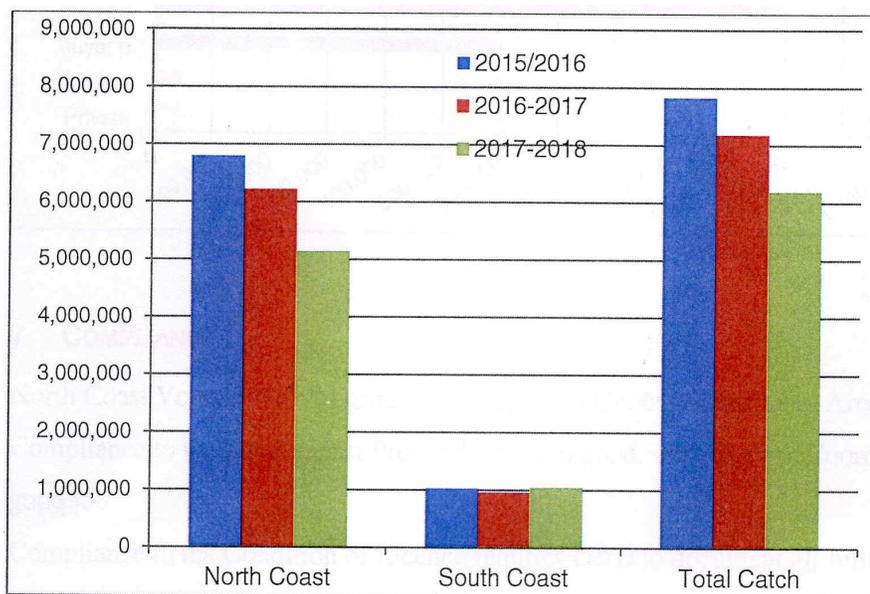
### 7.2 Red Sea Urchin Report

The South and North Coast quotas were set at 1,603,000 lbs. and 8,413,000 lbs respectively. There were 24 licenses (Individual Quota = 66,762 lbs.) working in the south and 86 (IQ = 97,825 lbs) assigned to the north. 88 of the possible 110 licences were activated in 2017/18 The season opened as scheduled on August 1, 2017 and fishing commenced on the South Coast on August 9 with the North starting up on September 2. The seasonal catch trend is compared with recent years in Figure 3 while the overall comparison is seen in Figure 4.

14 vessels fished 20 of the possible 24 licenses on the South Coast, landing just over 65% (1,049,041 lbs.) of the regional quota (Table 2). QMA 17 (Nanaimo) was again set aside by gentleman’s agreement for the live market (Steveston) sales which reached 42 K-lbs this year. There was lower activity on the South Coast since March due to high volumes coming off the North Coast



**Figure 3:** RSU- seasonal catch trend (from D&D Pacific Fisheries)



**Figure 4:** overall annual RSU catch comparison (D&D)

33 vessels commonly working in two groups fished 69 of the potential 86 licenses on the North Coast, landing just over 61% (5,141,282 lbs) of the regional quota (Table 2). Activity was minimal in January because of weather and quality issues around Prince Rupert. The protocol with the Vessel Monitoring Program continued through the 2017/18 season with no major issues.

Infraction reports for the year totalled 85, including 4 high priority reports because of insufficient or “no” hail notification and/or fishing in a closed area and 79 medium priority reports from missing log data and/or conflicting entries (note: 7 boats were missing multiple charts). 2 situation reports were issued to offloaders. There was some discussion on how an abundance of drugs is affecting offloading operations where they are posing a serious problem.

Table 2: Seasonal catch by region (D&amp;D)

<b>Month</b>	<b>North Coast</b>	<b>South Coast</b>	<b>Total Catch</b>
2017 Aug		69,222	<b>69,222</b>
2017 Sep	436,301	107,973	<b>544,274</b>
2017 Oct	562,983	111,192	<b>674,175</b>
2017 Nov	365,881	117,678	<b>483,559</b>
2017 Dec	956,147	306,184	<b>1,262,331</b>
2018 Jan	279,392	110,202	<b>389,594</b>
2018 Feb	635,606	100,377	<b>735,983</b>
2018 Mar	782,652	51,235	<b>833,887</b>
2018 Apr	659,730	47,876	<b>707,606</b>
2018 May	267,744	9,823	<b>277,567</b>
2018 Jun	170,375	10,274	<b>180,649</b>
2018 Jul	24,471	7,005	<b>1,195</b>
	5,141,282	1,049,041	<b>6,190,323</b>

Comments from industry this year include:

The influx of new participants declined this past season and a shortage of divers and masters may be playing a role in reduced fleet size by buyer(s).

There are large biomasses of urchins in many areas of Haida Gwaii and areas 3- 6.

Sea otter predation is seen in areas 6, 7, 10, 12 and 106-02 and is increasing in 4 & 5.

Re-list Nanaimo as a designated landing port in the Conditions of Licence- a possible new offload location has been identified.

Include Quadra Island as a Designated Landing Port in the Condition of Licence as the WAL-CAN plant is being used by the industry.

Acknowledge the Live Market Program in the IFMP and assign a portion of the QMA17 quota to the Live market sales to eliminate potential failure of the gentlemen's agreement.

A couple of comments re: quota movement(s) in the North Vancouver Island Special management Area including QMA 13H and 13I which was broken into 2 QMA's to spread the effort. Fishing effort is applied based on quality and when the abundance is too high the quality suffers (eg. Cape Mudge). Industry needs additional flexibility to respond to quality concerns meaning it needs to be able to move quota to better areas. It may make sense to reverse the split of the area back into a single area.

Motion to accept D&D report. 1°: K. Ridgway. AIF Carried

## 8.0 Green Urchin Report

All good- quality may be suffering because of increased abundance. We are still looking for more surveys to get the quotas up.

Motion to accept GSU report. 1°: D. McRae. AIF. Carried.

## 9.0 Red Urchin South Coast Report

There are quality problems around Cape Mudge- again from an excess of abundance and/or a lack of feed (kelp).

Motion to accept RSU South Coast report. 1°: K. Ridgway. AIF. Carried.

## 10.0 Red Urchin North Coast Report

Kelp, especially Bull kelp, is declining in many if not most locations. There has possibly been a change in the timing of quality, generally attributed to increased water temperature, food rations (kelp) or perhaps ocean chemistry. The kelp is looking a bit better this year so far and there is more cold water around.

Fishermen are all keen to better coordinate so the packers and trucks can be used more effectively to help keep costs down.

Motion to accept North Coast report. 1°: Mike Featherstone. AIF. Carried.

## 11.0 Budget for 2018/19

Mike presented separate budgets for the Green and Red urchin fisheries, both of which showed a small surplus.

Motion to accept budget as presented. 1°: John Parkin. AIF. Carried.

## 12.0 NSB MPA Process Update

There is a lot of pressure from the Maritimes and Council of Professional Fish Harvesters etc. regarding owner operator policies and some of the other problems that exist, particularly with the groundfish fisheries where the licence shares basically starve the fishermen of any income. The splits have been up to 90% for the license holder and 10% for the vessel and crew who also have to absorb all the fishing expenses. There are also worries that international investors are bidding up the price of licenses to an extent that local and new young fishermen are excluded. Bruce Turris put together a presentation on the shared risk and benefits.

Average age of harvesters has climbed from 59 to 64 in 2015.

The jurisdictional issues facing the Maritimes Regions (separate for various provinces over there) are more complex than they are on the Pacific Coast where there is only one Province involved. They also have policies that provide local advantage to small inshore fleets and processors and it seems that interests there, and here, are pushing for the same here on the West Coast. This includes penalizing corporations that many fishermen formed to optimize their finances and enacting owner-operator provisions so licenses are owned and controlled by fishermen. They are also calling for removing transferability of licenses - which will essentially make them worthless with all sorts of economic ramifications. This might work for the East Coast but will have devastating impact on the West Coast. It will also politicize the distribution of licenses so it reflects political connections more than innate fishing ability and success.

It sounds like the Federal Government is adopting measures from the East Coast and may be imposing at least of them here on the West Coast. The situations on the two coasts and the history of development are completely different. Corporate ownership here is the rule rather than the exception and most corporations are small family-based businesses. There are admittedly problems with at least some fisheries on the distribution of benefits, but in many cases the problems are due more to declining abundance of target species. The West Coast system evolved to and is very effective at addressing conservation concerns. The system here is founded on fully monitored IVQ's, which often depend on a market system to trade quota to work effectively, and effective it is for many reasons, including safety on the water and price stabilization.

The federal government was initially reluctant to allow IVQ's back in the day because even back then they realized that would place a value on the quota which would therefore make it more expensive to purchase for transfer to First Nations.

Everybody recognizes there are issues that need to be addressed but we are hoping to get to a home grown solution. Four main socio-economic issues that deserve attention are distribution of risk and benefits from fishing, concentration of ownership, community impacts and accessibility of quota for new entrants. Mike laid out the framework of the "Shared Risks and Benefits Plan" which comprises an agreement on how proceeds from fishing and the risks involved are shared between license holders and fishermen. The share is based on proportions of realized revenues as opposed to absolute prices. These agreements will be unique to each fishery and are proposed to be included as part of each fishery's IFMP. This is a grass roots initiative from participants in the fisheries involved that builds on existing advisory and management processes. Mike ran through a comparison of the new vs the existing system using halibut quota as an example.

The long and the short of it is that the west coast fishermen are proposing to break the lease price out as a proportion as opposed to an absolute dollar number. This will allow greater fairness for all involved and eliminate windfall earnings being realized at the expense of either the license owner or the vessel and crew if the market changes. A presentation will (hopefully) be made to the Federal Fisheries committee dealing with these issues next year when the time comes.

## 13.0 External Reports

### 13.1 Science Policy Update

Janet Lohead (Program Head for the Dive Fisheries) gave an update on the new Science Policy in the stead of Lynn Yamanaka. There have been lots of changes. The reality is that staffing in the shellfish section has moved from 29 to 16 positions over the last 3 years, including 3 vacant with no permission to fill them. As a result of the realization that the science resources cannot meet the demand from all the fisheries the whole branch is being strategically re-imagined and massive changes are happening. There are also new elements being patched in- for example all new assessments must consider climate change as a factor in the sustainability equation within a wider ecosystem based management context within which they must now operate.

One of the things they are now required to do is to scientifically show that species are in one of three zones: critical, stable or healthy. A major tool in this is the use of limit reference points (LRP's). They are trying develop time series of abundance for various species using a multi-species survey protocols to allows more efficient use of science survey resources.

They are trying to find efficiencies in all aspects of their data collection and this remains a work in progress. They are trying to figure out how to optimize their efforts and are re-surveying some transects in the Deserters Group so they can get some trend data to produce a paper for review in the Fall of 2019. They are trying to keep academia, industry and First Nations etc informed on what is happening.

Green Urchin time series: expected to carry on at Stephenson Islets with surveys this year (2018). Moving to every other year for surveys so it will be Stephenson Islets one year, Fulford Reef Yr 2 and new advice for the new IFMP in Year 3. The next stock status update will be in 2020/21.

For the RSU: surveys to become more industry led, same happening for cukes and is happening for many other fisheries. Yr 1 - DFO will lay out the survey protocol (transect locations, maps, etc), Yr 2 transfer more info to industry biologists so they carry more of the load, Yr 3: DFO to limit itself to archive survey data and analyse for advice to management. They are looking at developing trends and time series - not just the spot views that have been the case to date.

There are some 610 (RSU?) sub-areas on the Pacific Coast so there are many complications to extrapolating these separated periodic surveys. On top of that, trends from recent data assume they reflect the natural condition of the Pacific coast ecosystem, but this cannot be determined from recent data because the sea otter is a, if not the, keystone species structuring the ecosystem and since they have been absent all recent data on sea urchin abundance reflects an unnatural state of affairs. That is changing with the ricochet in sea otter abundance but LRP's predicated on this historical data are going to be badly off base. A discussion of just these points is going to be part of the discussion in the upcoming paper.

The 2% harvest rate was assigned arbitrarily but the fishery is no longer data limited and the time has come to check into the assumptions that have guided management for many years. This is the reason behind a LRP paper reviewing RSU harvest rates on the North, South and Central Coast areas and Haida Gwaii. Preliminary analysis suggests there is no impact on abundance of a 2% harvest rate over 100 years.

The paper on the WCVI impacts of the otters is coming along (draft complete, in for revisions). Long term data (1990's onwards) from the Louise Island research area is also being written up. The Carpenter Bay survey was the third in a time series, also three repetitive surveys in Kelsey Bay and Larsen Harbour so that is another paper coming on from these as well- probably going to reflect abundance has stayed stable despite continuous harvest in all three areas.

Also going to collect more environmental data on multi-species surveys so that these data might also be available to incorporate into assessments and projections. This will include real-time data during the survey but also incorporate more background data including physical and chemical oceanographic data (temperature and salinity profiles and trends, acidity, DO, density, etc.) collected through other systems/programs. It will be 10 years before science advice comes out of the multi-species survey. There is going to be considerable uncertainty within the program, within the data and even the program financing for some time yet as well. Industry will with little doubt be on the hook for some of it but some federal financing is also part of the equation as well.

The Hakai Institute is undertaking a lot of urchin- sea otter interaction research and looking at the trajectory and the effects of the sea star wasting disease on the ecosystem.

### **13.2 International Marketing**

The PUHA AgriMarketing Project has stayed pretty consistent over the years and this year was no different. We exhibited with PSCHA at the Seafood Asia Expo (SEA) in Hong Kong in Sept. 2017 and the China Fisheries and Seafood Expo (CFSE) in Qingdao in November 2017. We carried on to the shows in Boston (Seafood Expo North America- SENA) and Brussels (Seafood Expo Global- SEG) without PSCHA because their sales to those markets are minor.

We catalogued all the information we could get on visitors to the booth at each show and qualified some 60 (13 gd - v. gd), 68 (22 gd- v.gd), 64 (12 gd- v.gd) and 64 (10 gd- v.gd) contacts at the SEG 2017, SEA 2017, CFSE 2017 and SENA 2018 respectively. All information on contacts, including any website information, is checked and used by yours truly to assign a qualification grade between 1 and 10 with a 6 needed to make the good to very good grade. Based on all this, contact quality has remained about the same as last year at all shows although all are on a continuum with SEA best while from the SENA and CFSE show are a bit lower (5.1 vs 4.8 vs 4.5). Exporters maintain the China show is the most critical for meeting their customers but much of that business is conducted more privately away from the booth. At any rate, reports for each show are on the website and I have the contact database for the year available to share with any interested members.

This was the final year of our two year AMP project and we basically used up 100% of it, in some measure because we got new interest from Lobsterman, Arctic Pearl and Union Bay that helped us make up for lost ground in 2016. Contracting and travel were the big items and this year came in at a little over \$61K (36%) and \$94K (56%) while booth and sample costs came in at about \$14 K and rounded out the final 8 % of the budget.

I put together another proposal to carry on similarly for the next 3 years. I cut Brussels out of the loop for the next couple of years after this one but instead included some market research and missions to Singapore in years 1 and 3, Vietnam in Yr 2 and South Korea in all 3 for that period

in the spring mainly because they are high value and/or fast growing markets. If nothing else these can be considered strategic in nature and intended to explore options which may prove useful given the unsettled state of trade trends these days.

I also included provisions to attend and support the BC Seafood Show in Courtney each year and for market research at home as a show in Montreal was explicitly (almost) recommended to us by the program as one we might want to have a look at. At any rate, the total ask of the program is about \$85 K a year for three years with the Association kicking in about \$50 K, and members including processors another \$35K to cover 50% of their travel costs. The proposed budget is a little bit richer than the last couple of years but I expect they will knock it down a notch just because that is what they do and we can adjust so it works for everyone. The proposal was submitted in mid-April, meaning all expenses since will be eligible if we are approved, and we should be getting word on that by around mid to late August.

### **13.3 NSB MPA Network Development**

You may recall a couple years back the Province and First Nations were working on something called the Marine Planning Partnership, or MaPP, which basically proposed setting a series of Marine Protected Areas on ground north of Campbell River, an area known as the North Shelf Bioregion. The plans they came up with were a bit shocking, and to none more than the commercial dive fisheries, but after a forum on it in the spring of 2015 seemed to find that MPA's were of limited value in jurisdictions with effective fisheries management, the issue kind of faded. However, my report to you on the MaPP included the news that the Provincial Government adopted the MaPP plans within a few weeks of that forum, and now I can say that work continues with the MaPP to this day.

In fact the Feds have come on board and we now have and even larger process rolling out: the Northern Shelf Bioregion Marine Protected Areas Network Development Initiative (NSB MPA stuff) . To provide a bit of history, the MaPP was actually an outgrowth of a Federal- First Nations initiative- the Pacific North Coast Integrated Management Area (PNCIMA) initiative but the processes have not come together to produce NSB MPA stuff process. I mention this because the PNCIMA started in 2008, the MaPP in 2012 and now this in 2017 so it is something that has been coming for a while.

This particular project got fired up in November 2017 when we were sort of blindsided by the Gwaii Haanas MPA proposal. The BC Seafood Alliance took the lead on the Gwaii Haanas response right away and got an opening from the Archipelago Management Board (AMB) to come up with changes to the closure plan in Gwaii Haanas so it would be less painful for commercial fishermen. Bruce Turriss, Brian Mose, Grant Dovey and Mike Atkins ran a series of meetings with different commercial fishing sectors up and down the coast where each could lay out their preferred boundaries even while maintaining the other conservation values within the original plan. The process continued as the various "preferred" plans were reconciled at joint meetings where fishermen compromised and traded on the interests of their own sector to develop a single consolidated closure plan for Gwaii Haanas proposal from BC commercial fishermen. The final announcement on the Gwaii Haanas plan was just released and while we did not get everything we wanted, a good portion of commercial fisheries proposal was accepted and the losses trimmed from the original plan. That demonstrates that the industry is willing and able

to contribute constructively to these sorts of processes and the result in this case is, I expect everyone here can agree, something we can put in the win column.

I got involved with the NSB MPA stuff in February 2018 as a representative of BC dive fisheries. The NSB team are trying to engage stakeholders at an earlier stage than happened with the Gwaii Haanas process and while that may be a good thing, I'm afraid they are sort of figuring things out on the fly. The stakeholders bit is an important distinction here because the First Nations are part of a separate governance body along with the Province and the Federal government. They have apparently been meeting for a while but FN's are not apparently involved or engaged in the stakeholder discussions so I have not gotten a feel for where they stand. There have been no lines laid on charts yet, only preliminary analyses using MARXAN to identify "Areas of Interest", and discussions on impacts and other considerations.

So far I have been to a regional meeting in Richmond where some basics like Network Objectives, performance indicators, analysis procedures and needs (including landings data) and limitations were discussed. There was also an MPATT (MPA Technical Team) meeting where some of the technical issues and processes were "explored". They are looking for expert local knowledge on the areas so it is part of the process, although they are also juggling a "dynamic ecological modelling proposal" from UBC to "model ecological changes projected from established MPA boundaries and the consequent shift in fishing effort" that at this point strikes me as an exercise in magical thinking.

I've also been to local advisory board meetings for the North Island, Central Coast and North Coast (Grant is sitting in on the Haida Gwaii table) which are a bit more productive and down to earth. These start with an introduction to the process and the SeaSketch program which displays geo-referenced data (~180 layers) and analyses and then move into discussing the areas of interest- areas identified for one or another reason by MARXAN. The North Island area has about 61 of these, the Central Coast about 55 and the North Coast about 63. We could not discuss them all but as I'm sure is no surprise, the most interesting areas are usually also the most productive, and of course most especially for the dive fisheries..

There is a window open now until July 19 for all three areas and I put together some general comments on, for example, the exemplary sustainable nature of the dive fisheries including science and survey-backed management, care and attention involved with picking individual pieces and the lack of bycatch or discards, the patchy and limited distribution of all the dive fishing species which makes shifting fishing effort largely impossible, especially if safety and cost effectiveness are considered, and how dive fishing provides data collection opportunities for environmental monitoring that are only now being imagined if not realized. I am also thinking I should point out the current level of aboriginal participation and indicate that economic opportunities in coastal communities are going to be much improved with active industry collaboration. That is something for you guys to think about as I'm thinking changes are coming because of Supreme Court decisions are still rolling in and you guys will find advantages by getting out in front of it. As an encouraging note, the BC Seafood Expo this year had a hereditary Tsimshian chief (Calvin Helin) as a keynote speaker who made the point in his talk that FN leaders all along the coast feel that the US foundation-supported eco-initiatives that have been so in the news of late are "the new colonialism" and they are not buying into it.

Anyways- the NSB MPA team will be releasing a couple of papers soon: the first a much anticipated "Conservation Gaps Analysis" which will look at what holes need to be filled to

implement an effective MPA network for the NSB , especially given that there are currently some 114 areas and 94 RCA's that have some level of protection including Gwaii Haanas; and the second a paper on their design strategy and elements thereof. Then sometime this fall the "draft" lines will go on the charts and will be reviewed in detail by all groups, including the sub-regional tables and commercial fishing by sector as per the Gwaii Haanas process. The BCSA has already submitted a proposal to get funding for that. After that release, there will be more meetings and more compromises with a final due sometime in the spring of 2019. Full implementation is going to take another couple of years after that but it looks like the train has in fact left the station.

#### **14.0 New Business**

George Dennis proposes PUHA adopt the sea wolf as a mascot. 80% of the sea wolf's diet is seafood and they like to feed on sea otters.

Market right now is soft- mainly because Peru, Chile, Mexican and Chinese are producing lots of product. The Peruvian product especially looks great but tastes horrible. It sounds like Alice was processing some.