

## Overview of Sea Change recommendations directly relevant to the Hauraki Gulf Forum

Key recommendation relevant to the Forum	Discussion
<b>Membership of the governance entity (page 202)</b>	
a. The make-up of the Governance Entity should reflect co-governance principles with membership from Mana Whenua and the community at large	Will need to consider case for amending statute to revise membership and operating model – Independent review recommends establishing a sub-committee to promote these principles in the interim
b. All members should bring the ability to make decisions, to influence people. They need to be community leaders, with considerable courage and the ability to drive outcomes for the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park.	Current members arguably bring this already – will need to consider whether the organisational and political constraints members operate within allow them to exercise this influence and courage
c. The size of the Governance Entity should be manageable but large enough to allow for sufficient representation of the various groups, and the range of skills required.	Will need to consider whether the size of the Forum is a barrier to its effectiveness or whether other steps (i.e. establishment of sub-committees and steering groups) – may need to agree a set of questions and commission expert advice
d. Central and local government agency staff should act as advisors to the Governance Entity.	Arguably the case already – will need to consider whether organisational and political constraints allow agency staff to provide advice on behalf of the Forum and through the 'lens' of its statute
e. The governance body should be sufficiently mandated to be able to contribute meaningfully to the outcomes sought in this Plan for the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park.	Arguably the case already – will need to consider whether organisational, political and resourcing/capacity constraints allow the Forum collectively and its members individually to exercise this mandate effectively
f. The entity may initiate "Action Committees" with wider membership to oversee and report on the various initiatives undertaken.	Arguably the case already – will need to consider whether organisational, political and resourcing/capacity constraints allow the Forum to do this effectively
<b>Functions (page 203)</b>	
The Governance Entity needs to be the champion for the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park and focus on the acceptance, adoption, and implementation of the Marine Spatial Plan. This includes the following:	This function is broadly within the Forum's current scope. That Seachange made this recommendation is consistent with earlier calls for change to the Forum's operating model and perceptions the Forum could be doing more.
a. Leading strategic Gulf-wide initiatives described in the Plan that are clearly not the role of any particular statutory agency, and/or facilitating inter-agency cooperation to ensure priority Initiatives are implemented.	The Forum could provide leadership in these cases without having to rely on enabling statutory change – but only if other management agencies support this approach formally, both in principle and by providing resources to enable the Forum to play this role effectively. It would be easier for the Forum to play a leadership role if its statute gave it more direct powers and if its governance arrangements and operating model we designed explicitly for this purpose. Will need to consider the case for more statutory change.
b. Overseeing the design of a detailed implementation plan (within 6 to 9 months of adoption of the Spatial Plan), which could commence with prioritised fisheries reviews, the development of key performance indicators, and commitment to monitoring and review protocols being established.	The Forum could play an informal coordinating and recommendatory role in the design of the implementation plan without statutory change, but there would need to be statutory change if the Forum were to play a formal oversight role with scope to direct agencies to act.
c. Overseeing and coordinating research, information gathering, and reporting for the Hauraki Gulf Marine	The Forum currently prepares and publishes three-yearly 'State of the Gulf' reports and has an explicit coordination

Key recommendation relevant to the Forum	Discussion
Park, as well as providing a central place where Gulf information is held.	and integration role. It is also able to: require reports from management agencies on the implementation of policies and strategies to address issues, share educational material, and commission research. A broad interpretation of these functions would allow the Forum to play the role anticipated in this recommendation. Given the budgetary implications for other agencies, however, to play this role effectively the Forum would have to rely on enabling legislative mandate and resourcing.
d. Establishing a public awareness and education campaign on the implementation of the Spatial Plan and other relevant issues associated with the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park.	This role is currently within the scope of the Forum's functions and powers, and could be advanced as part of the Forum's existing public information and communications programmes.
e. Coordinating and supporting the community initiatives and restoration groups actively engaged with the care of the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park	A broad interpretation of the Forum's functions would enable it to play this role, and to some extent it already does play a role in this space – to perform this role comprehensively and effectively, however, it would need the formal in principal support of agencies and additional resourcing/capacity.
f. Providing recommendations to the Minister for Primary Industries on fisheries sustainability measures and regulations applying to the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park. This includes working with the Minister for Primary Industries and local Mana Whenua groups in establishing customary fisheries tools such as mātaītai, taiāpure, and rāhui.	The Forum is empowered to require reports from and provide recommendations to the Ministry for Primary Industries, so a broad reading of the Forum's functions would allow it to play this role (providing it does not appear before a court or tribunal other than if called as a witness of take part formally in a decision-making process other than in an advisory capacity – going further than this would require statutory change). To perform this role comprehensively and effectively, however, it would need the formal in principal support of agencies and additional resourcing/capacity.
g. Supporting Mana Whenua and local communities in the establishment of Ahu Moana.	Seachange introduced the concept of Ahu Moana and the Forum's current powers do not allow it to establish similar arrangements (i.e. reserves governed and managed under a co-management framework). Will need to consider whether this is a role that the Forum should be empowered to play via enabling legislative change.
h. Assisting iwi to realise their goal of greater participation in the governance, management and kaitiakitanga of the marine space.	Beyond its role as an advocate for integrated management, the Forum does not currently have scope to play this role. Will need to consider whether this is a role that the Forum should be empowered to play via enabling legislative change.
i. Working closely with DOC, iwi/hapū, and local stakeholder groups and communities to help establish the network of MPAs identified in the Plan and providing support to iwi/hapū and local communities to ensure MPAs are successfully managed in the long term	Beyond its role as an advocate for integrated management, the Forum does not currently have scope to play this role. Will need to consider whether this is a role that the Forum should be empowered to play via enabling legislative change.
j. Ensuring that all government agencies and stakeholders consider potential impacts on the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park's ecosystems, and document their process as an integral part of their decision-making systems.	The Forum's is currently able to encourage, advocate for and recommend that agencies consider potential impacts in their decision-making. To empower the Forum to 'ensure' this happens would require statutory change and the in-principal support of agencies, as well as additional resourcing.
k. Developing guidance material on how an ecosystem-management / Mātauranga Māori management approach should be applied to fisheries, conservation,	The Forum could require reports from agencies and share this information with agencies responsible for making fisheries, conservation and resource management decisions

Key recommendation relevant to the Forum	Discussion
and resource management decision-making in the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park and its catchments.	in the Tikapa Moana/Hauraki Gulf. To be effective this would require the formal in-principal support of agencies and additional resourcing.
l. Producing a five-yearly “State of the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park” report, which would include a review of the effectiveness of the Marine Spatial Plan and the extent to which targets are being met.	The Forum currently produces a three-yearly State of the Environment report for the Tikapa Moana/Hauraki Gulf, which could be easily expanded to include a review of the effectiveness of the Marine Spatial Plan and the extent to which its targets are being met. This would require a minor/technical change to statute to extend the period between reports.
m. Revising the Marine Spatial Plan to respond to issues raised in the review. The Governance Entity should be responsible for approval of each revised Spatial Plan, which could then be given statutory recognition under a revised Hauraki Gulf Marine Park Act, with agencies required to give effect to it under their various statutory instruments.	This is a significant change that would give the Forum major influence over the regulatory planning frameworks of the agencies with management responsibilities to and in the Tikapa Moana/Hauraki Gulf – they would be required through their plans to “give effect to” subsequent iterations of the marine spatial plan, which the Forum would be responsible for approving. This would require change to multiple statutes (including the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park Act, Resource Management Act, Conservation Act, Fisheries Act) as well as substantial additional resourcing. Will need to consider whether this is a role that the Forum should be empowered to play via enabling legislative change.
n. Reviewing relevant draft statutory documents prepared by agencies prior to public notification to ensure that they give effect to the Spatial Plan and the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park Act. These would include plans prepared under the Resource Management Act, the Conservation Act and in Initial Position Papers prepared under the Fisheries Act.	This will require substantial additional resourcing. Will need to consider whether this is a role that the Forum should be empowered to play via enabling legislative change.
o. Leading regular meetings with statutory agencies to track implementation progress	This could be undertaken within the scope of existing functions and powers, providing agencies support the Forum playing this role, in principle.

**[Page 206] Research and monitoring committee**

For the purposes of the Plan, a research and monitoring committee should be established, under the ‘umbrella’ of the Governance Entity. This should be constituted of experts from Crown Research Institutes, universities and wānanga, other research organisations, management agencies (especially Auckland Council and Waikato Regional Council), iwi, industry/sector groups, community representatives, and businesses dependant on the Gulf. The purpose of the committee should be to act as a broker and hub for all research activities in the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park, including:

**Funding**

- a. Identifying and promoting research projects that can be conducted within existing MBIE-funded, National Science Challenge, Crown Research Institute core-funded, university-funded, and local government-funded research programmes.
- b. Looking for opportunities to partner the committee’s research and monitoring plan with organisations that are planning research proposals, for example, by serving on technical

This function builds on, but significantly extends the Forum’s current functions of: “encouraging, sharing, coordinating and disseminating educational material”, and “commissioning research into matters relevant to the functions of the Forum”.

To perform this role effectively the Forum would need additional resourcing to allow it to convene and maintain this committee of experts and representatives, and to manage the strategic-leadership and brokerage roles anticipated by Seachange.

The Forum would arguably be well-placed to play this role if agencies were supportive in principle and were prepared to provide the necessary resourcing and capacity.

Will need to consider whether this is a role that the Forum should be empowered to play via direct agency support.

Key recommendation relevant to the Forum	Discussion
<p>steering groups, and assisting in networking across agencies and other organisations.</p> <p>c. Working with tertiary education institutes to attach students to research projects.</p> <p>d. Partnering with industry research organisations to co-fund projects.</p> <p>e. Finding opportunities for citizens to contribute to the research effort.</p> <p>f. Presenting strong reasoning to philanthropic organisations to provide research support.</p>	
<p>Leadership</p> <p>a. Working with central government to ensure adequate research funding.</p> <p>b. Seeking opportunities to add value to research projects, for example, by involving local industry and community groups, and developing opportunities for key stakeholder groups to manage research programmes collaboratively.</p> <p>c. Helping co-ordinate research across different programmes.</p> <p>d. Providing a liaison role between research programmes and management agencies, to ensure important results are noticed and taken up by management.</p>	
<p>Strategy and management</p> <p>a. Keeping abreast of timelines, including bidding processes, regional plan reviews and collaborative planning processes, looking to assist research funders in the development of their Requests for Proposals, and to ensure that research opportunities are well publicised to as many potential research providers as practical.</p> <p>b. Identifying future opportunities for synergies between stakeholder and research agencies.</p>	
<p><b>[Page 70-72]</b> Establish a multi-stakeholder advisory group (including recreational and commercial fishing interests, Mana Whenua, the environment sector, government and scientists) by 2017 (potentially a sub-group within a revamped Hauraki Gulf Forum and a continuation of the fisheries implementation group) to provide recommendations to the Minister for Primary Industries, and other Ministers as appropriate, on fisheries measures and regulations under the Fisheries Act applying to the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park, and other relevant matters.</p> <p>A multi-stakeholder group (including recreational and commercial fishing interests, Mana Whenua, the environment sector, government and scientists) will be formed, under the auspices of the Hauraki Gulf Forum and supported by MPI, to recommend an implementation plan by the end of 2017, including to:</p>	<p>Explicitly anticipated as a function of a “revamped” Forum, this is a role the Forum could play within the scope of its existing functions and powers, and would arguably be well-placed to play if agencies were supportive in principle and were prepared to provide the necessary resourcing and capacity.</p> <p>Will need to consider whether this is a role that the Forum should be empowered to play via direct agency support.</p>

Key recommendation relevant to the Forum	Discussion
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Identify funding sources and research priorities, recognising implementing the plan is in the public interest. In principle there is no intention to impose additional new costs on quota owners for managing fish stocks over a smaller spatial area based on the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park. New costs should be borne by government in its role of managing fisheries and the broader marine environment in the public interest.</li> <li>b. Further develop the transition process to move bottom trawling, Danish seining and dredging out of the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park.</li> <li>c. Consider whether there should be a requirement to use a 6 inch mesh cod end for Danish seining nets deployed in the Inner Hauraki Gulf.</li> <li>d. Undertake an economic impact analysis and develop an assistance package associated with the transition of bottom contact methods out of the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park, and during the interim, within the proposed MPAs.</li> <li>e. Develop the ongoing devolved governance arrangement incorporating a range of stakeholder interests to provide recommendations to the Minister for Primary Industries on fisheries management issues within the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park.</li> <li>f. Prioritise research and monitoring, linked into the broader Hauraki Gulf Marine Park research and monitoring needs identified in this document</li> </ul>	

**[Page 120] Ecosystems-based decision-making –**

Require agencies to report progress to the Hauraki Gulf Forum, every two years, towards applying an ecosystem/Mātauranga Māori management approach. If significant progress in applying the approach has not been made after four years (i.e. two reporting periods) consider applying a stronger regulatory approach to achieve the change required.

The Forum is currently able to “obtain, share and monitor information on the state of the natural and physical resources” of the Tikapa Moana/Hauraki Gulf, “receive reports from the Tangata whenua of the Hauraki Gulf on the development and implementation of iwi management or development plans”, and “require and receive reports from constituent parties and the development of policies and strategies to address issues [identified by the Forum]”

This arguably gives the Forum the scope to require agencies to report on progress towards applying an ecosystem/Mātauranga Māori management approach. The Forum could then provide recommendations on what a stronger regulatory approach to driving the adoption of an ecosystem/Mātauranga Māori management approach.

**[Page 150] Ensure good sediment management practice**

Promote the universal adoption of good management practice by Requesting each land use sector to advise the Hauraki Gulf Forum and councils of their plan to ensure universal uptake of good management practices by 2018. Every two years thereafter, sectors formally reporting to the Hauraki Gulf Forum and councils on progress in achieving universal uptake. Council compliance teams should provide advice on the standard of this reporting and the achievements being reached for the period.

Although the Forum is able to “obtain, share and monitor information on the state of the natural and physical resources” of the Tikapa Moana/Hauraki Gulf, its powers extend to the “constituent parties” but not beyond to include “land use sectors”. The Forum would need to work through its constituent management agencies to play this role, which would include specifying the nature of information required and coordinating the agencies efforts to gather and report it.

Key recommendation relevant to the Forum	Discussion
	<p>The Forum's existing scope of functions arguably allows it to play this role, but agencies would need to support it taking this role in principle and by providing resourcing to allow it to perform the role effectively.</p>
<p><b>[Page 200]</b> The Hauraki Gulf Marine Park advisory panel will advise applicants for major infrastructure projects within the Park, for example marinas, boat ramps, ports, undersea cables, and the like. The advisory panel would inform applicants on the unique Hauraki Gulf environment and the physical and legal issues. It would also provide project-planning advice to ensure good outcomes for the applicant, the whole community and Gulf. The Urban Design Panel has been put forward as a model but the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park Design Panel will likely sit with the Hauraki Gulf Forum or its successor.</p>	<p>Anticipated as a role for the Forum (or its successor), this would extend the Forum's current mandate, which currently allows it to provide advice only if requested. To perform this role, the Forum would need the 'buy-in' of its constituent members and substantial additional resourcing and capacity.</p>
<p><b>[Page 200]</b> Specific priorities for monitoring, research or indicators ... should be [proposed] by the respective agencies, and overseen by the Governance Entity.</p>	<p>Depending on the interpretation of "oversight" and whether the power to make recommendations on proposed priorities for monitoring, research and indicators is considered sufficient, the Forum may be able to play this role within the scope of its existing mandate.</p> <p>If a more active 'oversight' role is desired, the Forum may require additional powers (i.e. the power to approve proposals), which would require enabling statutory change.</p>