



NATIONAL FISHERIES AUTHORITY

“Effectively Managing our Fisheries and Marine Resources
For Sustainable and Equitable Benefits”



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NEWS RELEASE

NFA reviews mud crab fishery plan

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The National Fisheries Authority (NFA) recently conducted a week-long stakeholder consultation workshop on the Mud Crab Fishery with relevant stakeholders to review the National Mud Crab Fishery Plan that came into force in 2019.

With the recent gazettal of the first National Mud Crab Management Plan in 2019, this is the first management plan review and consultation workshop conducted by NFA for the purpose of addressing implementation issues, provide information on the biology, ecology and socioeconomics that impact this fishery, to ensure effective management and sustainability of this mud crab fishery going forward.

The objectives of the management plan are to ensure long term livelihood benefits of resource owners, maintain all species of mud crab at biological sustainable levels, sustain economic benefits and to enable participatory of all relevant stakeholders in the management of this fishery.

The review of the plan involves point of views from government agencies, licensed operators, buyers, resources owners, provincial administrations, Conservation and Environment Protection Authority (CEPA), Academia (UPNG), private citizens discussing suite of issues from licensing, exportation, marketing and many other challenges encountered in the mud crab fishery.

The intent to review the management plan is to make it more relevant to stakeholders so they benefit in the long term whilst ensuring biological sustainability of the fishery

It is important to sustainably manage the mud crab fishery for the long-term livelihood of the mud crab resource owner, maintaining all species of mud crab populations at biologically sustainable levels, sustaining the economic benefit of resource owners and industry, and enabling resource owners, industry, other relevant groups and research institutions involved in the management of the fishery.

A good number of participants at the workshop have aired their concerns with many acknowledging NFA's effort in conducting such consultation with them hence, giving them the opportunity to address challenges they encounter in the fishery.

After the consultation workshop, and the review of the current national mud crab management plan NFA will now proceed to gazette the amended plan and improve the implementation of this plan so that this fishery will continue to generate income for resource owners and the industry

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