

MINUTES

Meeting No.	38
Meeting	Natural Asset Management Advisory Committee
Date	4 July 2019
Time	9:00am – 2:00 pm
Venue	Committee Room, level 3, Cairns Regional Council, Spence Street Please see meeting invite and email for entry procedure

- Attendance:** Welcome to Dan Nielson TRC & Caleb Zaicz. Leah Nugent CRC, Jade Monda CRC, Brad Everett DSC, Tony O'Malley Terrain NRM, Darryn Higgins CSC, Michael Graham BQ, Travis Sydes FNQROC, Scott Morrison TRC
- Apologies:** Cr Kate Milton HSC, Matt Buckman HSC, David Vettoretto HSC, Damon Sydes CCRC, Cr Jeff Baines CCRC, Amy Yates MSC, Ken Golbey TRC, Peter Logan DSC, Bart Dryden Terrain NRM, Darlene Irvine FNQROC.
- Guests:**
- Acceptance of previous meeting minutes**
Mover: Jade Monda CRC
Seconded: Michael Graham BQ

5. Actions from Previous Meeting

No.	ACTION	OWNER	COMPLETE?
37.1	Land Protection Fund and State Oversight Group Provide updates on any alterations or consultation planned through the SOG	FNQROC	Agenda item 11
37.2	Taskforce proposal pro forma Prepare pro-forma for regional taskforce submissions prior to next NAMAC meeting	FNQROC	Y Agenda item 9
36.2	LPF EOI's FNQROC circulate final Aleman grass project proposal to NAMAC out of session	FNQROC	Y
36.3	NRIP NRM investment 1. Develop and circulate framework for projects 2. Set date for project workshop 3. Individual councils development project proposals to be tabled at the workshop	1 FNQROC/Terrain 2 FNQROC/Terrain 3 NAMAC	Y Agenda item 12
36.1	Technology and tools for vertebrate pest management NAMAC to consider in more detail how to develop training packages and skill sharing to further enabling the uptake of technologies and tools which assist operations.	NAMAC	Y Will be conducted as part of core business

6. Correspondence

7. Biosecurity Queensland – Update



Michael Graham provided an update on BQ North operations and staff movements. There will soon be Northern Area Senior Biosecurity Officer role based in the NPA. The role will have two subordinate positions and will have a largely quarantine focus (movement of biosecurity risks from the north PNG/Torres Strait).

A new biosecurity officer has been employed in Charters Towers and currently still seeking to fill the Cloncurry position.

There are currently two state led biosecurity responses in train;

- Browsing ant response (SEQ) – has required 6 weeks of staff time over past few months
- Varroa mite (Asian honey bees) Townsville – detected May 2019
- Regional staff have also committed a lot of time to the response for Tilapia (Oreochromis and spotted tilapia) in the Walsh River north of Chillagoe and Bruce Weir west of Dimbulah

There is also on increased scope of works in the marine biosecurity space– a state-wide project is underway conducting ports based monitoring and marine sentinel surveillance (settlement arrays, debris clean up, visual monitoring).

LG concerns regarding reduced support due to new commitments/state responses were discussed. It was outlined there is a state biosecurity response team which can be enacted but must be funded by the business area within the Department, IP&A does not usually have the funds available so uses regional staff.

A discussion regarding online sales of culinary, ornamental and aquarium plants/fish outlined that many higher risk species are most likely in circulation in the region. Given many of our most significant established and recently detected aquatic weeds come from this source it was discussed whether a project under the LPF might deliver a risk assessment and provide recommendations for a regional course of action

Action: FNQROC prepare a discussion paper/project outline for an LPF project to deliver a risk assessment/response proposal relating to aquarium plants/fish and trade in the FNQ

8. Compliance development workshop – proposed concepts and dates

Michael Graham provided an overview of a proposed 3-day compliance workshop/training forum to be held in early 2020. Key points

- LG Surveillance programs & prevention and control programs will need to be in place and up to date.
- Timing – Late April 2020 – Easter
- A working group will be established to design the program and will meet by teleconference shortly – Jade Monda CRC, Scott Morrison TRC, Darryn Higgins CSC, Travis Sydes FNQROC, Michael Graham BQ, & Dave Green BQ. any others from HSC, CCRC or MSC please notify Michael
- Local laws and biosecurity concurrent local laws investigations training

Action: Travis to provide notification to the FNQROC Board of the planned compliance training event.

8.1 – 1080 unit of competency in development (state will pay for certain number of people in each LG) – planned roll out in 2020 every 2 years and then refresher training – will be a unit toward a unit of the pest management diploma (RTO based).

Regional skills development was discussed and the action to develop a skills matrix approach in the animal management space was tabled.

Action: Travis to circulate the skills matrix concept and ascertain links with investigations and compliance training between AMTC and NAMAC.

9. Taskforce update – YCA taskforce details and Taskforce EOI template for discussion/adoption

Travis outlined the layout and purpose of the EOI template

Action: The EOI template be adopted and trialled by LG's for upcoming proposal. Any amendments or updates will be managed during general business of the NAMAC.

Planning for the YCA taskforce 2019 is well underway. The program received ongoing funding from both State and Federal Gov. The BQ ID lab has also been funded for an additional 3 years which will ensure the ongoing processing of field samples.

The delivery of the regional tramp ant response plan is more important than ever to support the investment and ensure early detection of any incursions. The interval and frequency of sampling at regional sentinel sites was discussed. It was agreed that the frequency of survey and transfer station monitoring would benefit from being conducted as two calendar events – post wet season, pre-season

Action: MG send out luring kits, Travis send out calendar invites for sentinel sites monitoring

10. Resource Sharing in Joint Operations MOU – revision and update

The proposal to broaden the scope of the regional MOU to incorporate AM business was discussed. There was universal agreement to expand the existing agreement rather than create a separate one for AM.

Action: Travis to propose broadened scope option out of session to the AMTC (and redraft in time next meetings of both committees)

11. Land Protection Fund & State Oversight Group update

SOG met last month over two days. Day one was the state wide research review where all the current BQ research projects were tabled and discussed. Day two was the SOG were EOI proposals were tabled and scored. The upcoming investments will be established once budgets allocations have been finalised so there are no announcement as yet.

The group also revisited the calculation methodology based on feedback and submissions from councils and regional representatives.

12. NLP II and NRIP investment strategies – Terrain NRM

Tony provided an overview of two funding streams underway under the State NRIP and the Commonwealth LPF II.

NLP II funding stream – Woodlands and Rainforest projects – Woodlands (Moggy glider Hinchinbrook and CCRC is already underway). The rainforest project has just begun and will target Cassowary, Mabi and Littoral Rainforest. The first year's investment will target 'no regrets' funding allocation facilitated by the respective recovery groups. Total funding allocation each year (1-4) will include; revegetation (82,500); weed management (31,250); and habitat protection (12,500). A three year project could follow on from year one. The process for years 2-4 will be via application but will use a joint committee from across cassowary mabi and littoral rainforest recovery teams. Cassowary targets identified include Eubenangee, Smiths Gap, Kurramine/ Bingil, Crater lakes, Mallan.

NRIP EOI and workshop was held recently and DSC, TRC and CCRC submitted four EOI's. Terrain has funded three of the four projects and contracts in place. We are awaiting the finalisation of monitoring toolkit before projects begin. The funded projects are;

- Hiptage (DSC)– continuing core infestation management to eliminate the core infestation beginning at the eastern face – will extend to the western face
- South Cedar Creek (TRC)– restoration of wet sclerophyll vegetation in riparian zone
- Nyleta Creek (CCRC)- recovery and restoration of lowland rainforest following heat wave wildfire of 2018.

The majority of the projects funding has been allocated with \$26,000 remainder for year. The vegetation condition report tool will be available soon.

The project is an ideal test-case for the proposed NRM investment model for LG's in development by LGAQ which promotes a regional advisory committee to administer a devolved, target specific fund.

Action: Circulate LGAQ NRM report to NAMAC. Circulate finalised vegetation condition reporting tool.

13. Board Directed Projects - AMWS and Weed Spread Prevention network update, Navua sedge select committee

Travis provided an update of the Board directed projects underway. Presented the initial work on roadside weed management plan, the project will recommence now the AMWS and Navua sedge select committee projects are up and running.

Action: Circulate roadside weed plan. Individual councils consider practical applications of the weed spread prevention and roadside management plans to be developed as components of this work.

14. Wet Tropics Healthy Waterways report card – invasive weeds indicator reporting 2020

The 2020 reporting period will be the 4-yearly update of the underlying data for the invasive weeds (instream aquatic) indicator. The process will need to be agreed to at next meeting. There is also scope to include the riparian transformer species in the soon to be developed/updated riparian vegetation condition indicator conducted by DNRME.

Action: prepare outline options to recapture and review aquatic weed distribution data for the report card preparation in 2020.

15. General Business

The issue of litter and rubbish in significant natural areas was raised. The conversation focused on the issue of branded litter and whether there were ways or means to work with outlets to develop strategies to address the issue. Suggested avenues included LAWMAC, DES, and WTMA

Action: Approach WTMA and DES for more information on any strategies or programs underway.

16. Points for noting to the FNQROC Board

Provide outline of 2020 biosecurity compliance workshop concept and intent to the Board.

17. Next meeting – August 22

No.	ACTION	OWNER
38.1	FNQROC prepare a discussion paper/project outline for an LPF project to deliver a risk assessment/response proposal relating to aquarium plants/fish and trade in the FNQ	FNQROC
38.2	Travis to circulate the skills matrix concept and ascertain links with investigations and compliance training between AMTC and NAMAC.	FNQROC
38.2	Taskforce EOI template - The EOI template be adopted and trialled by LG's for upcoming proposal. Any amendments or updates will be managed during general business of the NAMAC.	LG's
38.3	Send out tramp ant luring kits and calendar invites for sentinel sites monitoring	BQ, FNQROC
38.4	Resource sharing MOU - Travis to propose broadened scope option out of session to the AMTC (and redraft in time next meetings of both committees)	FNQROC
38.5	Circulate LGAQ NRM report to NAMAC. Circulate finalised vegetation condition reporting tool.	FNQROC Terrain NRM
38.6	Circulate roadside weed plan. Individual councils consider practical applications of the weed spread prevention and roadside management plans to be developed as components of this work.	FNQROC/All
38.7	Prepare outline options to recapture and review aquatic weed distribution data for the report card preparation in 2020.	FNQROC
38.8	Waste management in environmentally sensitive sites- Approach WTMA and DES for more information on any strategies or programs underway.	FNQROC