

DRAFT MINUTES

Meeting No.	2
Meeting	Regional animal management technical committee
Date	28 August 2019
Time	9:30am – 2:30 pm
Venue	Civic reception, ground floor, Cairns Regional Council, Spence Street, Cairns

- 1. Attendance:** Anthony Archie MSC, Gene Brooks HASC, James Hugh QDAF, Tina Martin CRC, Anne-Marie Plasto CRC, Remy Wilson DSC, Robert D'Adonna MSC, Shellina McKellar TRC, Stephen Hogan Q Health, Dale Lumma QPS, Michael Hinchcliff QPS, Travis Sydes FNQROC
- 2. Apologies:** Amy Yates MSC, Clayton Abreu QHEALTH, Helen Bigmore WWASC, Jennifer McCarthy MSC, Kylie McAllister CSC, Mark Kerswell QPS, Matthew Kelly CTRC, Darlene Irvine FNQROC, Lisa Miller CSC, Milton Richards YASC, Sara Roberts DSC, Preston Andrews YASC, Patrick Nandy Jr WWASC, Gavin Hammond CCRC, Lester Shipton WWASC
- 3. Guests:**
- 4. Introduction and welcome**
- 5. Business arising from previous meeting**
Moved: Shellina McKellar , **Seconded:** Tina Martin

ACTION	Owner	Complete
1.1 Councils consider the application of the 'Good dog owner's guide' and supporting materials in their community.	All	Item 7
1.2 The committee consider the feasibility of regional roll-out of the guide, or what support would be required for individual councils to adopt/adapt to their area.	Committee (next meeting)	Item 7
1.3 LG officers are encouraged to contact Mark Kerswell (Detective Sergeant, OIC Far North Major & Organised Crime Squad, Rural) for notifications of incidents, requests for advice or assistance relating to wandering stock and stock on roads.	All (contact details in email)	Y/ ongoing
1.4 For matters relating to QDAF regarding animal biosecurity, animal health, property (PIC) and livestock identification (NLIS and branding) and movement notification requirements contact QDAF either via 13 25 23 or Hugh James (Biosecurity Inspector, Animal Biosecurity & Welfare) directly.	All (contact details in email)	Y/ ongoing

1.5 Collate an overview of the current data captured through CR and AM records for comparison at next meeting.	FNQROC will circulate a table to capture key data fields currently in use across councils	Item 8
1.6 Circulate example/examples of a skills and training matrix.	CCRC (and anyone else using a similar approach)	Item 9
1.7 Circulate the FNQROC Resource Sharing in Joint Operations MOU.	FNQROC	Yes (item 10)
1.8 Collate and circulate regional AM contact group.	FNQROC (advise Travis of additional staff you would like added to contact list, or if you wish to be removed).	Y

6. Council updates – brief verbal updates of key programs and events from around the region

CRC

- De-sex programs underway, primarily focused on cats,
- Joint 3 year project in Cairns west with Dept. of housing (desex, microchipping and registration. Focused on population stabilisation. First round of door to door communication has taken place. Currently using temporary chemical de-sexing to break the breeding cycle.
- For dogs closing the gate seems to be the greater issue before fencing, working with Dept. Housing to review fencing approaches.
- Currently designing mental health /debriefing program as a trial project with staff who are routinely exposed to dog attack outcomes and aggression, as well as impoundment procedures which can take a large personal toll on individuals.
- Responsibility of responding – churn in attack and pound processes have a large personal toll on individuals.
- Working in with Safer Streets Program has provided good opportunities for partnership with other social programs – important these are supported into the future
- Behaviour change and relationship building is likely to be more effective in the long term than compliance approach in at risk communities.

DSC

- Currently upgrading pound facilities.
- Reviewing procedures and process for animal management.
- Reviewing communication tools for local laws.

Hope Vale

- Hope Vale currently has 1 AMW and no local laws officers. There is no compliance initiative in place because the standard approach is not relevant in an ASC context; social support is much more effective.

- The AM program provides personal contact with community which is crucial to its ongoing success.
- 8 week vet visits are crucial to the support the community and maintain animal health.
- Improving the management and health of an individual animal is more beneficial than removing the animal because another will simply take its place.
- Dogs under control – by whatever means (fencing, training, lead) is important.
- Communication and education is always the key to success and needs to be ongoing– saturation from a wide range of angles is always important to ensure the message is reinforced.

Qld Health

- AMRIC (animal management in remote indigenous communities) new federal funding to coming back into QLD – good education materials and resources <https://www.amrric.org/>
- Qld Health conscious of the potential for marginalisation of AMW workers in indigenous communities and would welcome any opportunities to find ways to support officers through staff exchanges or taskforces for select operations
- Job-oriented training is not the only skill sharing opportunity – there are many opportunities to partner more closely with social welfare programs and investments.

MSC

- Partnership with Kuranda conservation group to develop mail drop of communication materials relating to responsible dog ownership.
- Roaming cattle – approaching court procedures with the right information – (duty of care on roadsides matters is relevant to proposed MOU with QPS).
- Communication with the executive, have trialled moving away from numbers only approach and provided photographic information/visual and personal information to guide decisions which has made response more effective.
- 2% of cats are collected from pound.
- Approved animal program underway – targeting rural residential areas for compliance with registrations and wandering dogs.
- New pound facility underway – facility currently runs in partnership with Friends of The Animals (Likely to include a boarding facility separate to the pound facility to raise revenue).

Biosecurity Queensland Animal Health –

- Focus on supermarket waste which has potential to be accessed wild animals – all food waste, particularly meat products run a high quarantine risk and disease transmission management risk which needs to be addressed.
- Northern Australian Biosecurity Strategy, delivered training session across the Cape to provide basic skills, training and sampling kits.
- Investigating best options to deliver education and messages to community on the ground – call centres, police etc. work well
- Opportunities for external support from QPS given they have officers are present in all communities and can provide influence to AMW's,

- Have been providing information and training on zoonotic diseases that AMW's are vulnerable to.
- Going out with DSC pig trapper to provide animal workers with advice on detection of biosecurity risks and managing zoonotic disease.

TRC

- Court procedures regarding wandering stock, charges have been laid and were successful in court.
- Local laws staff are being confronted with aggression more frequently due to drug related behaviours. Incidents are being responded to in partnership with police,
- Several impoundments and vehicle strikes with stock in recent weeks – working on media release for livestock management soon,
- Adopted new local laws – in effect Sep 1,
- New dog park signage – a public competition was used to select community photos which will be used on the signs,
- New pound facility included in the new budget - design of the facility will include all the required uses and functions – land available for use.

CCRC (out of session)

- Have now employed two additional local laws officers (full complement of staff now in place).
- Continuing rollout of Good Dog Owners Guide.

7. Good Dog Owners guide – next steps for participating/interested councils

TRC – keen but would adapt (logo/perhaps dog image) to suit the region –would need to generate a business case – December cut off

MSC- limited capacity to invest currently– will participate with assistance

HVASC – welcome any support – would require revision of messaging to ensure relevant application in ASC's (in partnership with Qld Health).

DSC- follow up to confirm

CRC – no budget available this year, see value in the consistent regional approach but would have to redesign many existing products

CCRC – out of session – supportive of ongoing partnership and development of new products in the future

CSC – follow up to confirm

YASC – follow up (include in scope for redeveloped products to suit ASC's)

WWASC – follow up (include in scope for redeveloped products to suit ASC's)

Action: 1. Develop/share business case for next stage of adoption 2. Consider some resourcing for first round of collateral to participating councils and budget for consultation and specific design considerations for ASC's

8. Data capture – workshop session to capture key data attributes relating to AM-FNQROC

A workshop session identified the core attributes of data collected during animal management. Key points relating to data capture;

- There is no industry standard (national/state) for data attributes in AM,
- Multiple data collection and management systems in use,
- Links to both CR and compliance are individual to councils,
- AMW program captures a range of relevant data and information with ASC's,
- There was interest in the LGAQ proposal for AM management data standards/guidelines under Sherlock Project but the local laws element of this was not pursued,
- Interest in reporting on purpose and outcomes of CR and patrols to inform best fit interventions for different situations,
- Interest in benchmarking,
- A wide range of opportunities to use data alongside ABS, Id and other information to inform benefit:cost of compliance vs education/support programs, particularly in locations with significant socio-economic disadvantage.

Action: Compile proposed AM data attributes standard for review at next AMTC meeting

9. Discussion around proposed skills matrix structure and data –FNQROC

Travis shared some of the existing matrix in use as well as the matrix currently being developed within CRC (Natural Assets). Each council considered the application of a matrix approach and how that might be useful in their operations key points;

- Useful approach to map out required accreditations for staff and maintain currency,
- Also would be useful to map out required specialist interpersonal and communication skills required in local laws roles,
- Could be used to identify subject specialists across councils in the region to aid in identifying mentoring and skill sharing,
- Would align well to partnerships and skill sharing under resource sharing MOU,
- Could aid shared investment in specialist training across animal management and natural assets team (compliance, investigations, conflict resolution), and
- Would aid the development of a regional library of training materials for specialist skills and tasks where there are few options for local service providers.

CRC provided a quick overview of upcoming training they have in train including cat handling and trapping. Travis noted the NAMAC is considering an application into the Land Protection Fund to conduct a census/ field survey to ascertain the density and distribution of feral cats in FNQ to better inform management.

Action: 1. Continue development of matrix approach as standing item in AMTC. 2. Consider a regional partnership with NAMAC for census and articulation of feral cat population to be considered in next round of the Land Protection Fund EOIs 3. Provide link for upcoming specialist training in Cairns (cat handling)

10. Draft update of the Regional Resource Sharing MOU – FNQROC –(see attachment)

The committee reviewed and endorsed the revised MOU wording (previously revised and endorsed by the NAMAC).

Action: 1. Table the revised MOU to the FNQROC Board for adoption. 2. Circulate the taskforce EOI template to the AMTC for consideration

11. LG requirements for Roadside Animal and Wandering Stock MOU – workshop

The committee workshopped the essential elements which should be sought to be included in the Roadside Animal and Wandering Stock MOU, key elements to be addressed were identified.

- Demarcation of roles – QPS, LG and others
- Key responsibilities in likely events and scenarios – QPS, LG and others
- Processes for timely resolution of issues and response
- Service levels and triggers, escalation, compliance advice/enforcement
- Evidence collection- record keeping and workflows
- Data information sharing
- Communication guidelines (LG-QPS, QPS –LG)
- Jurisdictional (LG v state owned) considerations
- Interaction between local law (AM act) and civil law
- Qualification and accreditation for fencing standards and inspections
- Notification and alerts for events or incidents
- Signage
- NLIS data access

It was also agreed that the inclusion of Q Health, BQ Animal Health in the agreement should be considered once the initial parameters of the agreement are set.

Action: 1. Work with QPS to evaluate proposed scope of the agreement and consideration of the key elements from meeting #2. 2. Consider the inclusion of Qld Health and BQ Animal Health once the basic parameters of the agreement are developed between FNQROC and QPS.

12. FNQROC – regional programs work plan & update

Travis provided a short overview of regional programs and work plan. Key project discussed was in relation to Board action 2672a.

Animal Management & Wildlife Stewardship Policy- FNQROC Board meeting (action item 2672a) “T Sydes (in conjunction with Cr Kremastos) to develop an Animal Stewardship Public Statement and an ‘accord’ to be tabled at the October FNQROC Board meeting for endorsement. “- Discussion relating to the accord statement and types of information which could be included in a report

card style statement to accompany it. World Cassowary Day and Australian Threatened Species Week are in September and would provide an ideal time to release some initial press statements prior to seeking FNQROC Board endorsement of the accord at the October meeting.

Travis provided a quick overview of current AMTC work plan, due to time constraints this will be discussed in more detail next meeting.

Action: 1. FNQROC compile shortlist of programs and achievements the report card/media statement will include 2. Individual councils compile their statistics and key achievements in AMWS relevant areas of business. 3 include AMTC work plan review in next meeting.

13. Regional biosecurity compliance workshop and training forum 2020

NAMAC is working with BQ (invasive plants and animals) to develop a 2 day compliance forum, workshop and training event for April 2019. There have been a range of opportunities identified where biosecurity and local laws may have opportunities for resource and skill sharing. There are also likely to be opportunities in the workshop itself for shared training delivery in matters such as investigative skills and enforcement.

Action: circulate the draft workshop agenda to the AMTC when it is more developed.

14. Business arising – please inform of any additional agenda items

Designs and specifications for multi-purpose pound facilities were discussed – Bundaberg Shire Councils new purpose built facility was recommended as an example.

Workplace procedures and work flows available for sharing across councils were discussed – Whitsundays RC's new suite of tools was recommended as a first consideration.

15. Points for noting to the FNQROC Board – The AMTC recommends the Board adopt the revised Resource Sharing in Joint Operations MOU.

16. Next meeting – AMTC meeting #3, Civic Reception, Cairns Regional Council, November 20, 2019, 9:30-2:30

No.	ACTION	OWNER
2.1	Good Dog Owners Guide – 1. Develop/share business case for next stage of adoption 2. Consider some resourcing for first round of collateral to participating councils and budget for consultation and specific design considerations for ASC's	1. AMTC 2. FNQROC, ASC's
2.2	Data capture - Compile proposed AM data attributes	FNQROC

	standard for review at next AMTC meeting	
2.3	Skills matrix and training - 1. Continue development of matrix approach as standing item in AMTC. 2. Consider a regional partnership with NAMAC for census and articulation of feral cat population to be considered in next round of the Land Protection Fund EOI's 3. Provide link for upcoming specialist training in Cairns (cat handling)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. AMTC 2. FNQROC (MATC, NAMAC) 3. CRC
2.4	Resource Sharing MOU - Table the revised MOU to the FNQROC Board for adoption. 2. Circulate the taskforce EOI template to the AMTC for consideration	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. FNQROC 2. FNQROC
2.5	Roadside Animal and Wandering Stock MOU 1. Work with QPS to evaluate proposed scope of the agreement and consideration of the key elements from meeting #2. 2. Consider the inclusion of Qld Health and BQ Animal Health once the basic parameters of the agreement are developed between FNQROC and QPS.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. FNQROC 2. AMTC (BQ, Qld Health)
2.6	AMWS report card - 1. FNQROC compile shortlist of programs and achievements the report card/media statement will include 2. Individual councils compile their statistics and key achievements in AMWS relevant areas of business. 3 include AMTC work plan review in next meeting.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. FNQROC 2. AMTC 3. FNQROC
2.7	Regional Compliance Training Workshop and Forum 2020 - circulate the draft workshop agenda to the AMTC when it is more developed.	FNQROC

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