

MINUTES

Meeting No.	43
Meeting	Natural Asset Management Advisory Committee
Date	27 August 2020
Time	9:30am – 2:30 pm
Venue	Civic Reception – Cairns

- 1. Attendance:** Darryn Higgins CSC, Nina Kaluza CCRC, Jade Monda CRC, Lewis Defranciscis CRC, Leah Nugent CRC, Damon Sydes CCRC, Bart Dryden Terrain NRM, Michael Nash HSC, Matt Buckman HSC, Michael Graham BQ, Peter Green NTWEP, Tim Hawkes DSC, Keely Macmillan MSC.
- 2. Apologies:** Scott Morrison TRC, Cr Jeff Baines, Tom Sanders CCRC, Brad Everett DSC, Cr Kate Milton, Dave Green BQ, Mario Di Carlo BQ, Tony O'Malley Terrain NRM
- 3. Guests:** Gary Morton National Electric Ant Eradication Program
- 4. Acceptance of previous meeting minutes:** Moved- Jade Monda Seconded: Damon Sydes

5. Correspondence

6. Biosecurity Queensland – general update

1080 minor use permit update. All permit papers have been submitted and the APVMA have requested an Environmental Impact Statement. The permit required identification of alternative control tools/workflow in the event an off target is detected during pre-feed/baiting. This is being developed into a report format by Matt Ellsworth BQ

Action: 1. councils to provide date and time stamped images of evidence of the current reporting of off target species. 2. Update 1080 procedure to include bait avoidance protocols

- Sodium nitrite bait boxes (6) have arrived in the region and are available for trial. Roto-moulded poly construction, ~\$485 per box, sodium nitrite commercial baits will cost ~\$300 per baiting. Matt Ellsworth from BQ is coming to the region to conduct 3 workshops on their use.
- 1080 - Q Health application process for 1080 authorisations discussed.

Action: 1. BQ circulate dates for 3 workshops with sodium nitrite bait boxes. 2. Councils check to ensure all staff who have completed 1080 training send their competency to Q Health to secure the 1080 authorisation.

- Flumioxozin registration update. Still has not been approved for commercial use with APVMA so aquatic use considerations have not yet been made.
- BQ have been conducting survey and control operations on state-led priority species across the region. Cecropia, white ball Acacia etc.

Action: 1. Share the list of the state-led priority species. 2. Circulate the Cecropia report when completed.

Tropical Weeds Eradication Program

Peter Green National Tropical Weeds Eradication Program provided an update on the key works and events.

- Program review planning is underway – will be seeking input from LG's and other stakeholders during that process due to take place in the coming month/s.
- OH&S has been a major focus of the program with design and engineering solutions being refined to resolve machete safety issues. Investigations into working at heights/ropes crews are under consideration for some terrain types.
- Aerial surveillance has been refined with work now being undertaken to resolve protocols and privacy issues.
- Annual report is being compiled and councils will receive LGA specific reports when complete.

Action: 1. Share designs for machete handles/protocols when complete. 2. Prepare for review by providing information back to NTWEP as required.

7. FNQROC -general update

Travis Sydes provided an update on key events and projects

- Recently recorded a Reef and Rivers podcast on aquatic weeds with Greg Vinall from Wet Tropics Waterways. Is available online.
<https://wettropicswaterways.org.au/podcast/aquatic-weeds/>
- Biosecurity planning and compliance toolkit should be released soon. Compliance toolkit will provide a good platform for future regional compliance workshops and approaches. Planning resources provides some additional considerations and refined processes which we will workshop at next NAMAC.

Actions: 1. Share biosecurity planning and compliance resources when finalised.

8. Terrain NRM – general update – Rainforest Project

Bart Dryden provided an update from Terrain NRM and on key stimulus and funding packages across the region

- Reef assist funding package outcomes will be announced in the coming week, Terrain hosted a range of local groups/projects in the round
- Recovery funding for Rufous Bettong and Yellow-Bellied Glider in the pipeline
- Coastal ecosystems project, \$5 million into fish habitat, fish barriers in the Murray and lower Herbert
- Rainforest project – 2nd round of funding calls due shortly. Terrain and FNQROC have consulted with the ROC Regional Planners Group regarding planning driven project for the upcoming round.

9. IP&A Research Prospectus

10. The Invasive Plants & Animals Research Prospectus is due for release shortly. The committee discusses the underlying process and format. The prospectus will be circulated to CEOs by BQ when complete.

Action: 1. Share Invasive Plants & Animals Research Prospectus when released. 2. Circulate to local advisory groups and stakeholders

11. COVID 19 economic stimulus – general discussion

Councils and agencies shared their key activities and response to working within restrictions.

12. Taskforce update – Gary Morton NEAEP and Michael Graham BQ

Discussed proposal to assist the NEAEP in delimitation of new detection on Freshwater Creek, also to finalise surveys for Cecropia in forest settings between Northern Beaches and Kuranda.

The committee agreed to support a multi-target taskforce for Cecropia and electric ants in October. Taskforce will provide identification/survey skills for electric ants; and introduce staff to the new rainforest PPE/tools as a training outcome.

Action: 1. set a date for the taskforce operation and circulate an invite to councils and other stakeholders.

13. NRIP native vegetation project updates – update on projects (CCRC, TRC, DSC)

Refer to the project updates on the Terrain NRM website -

<https://terrain.org.au/weeds-to-wildlife-at-cedar-creek/>

<https://terrain.org.au/hiptage/>

14. FNQROC Board Directed Projects

Biosecurity Risk Management Plan – overview of structure of plan and risk management hierarchy was workshopped with the committee. It was agreed to format as a generic front end with specific management modules for the relevant business areas of council; roads and infrastructure; parks and gardens; natural assets; public facilities; utilities and services.

Report cards are underway. MSC, CRC and CCRC in final draft. DSC and TRC scheduled next. CSC and HSC will follow.

Actions: 1. Incorporate recommended edits from NAMAC and circulate revised Biosecurity Risk Management Plan. 2. Work with CRC and HSC to compile stats for report cards.

15. General Business

16. Points for noting to the FNQROC Board

17. Actions arising

No.	ACTION	OWNER
43.1	1080 minor use permit update Action: 1. councils to provide date and time stamped images of evidence of the current reporting of off target species. 2. Update 1080 procedure to include bait avoidance protocols	1. All 2. BQ, All
43.2	Sodium nitrite and bait box trials Action: 1. BQ circulate dates for 3 workshops with sodium nitrite bait boxes. 2. Councils check to ensure all staff who have completed 1080 training send their competency to Q Health to secure the 1080 authorisation.	1. BQ 2. All

43.3	State priority weeds 1. Share the list of the state-led priority species. 2. Circulate the Cecropia report when completed.	1. BQ 2. BQ
43.4	Tropical Weeds Eradication Program 1. Share designs for machete handles/protocols when complete. 2. Prepare for review by providing information back to NTWEP as required.	1. NTWEP 2. All
43.5	Biosecurity planning and compliance toolkit 1. Share biosecurity planning and compliance resources when finalised.	1. FNQROC
43.5	Invasive Plants and Animals Research Prospectus 1. Share Invasive Plants & Animals Research Prospectus when released. 2. Circulate to local advisory groups and stakeholders	1. FNQROC, BQ 2. All
43.7	Multi-target taskforce 1. set a date for the taskforce operation and circulate an invite to councils and other stakeholders	1. BQ, NEAP, FNQROC
43.8	Board directed projects – report cards and biosecurity risk management plan 1. Incorporate recommended edits from NAMAC and circulate revised Biosecurity Risk Management Plan. 2. Work with CRC and HSC to compile stats for report cards.	1. FNQROC 2. FNQROC, CSC, HSC

18. Next meeting - meeting #44 November 26 venue and format TBA