

# MINUTES

<b>Meeting No.</b>	48
<b>Meeting</b>	Natural Asset Management Advisory Committee
<b>Date</b>	18 November 2021
<b>Time</b>	9:30am – 2:30 pm
<b>Venue</b>	Mareeba Shire Council Training Room – <a href="#">Rankine Street Mareeba</a>

- Attendance:** Cr Jeff Baines (via MS teams) Damon Sydes CCRC, Josh Palmer CCRC, Brad Everett DSC, David Preece Cape York NRM, Tome Crumpton CRC, Jade Monda CRC, Michael Graham BQ, Scott Morrison TRC, Michael Morta Terrain NRM, Sarah Hoyal Terrain NRM, Keely Macmillan MSC, Graeme Wienert MSC, Michael Nash HSC, Matt Buckman HSC, Ken Golbey TRC, Mario De Carlo BQ, Travis Sydes FNQROC
- Apologies:** Cr Kate Milton HSC,
- Guests:** Matt Gentle, IP&A Research, Biosecurity Queensland, Lesie Felderhof Firescape Science, David Preece Cape York NRM, Michael Morta & Tony O'Malley Terrain NRM.
- Acceptance of previous meeting minutes:** Moved: Michael Nash. Seconded: Damon Sydes.
- Actions from Previous Meeting**

## 6. Actions from Previous Meeting

No.	ACTION	OWNER	STATUS
44.10	<b>Illegal dumping and biosecurity considerations</b> <b>Action:</b> 1. Liaise with waste management group regarding future actions or resourcing under the illegal dumping program from DES and integration of biosecurity risk management measures in waste programs. 2. Liaise with DTMR regarding scheduling of clean-up works on key natural asset and presentation roads (particularly during planned road closures for maintenance works).	1. FNQROC 2. LGs	Carried over
44.12	<b>Disaster preparedness.</b> <b>Action:</b> 1. Circulate revised 2020 version of the CoP. 2. Work with interested LGs to integrate into LDMP and planning/response workflows (carried over)	1. FNQROC	This agenda
45.6	<b>Alternatives to the herbicide glyphosate.</b> <b>Action:</b> 1. In preparation for NAMAC roadside and reserve vegetation management discussion paper prepare a regional level template policy or position paper for consideration of NAMAC. 2. DSC circulate revised glyphosate reduction plan to NAMAC LGs when finalised.	1. FNQROC 2. DSC	3. Underway
46.1	<b>Medicines and Poisons Act 2019</b> <b>Action:</b> seek update from LGAQ on fruit-based bait minor use permit and provision of deed poll and stock books.	1. FNQROC	1. Complete

No.	ACTION	OWNER	STATUS
46.2	<b>Environmental and natural assets policy</b> <b>Action:</b> FNQROC and HSC liaise re: overarching environmental policy/principles approach.	1. HSC/FNQROC	1. This agenda
46.3	<b>Regional biosecurity prioritisation framework</b> <b>Action:</b> Councils adopt biosecurity planning framework and use in the next planned review of biosecurity plan.	1. LGs, FNQROC	1. Complete
47.1	<b>Amazon frogbit – regional action plan and advocacy discussion.</b> 1. The NAMAC recommends that prior to communication with Minister that a Biosecurity Response Plan be drafted in consultation between the FNQROC (NAMAC LGs), Regional BQ research staff and biosecurity officers and WTMA/CAFNEC in consultation concerned community groups and organisations. 2. FNQROC provides a template/working example of a Biosecurity Response Plan and leads the compilation of a regional Amazon frogbit plan. 3. WTMA and CAFNEC (Terrain NRM?) assist to develop the community engagement, education and response elements of the plan (within their remit/resources). 4. NAMAC makes for noting to the Board the issues and proposed course of action.	1. FNQROC 2. FNQROC 3. Terrain NRM 4. FNQROC	5. underway 6. complete 7. complete 8. Pending
47.2	<b>Climate Resilient Alliance Project</b> <b>Action:</b> provide Alliance update to next NAMAC	1. FNQROC	1. This agenda
47.3	<b>Cooks Shire Gamba grass taskforce 2022</b> <b>Action:</b> taskforce agreed to in principle, Cook Shire and Cape York NRM to submit taskforce EOI next meeting	1. CSC and Cape York NRM	1. This agenda

## 7. Correspondence

### 8. Pesticide update and Q & A – Curiosity and 1080 fruit based bait Permit 89377, Matt Gentle, IP&A Research, Biosecurity Queensland (10:00 am)

Matt Gentle provided an overview on the practical application of cat baits 'curiosity' and 'hisstory'.

- Both cat baits are delivered hard shelled capsule inserted into a manufactured sausage
- Curiosity is PAPP based. The toxin is delivered in a hard capsule inserted in the side the bait. Filed trials have shown PAPP to present an unacceptably high risk to Varanids (goanna). The recommended control for the risk is to bait when varanids are not active which is not applicable in the tropics.
- 'Hisstory' is presented in the same way as 'curiosity' as a hardened capsule within a manufactured sausage. It uses 1080 toxin in place of PAPP and so has less off target risk to native species including birds. Varanids are tolerant of 1080 toxin so 'Hisstory' is the recommended bait for the tropics.
- The product is still in the final testing stages and is expected to be submitted to the APVMA for approval.

**Action:** 1. 'Hisstory' (under trial) is the recommended feral cat bait for the tropics. 2. 'Curiosity' baits are not recommended for use in the tropics due to the susceptibility of varanids to the toxin. 2. NAMAC liaise with BQ regarding supporting field trials to assist in registration of 'hisstory'.

The updated fruit-based 1080 bait permit was the next point of discussion. Several councils were seeking advice on the interpretation of the new permit, specifically; the use of (definition of) exclusion devices; and the possibility for the inclusion of watermelon and pineapple as a bait substrate (current permit accounts for banana and mango only).

Matt Gentle provided an overview of the permitting and approval process with the APVMA and acknowledged the contribution made by Wet Tropics programs into the research. Key points of the updated permit

- Geographically based (only applicable to Wet Tropics and Burdekin)
- Allows for injected banana and mango as bait
- Must include camera trapping during prefeed to identify of targets
- Must include exclusion device to manage risk of uptake from non-targets

Discussion centred on definition of exclusion device. This could include a commercial device (e.g. hog hopper) or an improvised device such as a Nally bin with a weighted lid, covering with conveyor rubber or other covering.

Observations from field programs in the Wet Tropics note that the feral pigs are very shy of bait boxes and will avoid them regardless of the bait substrate. QPWS and CCRC have had good success with a Nally Bin with weighted lid.

**Action:** 1. Trial least disruptive 1080 fruit-based bait presentation and exclusion devices and report back. 2. Consider research options to investigate solutions to feral pig exclusion device shyness (potentially in collaboration with suppliers)

## **9. Report discussion - Alignment of QPWS Pest Management Framework to the Biosecurity Act 2014 (Qld)** - Lesie Felderhof, Firescape Science (11:00 am)

Lesie discussed the origins and key findings of the report and tested some the conclusions and assumptions of the report which relate to local government with the group. The report is internal and so will likely not be made public but local governments have been consulted through the FNQROC, LGAQ and a range of contacts from individual councils.

**Action:** Continue to liaise with Lesie on report recommendations and report back to NAMAC on any developments drawn from its recommendations.

## **10. Engaging traditional owners in NRM – conversation around discussion paper compiled by Terrain NRM (Rainforest Resilience Project)-** Tony O'Malley and Michael Morta, Terrain NRM (10:30 am)

Michael provided an overview of the perspectives, aspirations and challenges for Traditional Owner and first nations engagement and involvement in NRM. The views and recommendations have been compiled by Michael as a component of Terrain NRMs Rainforest Resilience Program. Key points

- Traditional Owners want to be consulted regarding decision making in NRM and wish to be involved in on ground management actions in everything from fire, to biosecurity, biodiversity and revegetation.
- Land and Sea (QLD) and Working on Country (Fed) programs are the primary source of funding for ranger programs.

- There are often culturally significant sites or obligations which Traditional Owners wish to be respected; these will often be site based so consultation prior to on ground works is a high priority.
- Public liability insurance is often a barrier to first nations organisations taking part in land management activities
- Terrain has adopted a fee for service schedule for consultation with Traditional Owners. It includes half and full day rates as well as considerations for the provision of Traditional Ecological Knowledge into planning and reporting processes.
- A registrar of contacts for groups and organisations which hold native title has been compiled by Terrain and is available on their website via a [mapping portal](#) . Michael keeps this database up to date but can also answer queries on contacts for local groups and organisations. Note this is separate from ILUA and TUMRA.
- Traditional Owners organisations will have differing levels of capacity to be involved in NRM; LG's might be able to play a role in assisting local organisations build capacity.
- Michael has received permission from Traditional Owners to share the report with Local Government

**Actions:** 1. Circulate the report to NAMAC. 2. Compile an action plan based on the report's recommendations for local government

### **11. Cook Shire and Cape York NRM gamba grass taskforce proposal 2022 – David Preece, Cape York NRM**

David provided an outline of the 2022 taskforce proposal to the group. The taskforce will target infestations across rural residential, private and public land in the Cooktown region. The taskforce is a partnership between Cape York NRM and Cook Shire Council. They are seeking ~ 5 crews with spray rigs to join the exercise. Operational queries were discussed and round the table support was provided for the operation.

**Motion:** Travis moved that the NAMAC endorse the 2022 gamba grass taskforce. All in favour, carried.

**Action:** 1. confirm date for the taskforce operation and forward date claimer

### **12. Gamba grass – roadside management guidelines – draft for consultation – FNQROC**

Travis provided a brief outline of the draft guidelines developed as part of the Land Protection Fund Project conducted on roadside management of gamba by CSIRO and Cook Shire Council. The draft is out for consultation and feedback is encouraged.

**Action:** 1. Recirculate draft guidelines for additional comment. 2 provide any comment or recommendation to FNQROC

### **13. 2022 Wet Tropics Biosecurity Futures Forum – proposal update – BQ and FNQROC**

Proposed 2022 forum format was discussed. Further consultation will take place in the new year, but the itinerary will include content for operational right through to coordination levels.

**14. Amazon frogbit** – update on biosecurity response plan

Travis provided an overview of the response plan process. Progress of declarations via local law were discussed.

**15. Disaster management- natural assets code of practice – draft for consultation – FNQROC**

Not tabled due to time constraints

**Action:** circulate draft with minutes prior to discussion next meeting

**16. Climate Resilient Alliance Project update** – Michelle O'Loughlin, FNQROC

Michelle O'Loughlin provided an update on the progress of the Alliance and development of the draft action plan.

A short workshop session was held to review a draft template and content for a NAMAC Climate Action Plan

**Action:** Collate reviewed action plan and circulate to NAMAC

**17. Biosecurity Queensland** – general update

No actions arising

**18. Terrain NRM** – general update

No actions arising

**19. Regional report card** – update

**20. Research and Land Protection Fund update**

No actions arising

**21. FNQROC** – general update and Board Directed Projects

No actions arising

**22. General Business**

**23. Points for noting to the FNQROC Board**

No actions arising

No.	ACTION	OWNER
44.10	<b>Illegal dumping and biosecurity considerations</b> <b>Action:</b> 2. Liaise with DTMR regarding scheduling of clean-up works on key natural asset and presentation roads (particularly during planned road closures for maintenance works).	2. LGs

No.	ACTION	OWNER
44.12	<b>Disaster preparedness. Action:</b> 1. Circulate revised 2020 version of the CoP. 2. Work with interested LGs to integrate into LDMP and planning/response workflows (carried over)	Action closed – see updated action 48.7
45.6	<b>Alternatives to the herbicide glyphosate. Action:</b> 1. In preparation for NAMAC roadside and reserve vegetation management discussion paper prepare a regional level template policy or position paper for consideration of NAMAC. 2. DSC circulate revised glyphosate reduction plan to NAMAC LGs when finalised.	1. FNQROC 2. DSC (complete)
48.1	<b>Feral cat manufactured bait</b> <b>Action:</b> 1. 'Hisstory' (under trial) is the recommended feral cat bait for the tropics. 2. 'Curiosity' baits are not recommended for use in the tropics due to the susceptibility of varanids to the toxin. 2. NAMAC liaise with BQ regarding supporting field trials to assist in registration of 'hisstory'.	1. LGs (for noting) 2. LGs (for noting) 3. FNQROC/NAMAC
48.2	<b>Feral pig fruit-based bait permit</b> <b>Action:</b> 1. Trial least disruptive 1080 fruit-based bait presentation and exclusion devices and report back. 2. Consider research options to investigate solutions to feral pig exclusion device shyness (potentially in collaboration with suppliers).	1. LGs 2. NAMAC
48.3	<b>Report discussion – Alignment of QPWS Pest Management Framework to the Biosecurity Act 2014 (Qld)</b> <b>Action:</b> Continue to liaise with Leasia on report recommendations and report back to NAMAC on any developments drawn from its recommendations.	1. FNQROC
48.4	<b>Engaging traditional owners in NRM – conversation around discussion paper compiled by Terrain NRM (Rainforest Resilience Project)</b> <b>Action:</b> 1. Circulate the report to NAMAC. 2. Compile an action plan based on the report's recommendations for local government	1. FNQROC 2. FNQROC & Terrain NRM
48.5	<b>Cook Shire and Cape York NRM gamba grass taskforce proposal 2022</b> <b>Action:</b> 1. Confirm date for the taskforce operation and forward date claimer	1. CSC, CY NRM, FNQROC
48.6	<b>Gamba grass – roadside management guidelines</b> <b>Action:</b> 1. Recirculate draft guidelines for additional comment. 2 provide any comment or recommendation to FNQROC	1. FNQROC 2. NAMAC
48.7	<b>Disaster management- natural assets code of practice – draft for consultation – FNQROC</b> <b>Action:</b> circulate draft with minutes prior to discussion next meeting	1. FNQROC
48.8	<b>Climate Resilient Alliance Project update – NAMAC Climate Action Plan</b> <b>Action:</b> Collate reviewed action plan and circulate to NAMAC	1. FNQROC

## 24. Next meeting - Thursday 13 February 2022

With the exception of motions and explicit request to be named, this meeting operates under **Chatham House Rule**:

**Everyone present is free to use the information received, but they cannot reveal the identity or affiliation of the speaker or any other participant.**

**The Chatham House Rule allows people to speak as individuals, and to express views that may not be those of their organisation. It encourages free discussion.**