

Natural Asset Management Advisory Committee

Meeting Details

Meeting No	54
Meeting Name	NAMAC
Date	May 31 2023
Time	9:30-2:30
Venue	Barlow Park Corporate Room – cnr Scott and Severin
Meeting Contacts	Travis Sydes: 0448 852 732 t.sydes@fnqroc.qld.gov.au

Minutes

1.	Acknowledgement of Country	
2.	Attendance Darryn Higgins CSC, Lewis Defranciscis CRC, Brooklyn Lancaster CRC, Graham Weinert MSC, Dave Preece CY NRM, Damon Sydes CCRC, Cr Jeff Baines CCRC, Cr Dave Bilney TRC, Tudor Tanase TRC, Michael Nash HSC, Matt Buckman HSC, Jade Monda CRC, Travis Sydes FNQROC, (online) Cr Kate Milton HSC	
3.	Apologies Tom Crumpton CRC	
4.	Guests Maria Anselmo – Regional Climate Resilience Coordinator, FNQROC	
5.	Acceptance of previous minutes moved: Michael Nash seconded: Cr Jeff Baines	
6.	Actions from Previous Meeting No. 53	

Discussion or items from business arising.

51.1 (45.6) – Discussion regarding integrated roadside vegetation management

The need for clearer guidelines for the management of roadside weeds and vegetation is still current although the initial intention/direction of action 45.6/51.1 need are in need of updating to reflect current needs. Key points raised:

- The Wet Tropics roadside management guide (WTMA/DTMR) is still valuable, although it could benefit from some refinement for broader implementation.

- Glyphosate is still necessary and cost-effective in the management of roadways.
- A study by the School for Field Studies (SFS) on the tablelands is currently underway, investigating the role of trees on roadsides and the potential benefits of mowing.
- It is important to have a contract and tender-ready approach to ensure it can be made operational.
- Clearly defining the desired outcomes for vegetation should be central to any guidelines.
- The guide should provide both basic instructions and support strategic/best management practices
- Options such as HGRs (hormone growth regulators) and others could be considered.
- Technology such as drones and AI present current and future options for implementation.
- Fire management and species selection should also be addressed.
- Climate change should be a consideration.

To move forward, it is recommended to revive and expand the current Wet Tropics guide into a best practice document for broader use for local government. This can serve as a scope of work for future funding requests and should be developed in-house based on a regional framework, including case studies.

Action: Revise and expand the current Wet Tropics guide into a best practice document for broader use for local government

51.2 - Disaster management- natural assets code of practice – DM workshop

Undertake a scenario-based workshop to stress test natural assets and biosecurity capabilities in DM response. Avoid using fire response in scenarios as LG not the lead agent.

Action: draft run sheet for operation to take place in September or October

51.6 - APDS mapping exercise and regional mapping review

Regional mapping is now collated. Final formats required are .shp, .TAB and .kml

Action: share final data packages to LG’s in .shp, .TAB, and .kml

52.6 Vertebrate pesticide in the FNQ/Wet Tropics

Reword hoggone bait shyness proposal to generic project addressing barriers to effective vertebrate pesticide use in the Wet Tropics (and wet Cape York Bioregions) – key considerations:

- Presentation and matrix for sodium nitrite manufactured baits
- Off-label requirements for future use of fruit-based baits
- Availability of 2ml 1080 injector (not gas-based)
- Tumble-mixing for meat baits
- Pesticide and presentation options for feral cats in the Wet Tropics

Action: develop LPF project proposal to address vertebrate pesticide barriers and solutions for Wet Tropical Queensland.

52.7 - Training – Humane destruction of animals

Action: 1. follow up with local supplier and recirculate options

7.	Update from FNQROC	
8.	General Business 8.1 Regional Drought Resilience Plan – Maria Anselmo, FNQROC	

8.2 FNQROC update

ELGBC – funding has been finalised and contract signed. Project will run from June 2023 to June 2025

Action: 1. Share project proposal. 2. Review and update proposed shared events.

8.3 Terrain NRM update

8.4 Cape York NRM update

- New CEO appointed
- Foundation for Regional Renewal project.
- Woody thickening management guide (grazing and fire).
- Fire coordination and regional fire planning workshops.

8.5 Task force proposals for 2023

Cook Shire and Cape York NRM thanked NAMAC for support for '23 Gamba grass taskforce. Informed they are planning additional operation in 2024 if support is available.

Action: 1. Circulate feedback and outcomes to participants. 2. Next year's operation 15-18 April 2024.

8.6 Regional report card – next steps

Discussion around regional report card piloted under the natural assets stewardship accord. Agreement was reached to continue the report card process with consideration to:

- Revised/simplified reporting attributes.
- Inclusion of climate action, Reef Guardian and sustainability measures if possible .
- No more than half page for each area of business.
- Published data needs to be as current as possible to maintain relevance.
- Narrative is useful but difficult to extract from councils, easier if a single author develops one for each LG from interview/bullet points
- Design to be done in house to save back and forth with designer for minor tweaks and revisions.

Action: 1. Draft and circulate revised report card layout for comment. 2. Report post June 2023 on financial year just gone.

8.7 Biosecurity Queensland update

8.8 Terrain NRM update

8.9 Land Protection Fund and State Oversight Group update

Thatch grass proposal has been accepted by the SOG, awaiting research input to finalise project design. No movement as yet on Wet Tropics aquatic weeds risk assessment project.

8.9 LG updates (by exception)

Cook - Sicklepod pre-emergent trials with dry season application of Grazon extra showing very positive results. November soil-based application for uptake after first rains to control germinating seedlings. More effective on second year application after standing trash from year one plants breaks down.

	<p>Cairns – Exemption 20 currently used in conjunction with recreational boat licence has been amended. LG operators will now require a Coxswain level 3 near coastal. The new conditions will be applied after the expiration of current exemption.</p> <p>Action: Share CRC approach to assist other councils resolve.</p> <p>CCRC - Droughts, rainforests and fire - Damon highlighted the findings from the Nyleta NRIP project which show the benefit of post-wildfire intervention in rainforest succession.</p> <p>Action: Consider a Nyleta fire recovery field trip after next meeting.</p> <p>8.12 Business Arising</p> <p>Dingo vs dog genetics recent findings and implications</p> <p>Action: 1. Investigate implications for management. Population dynamics of wild dogs/dingoes in Wet Tropics/FNQ. 2. LGs consider preparation of LGAQ conference motions to resolve outstanding (Damian Morant, Ben Allen, LGAQ, DAF)</p> <p>Feral Pigs – Cr Baines and Damon provided an update on conversations relating LGAQ feral pig motion. CCRC met with LGAQ, AFF (federal), TSS DCEW.</p> <p>Upcoming Integrated Feral Pig Management: Adaptive and Collaborative Action. This inaugural conference is being held on 20-21 June 2023 at the Shangri-La Hotel, Cairns</p> <p>Queensland Feral Pest Initiative will be resourcing 4 x regional feral pig coordination roles. Funding call expected shortly.</p>	
9.	Points for noting to the FNQROC Board	
10.	<p>Next meeting</p> <p>Planned for August 23, Innisfail</p>	
11.	Meeting Close	

Actions arising

Action Item	Action	Responsible Person(s)
51.1 (45.6)	<p>51.1 (45.6) – Discussion regarding integrated roadside vegetation management</p> <p>Updated action: Revise and expand the current Wet Tropics guide into a best practice document for broader use for local government.</p>	1. FNQROC/NAMAC
51.2 (49.8)	<p>Disaster management- natural assets code of practice – DM workshop</p> <p>Updated action: draft run sheet for operation to take place in September or October</p>	1. FNQROC/DM /NAMAC
51.6	<p>APDS mapping exercise and regional mapping review</p> <p>Updated action:-share final data packages to LG's in .shp, .TAB, and .kml</p>	1. FNQROC
52.2	<p>Regional Aquatic Biosecurity Strategy – next steps</p> <p>Action: 1. Complete outstanding program profiles from individual councils. 2. Collate profiles from BQ, NRM, Ranger Groups and other NGOs. 3. Engage with other relevant stakeholders 4. Follow up recent discussions with BQ</p>	1. FNQROC/Councils 2. FNQROC 3. FNQROC/BQ/WTWP 4. FNQROC

52.3	<p>Amazon frogbit biosecurity response plan & control/biology field day</p> <p>Action: Field-day date to be determined</p>	1. Mareeba, BQ, FNQROC
52.6	<p>Land Protection Fund Research proposals</p> <p>Vertebrate pesticide in the FNQ/Wet Tropics</p> <p>Updated Action: develop LPF project proposal to address vertebrate pesticide barriers and solutions for Wet Tropical Queensland.</p>	1. FNQROC, NAMAC
52.7	<p>Training – Humane destruction of animals</p> <p>Action: 1. Share the course outline. 2. Nominate officers required to attend and return so a quote can be prepared.</p> <p>Updated action: Follow up with local supplier</p>	1. FNQROC, MSC 2. NAMAC
54.1	<p>ELGBC Project</p> <p>Action: 1. Share project proposal. 2. Review and update proposed shared events.</p>	1. FNQROC 2. NAMAC, Partners
54.2	<p>Endeavour Valley gamba grass task force</p> <p>Action: 1. Circulate feedback and outcomes to participants. 2. Next year's operation 15-18 April 2024 (for noting in diaries)</p>	1. CSC, CYNRM 2. NAMAC
54.3	<p>Regional report card – next steps</p> <p>Action: 1. Draft and circulate revised report card layout for comment. 2. Report post June 2023 on financial year just gone.</p>	1. FNQROC 2. FNQROC, NAMAC
54.4	<p>Exemption 20 – changes to boat licencing requirements for LG</p> <p>Action: Share CRC approach to assist other councils resolve.</p>	1. CRC
54.5	<p>Nyleta drought, fire, rainforest recovery case study</p> <p>Action: Consider a Nyleta fire recovery field trip after next meeting.</p>	1. FNQROC
54.6	<p>Dingo vs dog genetics recent findings and implications</p> <p>Action: 1. Request investigation of implications for management. Population dynamics of wild dogs/dingoes in Wet Tropics/FNQ. 2. LGs consider preparation of LGAQ conference motions to resolve outstanding (Damian Morant, Ben Allen, LGAQ, DAF)</p>	1. FNQROC 2. NAMAC