

Natural Asset Management Advisory Committee

Meeting Details

Meeting No	55
Meeting Name	NAMAC
Date	September 8 2023
Time	10:00-2:30
Venue	CCRC Disaster Coordination Centre – 11 Flying Fish Point Road (on your left, just across the river)
Meeting Contacts	Travis Sydes: 0448 852 732 t.sydes@fnqroc.qld.gov.au

Meeting

1.	Acknowledgement of Country	
2.	Attendance Cr Jeff Baines CCRC, Damon Sydes CCRC, Michael Nash HSC, Matt Buckman HSC, David Preece Cape York NRM, Christine Wolf TRC, Dave Green BQ, Brad Everett DSC, Jade Monda CRC, Maria Anselmo FNQROC, Travis Sydes FNQROC Online - Cr Kate Milton, Michael Graham BQ	
3.	Apologies Darryn Higgins CSC, Sarah Hoyal Terrain NRM, Barry CCRC, Tudor Tanase TRC, Graham Wienert MSC	
4.	Guests – Saj Shah – Platy Project, ACF (10:30) – (did not attend)	
5.	Acceptance of previous minutes moved: Cr Jeff Baines seconded: Brad Everett	
6.	Actions from Previous Meeting No. 54	

Discussion relating to actions

Related to 51.1 Discussion regarding integrated roadside vegetation management

Class action has been launched against Monsanto by Maurice Blackburn. Councils are receiving enquiries regarding use and policies for management. The committee discussed approaches to managing use and communication with community.

Discussion around efficacy of APVMA process and provision of effective alternative products.

Action: 1. share policy position papers across councils. 2. Maintain a watching brief on outcomes and liaise with LGAQ on support for LGs.

52.7 Training – Humane destruction of animals

The practical application of tranquilizer guns was discussed in relation to humane destruction. They are currently held and used by wildlife carers, DES wildlife officers and some vets. This subject is also relevant to the FNQROC Animal Management Technical Committee.

54.6 Dingo vs dog genetics recent findings and implications

Discussion around context of inaugural First Nations Dingo Forum <https://www.girringun.com/dingoforum2023>.

The forum will develop some definitive statements and positions on dingo from a first nations perspective.

Action: 1. Redefine dogs vs dingo definitions used in biosecurity response plans with outcomes of forum. 2. Raise question through SOG.

7.	Update from FNQROC	
8.	<p>General Business</p> <p>8.1 Platy Project – project overview The platy-project is a citizen science research project run in collaboration with researchers at the University of New South Wales (guest did not join meeting, links shared beforehand)</p> <p>8.2 FNQROC update</p> <p>Climate resilience update – Maria Anselmo, FNQROC</p> <p>Regional Drought resilience Plan Maria provided an update on the Regional Drought Resilience Plan project and a summary of the first impression on key themes and issues relevant to the region. Draft plan should be available around December 8, 2023</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Water security, bushfires• Heat impacts on wildlife (e.g. flying fox and fish kills)• Heat stress on natural assets <p>During discussion the concern was raised on what actions can be taken now to prepare for current and predicted changes.</p> <p>Climate action plan - disaster response plan for natural assets.</p> <p>The committee discussed conducting a disaster response scenario exercise for natural assets to test systems and processes for response to natural disasters. It was agreed to host the exercise as a group activity connected via MS teams. Key points:</p>	

- Include disaster coordination and natural asset management staff in the exercise.
- Groups setting in each council (i.e. in each council separately) coordinated by a regional MS Teams platform for the briefings and group feedback.
- Use Animal Management DM exercise and findings from conversations from RDRP to inform scenarios.
- Undertake in November

Action: 1. FNQROC prepare outline of exercise offline and circulate to group. 2. Recirculate Natural Assets Disaster Management Code of Practice.

8.3 Terrain NRM update

Awaiting update on confirmation/continuation of funding under Regional Lands Partnership.

8.4 Cape York NRM update

Awaiting update on confirmation/continuation of funding under Regional Lands Partnership.

8.5 Task force proposals for 2024

Next year's Cooktown gamba grass taskforce 15-18 April

8.6 Regional report card – next steps -(carried over to next meeting)

8.7 Biosecurity Queensland update

Dave Green provided an update on management activities across the region. Key points:

- Rain has limited access to many sites for an extended period of time.
- National Tropical Weed Eradication Program review is happening soon.
- Aleman grass herbicide control research is almost complete with some useful results.
- Bogmoss, ESP program has identified a range of herbicide control options (for slow moving water).
- Sicklepod- dry season pre-emergent application is now consolidated. Next steps will be to investigate suitable approaches for wetter sites.
- Encapsulated herbicide application trial underway on a wide variety of target species. Trial is halfway through 12 months project.

Michael provided an update on progress of drone technology, key points:

- New drone tech is having up to 90% success detection rate.
- Investigating night vision.
- Requirement to keep licence current so can offer service for local projects.
- Can include wetland and waterway imaging.

Action: 1. collate a schedule of local projects suited to drone applications for licence maintenance flights. 2. Inform NAMAC when replica plant specimens arrive.

Biosecurity compliance refresher workshop

Committee discussed the option of undertaking a refresher/training light workshop in 2024. Cover off on basics for new staff as well as refresher for past participants.

Action: ascertain numbers for wet season refresher course for early 2024.

8.8 Terrain NRM update

8.9 Land Protection Fund and State Oversight Group update

	<p>New project proposals for Feral pig (control options for tropics) and feral cat project proposals were discussed.</p> <p>Panama rubber tree was raised as concern for the Wet Tropics given its naturalisation and long persistence in the Mission Beach area.</p> <p>Action: 1. develop outlines for the feral pig and feral cat research proposals and circulate to committee. 2. Recommend action to include Panama Rubber Tree in Segun Osenkoya’s risk assessment project (if not already included).</p> <p>8.9 LG updates (by exception)</p> <p>Highlights</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cassowary Coast Tilapia Fishing Competition is about to get underway - CCRC • Cassowary Policy about to be tabled to Council – CCRC • 2 Pigs collared and released for research project – HSC • Funding secured for follow up management of town centre Flying Fox roost – HSC • Tyto lakes fishway design has been approved and installation will begin soon. • Wildlife and speed management signage approved for curtain fig tree zone. A speed reduction will also be introduced • Flying fox management plan funded with nudging approach identified as the preferred technique – DSC • Feral pigs- one trapper servicing region. Proposed co-investment approach is being investigated (QPWS, Landholders, LG). • <p>8.12 Business Arising</p> <p>IUCN has report identifies invasive species currently have the highest impact on biodiversity than any current threats and more when in conjunction with climate change https://www.iucn.org/press-release/202309/iucn-welcomes-intergovernmental-platforms-assessment-risk-3500-invasive-alien</p>	
9.	Points for noting to the FNQROC Board	
10.	Next meeting Planned for Dec 1, Committee Room, Spence Street Cairns	
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
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>	<p>1. FNQROC/Councils</p> <p>2. FNQROC</p> <p>3. FNQROC/BQ/WTWP</p> <p>4. FNQROC</p>

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
54.3	<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
54.6	<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
55.1	<p>Australian class action – glyphosate and Monsanto.</p> <p>Action: 1. share policy position papers across councils. 2. Maintain a watching brief on outcomes and liaise with LGAQ on support for LGs.</p>	1. NAMAC. 2. NAMAC
55.2 (relates to 54.6)	<p>Dingo vs dog genetics recent findings and implications</p> <p>Action: 1. Redefine dogs vs dingo definitions used in biosecurity response plans with outcomes of forum. 2. Raise question through SOG.</p>	1. NAMAC 2. FNQROC
55.3 (49.8/51.2)	<p>Disaster management- natural assets code of practice – DM workshop</p> <p>Updated action: 1. FNQROC prepare outline of exercise offline and circulate to group. 2. Recirculate Natural Assets Disaster Management Code of Practice.</p>	1. FNQROC/DM /NAMAC 2. FNQROC
55.4	<p>BQ Drone licence maintenance/replica plant specimens</p> <p>Action: 1. collate a schedule of local projects suited to drone applications for licence maintenance flights. 2. Inform NAMAC when replica plant specimens arrive.</p>	1. BQ, FNQROC, NAMAC 2. BQ
55.5	<p>Biosecurity compliance refresher course</p> <p>Action: ascertain numbers for wet season refresher course for early 2024.</p>	1. NAMAC, BQ

55.6	<p>Land Protection Fund Research Proposals. Panama rubber tree biosecurity risk assessment</p> <p>Action: 1. develop outlines for the feral pig and feral cat research proposals and circulate to committee. 2. Recommend action to include Panama Rubber Tree in Segun Osenkoya’s risk assessment project (if not already included).</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. FNQROC 2. FNQROC
55.7	<p>For noting – IUCN report on combined impacts of invasive species and climate change</p> <p>IUCN has report identifies invasive species currently have the highest impact on biodiversity than any current threats and more when in conjunction with climate change https://www.iucn.org/press-release/202309/iucn-welcomes-intergovernmental-platforms-assessment-risk-3500-invasive-alien</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. NAMAC