

KI NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT BOARD AGENDA

MEETING 142

to be held

Friday 27 April 2018, Boardroom, 35 Dauncey St, Kingscote

10 00 am start

 Verbal Report
 Paper
 Consent Schedule

Time	#	Agenda Item					
10.00 (15 mins)	1	Meeting Preliminaries					
		1.1 Presiding Members welcome	R Trethewey				
		1.2 Apologies					
		1.3 Declaration of interest by members					
		1.4 Acceptance of agenda and consent schedule		 	Decision		
10.15 (30 mins)	2	Minutes of Previous Meeting					
		2.1 Acceptance of previous minutes	R Trethewey		Decision		
		2.2 Business arising from previous minutes			Decision		
10.45 (90 mins)	3	Board Matters: For decision or discussion					
		3.1 Draft Declared Animal Policy - New and emerging introduced animal policy	T Mooney A Wiebkin	 	Decision		
		3.2 Draft Deer and Pig policy	T Mooney A Wiebkin	 	Decision		
		3.3 Bushfire Management Committee	R Ellis		Decision		
	4	Board Matters: for noting					
		4.1 Environmental Assessment of Water Management Options update	M Agnew		Noting		
		4.2 Biosecurity Advisory Committee	P Holden		Noting		
		4.3 Correspondence			Noting		
12.15 (45 mins)	5	Activity Reports					
		5.1 Presiding Members report	R Trethewey	 	Noting		
		5.2 Regional Directors report	D Miley		Noting		
		5.3 Feral cat project report	L Barnett		Noting		
		5.4 Board Members report		 			
		5.5 Agency Representatives reports Kangaroo Island Council PIRSA DEW		 			
1 pm (15 mins)	6	Any Other Business					
					Noting		
	7	Board Communique					
	8	Next Meeting	Friday 25 May 2018				
1.15pm	9	Closure					

1. Meeting Preliminaries

1.4 ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA AND CONSENT SCHEDULE

Priority

For Decision

PURPOSE

The Board **approves** the agenda as presented.

BACKGROUND

- Board members may seek approval for additional items to be included for discussion prior to the board approving the meeting agenda.
- The consent schedule lists all items likely to be agreed without discussion.
- Any board member can remove from or add an agenda item to the consent schedule. In requesting the item to be removed from the consent schedule, board members are asked to cite the issues they wish to discuss.

Agenda Item	Topic	Motion
5.1	Correspondence register	That the recommendation be accepted

RECOMMENDATION

That the Board:

1. **Approves** the agenda as presented.
2. **Approves** all items remaining on the consent schedule.
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RECOMMENDATION

That the Board:

3. **Approves** the agenda as presented

Motion

Moved

Seconded

That this recommendation be adopted.



**Draft Minutes of Meeting held at 9:30 am on Friday 23 March 2018
Board Room, 35 Dauncey Street, Kingscote
Meeting 141**

1. Meeting Preliminaries

1.1 PRESIDING MEMBER'S WELCOME

The Presiding Member welcomed Liz Barnett, a/Manager Science and Program Planning) and thanked Sara Hourez, who leaves the board in April, for her passion and commitment to the board and the Kangaroo Island community.

Present

R Trethewey (Presiding Member), P Clements, S Hourez, P Rismiller, K Stove, J Taylor, D Welford and C Wickham

In Attendance

C Croser-Barlow (DEWNR) (by videoconference), L Dohle (PIRSA), D Miley (Regional Director), M Greig (Manager Sustainable Development), R Ellis (Manager Parks and Sustainable Landscapes), P Holden (Manager Strategy and Engagement), L Barnett (a/Manager Science and Program Planning), S Gullickson (Executive Assistant)

1.2 APOLOGIES

J Stanton, N Putland (KI Council), J Hughes (Manager Business Support) and M Kinloch (Manager Science and Program Planning)

1.3 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

No interests were declared

1.4 ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA AND CONSENT SCHEDULE

The board supported the following late papers and items to 7. *Other Business*:

- 7.1 Finance and Audit committee
- 7.2 In-camera decision
- 7.3 KI Biodiverse

The board requested the removal of 6.1 Presiding Member's report and 6.2 Regional Director's Report from the consent schedule.

representative of the Invasive Plants and Animals Committee to Kangaroo Island to view the impact of bridal veil on Kangaroo Island's landscape.

Refer to item 5.3

137/6.2 **WIRELESS CONNECTIVITY:** That the Kangaroo Island Natural Resources Management Board **asks** administration to ensure there is functioning wireless connectivity in the board room for use by board members as a priority for use in January 2018

Not resolved and propose remove from business arising: Issues with WiFi remain unresolved in spite of extensive conversations with DEWNR ICT staff. Administration will continue to work with broader DEWNR on a future solution, and at this point in time WiFi access is not available for board members.

Caroline joined the meeting at 9:42 am

139/3.3 **FINANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT: JANUARY 2018:** The board supported a representative of Nature Foundation presenting to the Board on future philanthropic funding administration.

In Hand: Chief Executive Officer of Natural Foundation SA has been contacted and a future date is being planned.

140/3.1.1 **TOURISM OPTIMISATION MANAGEMENT MODEL:** Funding for TOMM to be consider in developing the 2018/2019 Board budget

Completed: Referred to the Finance and Audit Committee for consideration in developing the 2018/2019 budget.

140/3.1.2 **DRAFT AUSTRALIA'S STRATEGY FOR NATURE 2018–2030:** The board to provide a response to the draft Australia's strategy for nature 2018–2030 (draft Revised Strategy) and provides the board's concerns regarding the draft Revised Strategy to V Linton in response to her letter inviting the board to submit a response.

K Stove and J Taylor to draft a response on behalf of the board

The board supports R Trethewey approaching the other South Australian NRM boards regarding the draft Revised Strategy and seeking their support in submitting a consolidated South Australian NRM Board response.

Completed: Draft letter provided to Executive Officer. Executive Officer reviewed and sent the letter on behalf of Presiding Member. Copy was provided to board members.

In hand: The submission will be circulated to other presiding members for noting. More debate was suggested at the state level but time constraints have not allowed.

140/3.3 **IN CAMERA SESSION – DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION:** The board requested information or examples of how other agencies applied merit based decision-making processes.

Outstanding: The Executive Officer has not tasked this request and will require more clarification prior to action.

P Clements left the meeting at 9:55 am

Rosalie Hohnen and R Molsher joined the meeting at 10:00 am

3. Presentations

3.1 Kangaroo Island Dunnart

Rosemary Hohnen is a Charles Darwin University post graduate student working in partnership with the Threatened Species Recovery Hub, the department and the board to research the Kangaroo Island Dunnart.

The story begins with feral cats and their contribution to Australia's reputation as having the worst mammal extinction rate in the world. Islands are considered as safe havens and Kangaroo Island has initiated a feral cat eradication program, making the island an ideal research site for investigating the impact of feral cat eradication on threatened species.

Distribution of the KI Dunnart was previously studied by Jody Gates in 2000 (DEWNR) and this current research will build on that baseline data along with subsequent DEWNR studies to better determine the prevalence and distribution of the KI dunnart on Kangaroo Island.

The current research project poses several questions?

- What is the most effective method of detecting KI Dunnarts?
- What are the habitat/fire history associations of the Ki Dunnarts (habitat preferences)?
- What is the status of the KI Dunnart?
- What is the density of feral cats on western KI
- How are KI Dunnart populations likely to respond to broad scale baiting?

The project, using pitfall traps, Elliot traps and camera traps with and without bait has identified KI Dunnart presence at three new sites. Camera traps appear to be the most effective means of detecting dunnarts (higher detection rates than pitfall trapping). While the detection rate has been low, the number of hours of trapping has also been less than the previous very intensive research program conducted by J Gates. The team will be in a better position to assess the status of the species after they have finished trapping in April and completed a greater number of trap nights. In parallel to the work to detect the presence of KI Dunnarts, research is being conducted on the presence of feral cats on western Kangaroo Island.

Next steps for the project is to explore:

- Best detection methods for the KI Dunnart;
- Habitat associations;
- Density of cats on western Kangaroo Island;
- Understanding cat control outcomes; and
- Inform eradication on other islands.

Rosie thanked everyone who has volunteered help and particularly to Robyn Molsher, Martine Kinloch and Pat Hodgins for their assistance.

Questions:

Q: Does roadkill, left on roads affect feral cat density?

R. Each camera placed to detect the presence of feral cats is paired with one camera located 500m from a road, and a second camera placed 500m from the road to determine impact of road on cat density.

Q: Is there an opportunity for include a Citizen Science component to this project?

R: There is scope, particularly for assisting with set up of the traps. A call for volunteers does take place through public presentations. Friends of Parks volunteers have also been invited to participate in the project.

Q: Is there ability to set up traps on heritage properties and, for the landholders to check the pits each night?

R. While this project is being implemented on DEWNR land at the western end of the island, Pat Hodgens and Heidi Groffen have received funding as ecological consultants to implement a dunnart project on private land at the western end of the island. While live trapping would probably not be permitted, there could be potential for landholders to assist with camera trapping.

R Hohnen and R Molsher left the meeting at 10:30 am

3.2 CITIZEN SCIENCE CONFERENCE: PEGGY RISMILLER

P Rismiller provide the board with a summary of the Australian Citizen Science Conference held 7-9 February 2018. The key message was citizen science needs to bring science to the people and not just be an activity but help people learn about their world.

P Rismiller has details of successful citizen science projects currently being undertaken across Australia if board members are interested.

One of the projects very relevant to Kangaroo Island is a project being run by Melbourne Water which offers tools for citizens to support water monitoring activities.

The board noted the need to have a discussion on how we could use and promote citizen science on Kangaroo Island. This fits with the current focus of funding bodies to involve residents.

The board acknowledged that for citizen science to be effective, it does need staff support to train, check data and analysis results and WHS requirements.

The Regional Director drew board member attention to current projects involving volunteers and support from community including the *Felixers versus Felis* project.

The board acknowledged that there are residents with the enthusiasm and skills to be involved in citizen science projects and the board needs to be confident if the process for engaging them and to fully explore how citizen science can support project outcomes.

Ingrid Franssen joined the meeting at 10:45 am by videoconference

4. Board Matters – For Decisions

4.1 DAM SAFETY AND LEVEE BANK MANAGEMENT TO MANAGE FLOOD RISKS

The board noted that the department is coordinating the development of policies on small dam safety and levee bank management through the Fire and Flood Unit following the release of the Burns Review of the 2016 severe weather event.

The Burns Review has identified that the State does not have any regulations or clear lines of responsibility for the maintenance of small dams or levees and these clear lines of need to be define to ensure dams are adequately maintained to minimise the risk of failure.

The board noted that Kangaroo Island Council is one of the few Councils taking action to ensure adequate consideration of dam construction is incorporated into the development application process.

The board supported the development of a suitable policy and noted the relevance of dam safety to the Kangaroo Island region.

Motion 4.1

Moved C Wickham

Seconded K Stove.

That the Kangaroo Island Natural Resources Management Board:

1. **Notes** the policy work being undertaken by DEWNR's Fire and Flood Management unit concerning dam safety and levee bank management in response to the recommendations from the *Independent Review of the Extreme Weather Event South Australia 28 September-5 October 2016* (Burns Review)
2. **Notes** the board is interested in further information on this matter and the need for involving other stakeholders in
 - a. opportunities to integrate dam safety management with general farm dam management for water resource management purposes undertaken by regional staff on behalf of the NRM board
 - b. clarifying the role of NRM boards in levee bank management (notwithstanding future policy changes)
 - c. the need for, and scope of, a broader flood management strategy.
3. **Notes** that there will be further consultation on a draft policy for dam safety and levee bank management following consideration by the State Emergency Management Committee later this year.

Carried

The meeting adjourned for morning tea at 11:05 am

Meeting resumed at 11:25 am

4.2 FERAL CAT ERADICATION PHASE ONE UPDATE – ACTIVITIES AND BUDGET

The board noted the Feral Cat Eradication on Kangaroo Island closure report as part of implementing phase one of the *Feral cat eradication prospectus – 2015-2030*. The board noted the administration has interrogated the budget in detail to ensure commitments have been delivered as required from the various sources including the board and PIRSA.

The board noted that the key outstanding activity is the installation of the fence. This has been delayed while landholder agreements for installation of the fence on private land are being negotiated. The delay in installing the fence has been reported to the Australian Government.

The board noted that outcomes achieved to date by the project and the community concerns regarding toxic baiting and maintenance of the fence.

The board noted a small over expenditure of phase one of the project which will impact phase two.

The board noted the need to have clear and constant communication regarding progress of the feral cat project activities particularly the fence.

The board supported the community's desire to see the project move to active removal of cats from properties.

C Croser-Barlow left the meeting at 12:00 noon

Motion 4.2

Moved D Welford Seconded K Stove

That the Kangaroo Island Natural Resources Management Board:

1. **Notes** the extensive works program delivered as part of phase one feral cat eradication with remaining phase 1 deliverables expected for completion in coming months
2. **Notes** some concerns highlighted by phase one for consideration and oversight of phase two activities as these get underway
3. **Notes** the identified delays and budget overspend in the completion of phase one and the strategies in place to address them

Carried

Moved D Welford Seconded J Taylor

That the Kangaroo Island Natural Resources Management Board:

4. **Approves** the rescinding of motion Board 136/5.1.5 on 26 October 2017 and redirection of \$5,000 to ameliorate the phase one cost pressure.

Carried

4.3 FERAL CAT ERADICATION PHASE TWO COMMENCEMENT – KNOWN ACTIVITIES AND BUDGET

The board noted the commencement of the *Felixers versus Felis* project which will actively remove cats from private and public land by training landholders in the use and application of Felixer™ grooming traps. This project is due for completion by 30 June 2019.

Motion 4.3

Moved C Wickham Seconded P Rismiller

That the Kangaroo Island Natural Resources Management Board:

1. **Notes** the approval by the Australian Government for the Felixers versus Felis project and commencement of activities within this project.
2. **Notes** that phase two of Kangaroo Island's feral cat eradication program is also dependent on additional National Landcare Program 2 Australian Government funding requests, the status of which are currently unknown.
3. **Notes** additional funding sources will need to be identified to support the overall program.

Carried

- Kangaroo Island Dunnart Research
- Feral Cat project
- Disposing of weed material

9. Next Meeting

Resolved

That the next meeting be held on Thursday 26 April at 1:00 pm in the Board Room, 35 Dauncey Street Kingscote unless otherwise advised.

10. Closure

The Meeting closed at 3:30 pm

DRAFT

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting

2.2 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING 141 – APRIL 2018

Priority For Decision

Item	Action	Due	Status
Business Arising from Meeting 137 – 24 November 2017			
137/3.4	DELEGATIONS UNDER THE NRM ACT Considers the brief and draft schedule, together with an information session on delegations at a future workshop. This workshop approach will assist the Board to achieve the most appropriate levels of delegation to maintain good business function.		Delayed. Seek to delay until further in the calendar year due to government policy changes. The board will continue to default to existing delegations.
Business Arising from Meeting 139 – 25 January 2018			
139/3.3	FINANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT: JANUARY 201 Endorses Nature Foundation presenting to the Board on future philanthropic funding administration.		In Hand: Chief Executive Officer has been contacted and a future date is being planned.
Business Arising from Meeting 140 – 28 February 2018			
140/3.3	IN CAMERA SESSION – DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION In relation to principle 9 of the water policy, the board requested information or examples of how other agencies applied merit based decision-making processes and provide the logic behind principle 9.		Outstanding: The administration is working on this action and will provide at a discussion paper at a future board meeting.
Business Arising from Meeting 141 – 23 March 2018			
141/5.3	BIOSECURITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES: Development of a 10 year weed research and development plan The Regional Director, Kangaroo Island works with the A/Team Leader, Animal and Plant Control and contacts the consultants engaged by the Centre for Invasive Species Solutions, regarding the consultation process for the development of a weed research and development plan for the next ten years and to express support for researching potential biocontrol agents for bridal veil.		Refer to item below and in draft Biosecurity minutes.
141/5.3	BIOSECURITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES: Development of biocontrol agent for bridal veil The board writes to the consultants contracted by the newly formed Centre for Invasive Species Solutions (CISS), to lobby for research to develop a biocontrol agent for bridal veil, for this to be included in the draft plan being developed by these consultants, and also to offer the opportunity for any field trials to be based on Kangaroo Island.		Underway: Refer to draft Biosecurity minutes. Prior to the board writing to consultants, the administration is seeking to follow up with consultants verbally to get some clarity and discuss realistic outcomes. Consultants have yet to respond but administration is again following up. We have received an update Biosecurity SA. The National Weeds Research, Development and Extension Investment Plan Consultation Paper will be sent out through CISS in the next week or

			so. Biosecurity SA will ensure that all SA regions receive this.
141/5.3	<p>BIOSECURITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES: Development of biocontrol agent for bridal veil</p> <p>The Regional Director writes to Kangaroo Island Council regarding an education strategy for residents regarding the handling of green waste collection and the disposal of tubers, corns and runners.</p>		<p>Partial Completion:</p> <p>This matter is with Fleurieu Regional Waste Authority.</p> <p>Regional Manager for the Fleurieu Regional Waste Authority, based in Goolwa was contacted by the administration to discuss the process that the green waste goes through to produce pasteurised mulch (note that it is not called compost) at the KI waste depot.</p> <p>It is ground up in a large industrial tub grinder and then rowed up, watered, turned, watered, turned again etc. with the temperature of the heap monitored at regular intervals, aiming for a temp of 55-70 degrees Celsius. Depending on the weather conditions, this process continues for 4 to 6 weeks until the mulch is deemed to be sufficiently cooked.</p> <p>This process results in a very high possibility that no reproductive weed fragments survive, although the Regional Manager indicated that they do not give a 100% guarantee. Further, this process is used by many other council authorities across SA and interstate.</p> <p>Fleurieu Regional Waste Authority have offered to provide a demonstration of the process at the KI depot if required.</p>
141/7.1	<p>FINANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE MINUTES: State allocation for KI NRM Board</p> <p>The board writes to the new minister regarding the importance of state allocation in supporting the operation of the board.</p>		<p>Partial complete:</p> <p>Draft letter not completed.</p> <p>Departmental policy staff are currently preparing options for the Minister. This includes recognition of the importance of state allocation to KI.</p> <p>Administration suggests we hold off this action until further advice.</p>
141/7.6	<p>Community waste management system</p> <p>The Regional Director to report on the Kingscote Community Waste Management System ponds.</p>		Verbal Update to be provided.
141/6.6	<p>Koala Management project</p> <p>The board requires a communication strategy on why the rate of sterilisation is not producing the results expected by the community and the board will seek support from the Minister for stronger koala management, including an increase in the rate of sterilisation.</p>		Not completed

3. Board matters

3.1 SEEKING ENDORSEMENT OF DRAFT POLICY FOR PUBLIC CONSULTATION – *Declared Animal Policy - new and emerging introduced species*

Priority

For decision

PURPOSE

For the board to consider a draft *Declared Animal Policy - New and emerging introduced animal policy* to provide a framework for the management of new and emerging introduced animals in South Australia.

BACKGROUND

- Biosecurity SA is leading a review of declared pest animals under the *Natural Resources Management Act 2004* (NRM Act), in collaboration with staff from all NRM regions and the Department for Environment and Water.
- There is an on-going risk that new and emerging introduced animals could form established populations in South Australia. Prevention, early detection and intervention are the most cost-effective investments in biosecurity.
- As part of the review, a new policy for new and emerging introduced animals has been drafted. The policy outlines the framework for the management of new and emerging introduced animals in South Australia.
- The draft new and emerging introduced animal policy has been developed following the objectives of the Environment and Invasives Committee (formerly IPAC) and the National Biosecurity Committee (NBC), and supports the National Incursion Prevention and Response Strategy for Potentially Invasive Animals.
- The draft new and emerging introduced animal policy has been developed in consultation with a working group of senior operations staff from NRM regions, current holders of permits to keep introduced animals, and specialist stakeholder groups.
- Introduced animals may have adverse effects on the environment, primary production and communities of South Australia. The establishment of new species is not just a legacy from the past, because introduced animals currently kept in captivity or recently imported could find their way into the wild.
- South Australia has implemented a managed risk approach for the import, movement and keeping of introduced animals. A similar approach is used to determine the risk posed by animals that have been accidentally imported. The primary mechanism for the management of new and emerging introduced animals is the NRM Act through the List of Declared Animals.
- Preventing and managing incursions of new and emerging introduced animals relies on coordinated action from all stakeholders.
- New and emerging introduced animals are typically detected by members of the community, who either report them to natural resources management (NRM) boards or the National Pest Alert Hotline [1800-084-881](tel:1800-084-881).

DISCUSSION

- NRM boards are expected to comply with the Minister's policies under the NRM Act, but the decision to adopt regional management plans for new and emerging introduced animals and the content of them rests with each NRM Board.
- The implementation of management strategies will reduce the number of incursions and the number of introduced animals that establish new populations in the wild, because the strategies will improve surveillance to detect incursions, reporting of incursions, response to incursions and compliance with keeping, sale and movement requirements for introduced animals.
- The draft policy is consistent with the *Kangaroo Island Natural Resource Management Plan 2017-2027*, biosecurity objectives and strategies which are outlined under Goal 2 (*Kangaroo Island's ecosystems are healthy and resilient, biodiversity loss is minimised and ecosystems continue to deliver life supporting services*).
- The policy is to be reviewed in 2022 or in the event of a change in one or more regional management plans for introduced animals.
- The board is asked to support and endorse the draft policy, including for public consultation, via the YourSAy website).
- Following public consultation, the working group will consider public feedback and amend the draft policy.
- Revised drafts of the policy will be presented to all NRM Boards for approval before going to the Minister for final endorsement.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Kangaroo Island Natural Resources Management Board:

1. **Endorse** the objectives of the draft new and emerging introduced animal policy which seeks:
 - a. to regulate the movement and keeping of introduced animals to prevent incursions into the wild;
 - b. to detect and eradicate incursions of new and emerging introduced animals
2. **Endorse** the draft new and emerging introduced animal policy for public consultation.
3. **Note** endorsement will be sought from the Minister for Environment and Water to seek feedback from the public (via the YourSAy website). Following public consultation, the working group will consider public feedback and amend the draft policy. Revised drafts of the policy will be presented to all NRM Boards for approval before going to the Minister for final endorsement.

Motion

Moved

Seconded

That this recommendation be adopted.

Attachments:

1. New draft policy for new and emerging introduced animals
-

3. Board matters for decision

3.2 REVIEW OF THE DRAFT POLICIES ON FERAL DEER AND FERAL PIGS UNDER THE NRM ACT

Priority: For decision

PURPOSE

For the Board to endorse the final draft policies on feral deer and feral pigs (Attachments 1 and 2) under the *Natural Resources Management Act 2004* (NRM Act).

BACKGROUND

- Earlier versions of the draft policies were endorsed for public consultation by the Board on 12 October 2017.
- The draft policies were available for public comment via the YourSAy website between 1 November 2017 and 31 January 2018.
- For the draft feral deer policy, Biosecurity SA received 21 submissions, 101 comments on the YourSAy discussion forum and 4 phone calls. Biosecurity SA staff also met with the South Australian Deer Industry Association of Australia (DIAA).
- For the draft feral pig policy, Biosecurity SA received 6 submissions, 11 comments on the YourSAy discussion forum and 3 phone calls. Biosecurity SA staff also met with Pork SA. Some changes have been made to both policies.
- Pending endorsement by all of the NRM boards, the revised draft policies will be presented to the Minister for Environment and Water for final endorsement.
- Note that, with the new government's intended replacement of the NRM Act with a new act, there may be a delay in commencing the new policies, particularly where a corresponding change to the *Natural Resources Management (General) Regulations 2005* is required.
- Feedback from the public consultation phase, and the main changes to the draft policies are summarised below in Table 1 and Table 2.

Table 1: Feral Deer draft Policy and feedback on proposed changes

Subject	Board feedback	General Comments and Proposed Changes
Declarations	<p>The draft policy that the NRM Board endorsed for public consultation proposed the following declarations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to prohibit entry to, and movement, keeping and sale of deer except by permit (existing for KI); • to require for landholders to destroy feral deer on their properties (existing declaration for KI); • to prohibit the release of deer (existing declaration); • to require deer keepers to comply with instructions of authorised officers (existing declaration); and • to require notification of feral deer on off-shore and Kangaroo islands (existing declaration). <p>Feedback from the public and DIAA was mostly supportive of the proposed changes to NRM Act declarations for feral deer. Exceptions included hunting groups, who did not want feral deer to be destroyed on all properties because fewer feral deer would reduce recreational hunting opportunities.</p>	<p>No changes have been made to the proposed declarations in the final draft policy.</p>
Fence standards	<p>The draft policy that the NRM Board endorsed for public consultation proposed the following fencing standards for new deer farms that are first registered after the policy is endorsed by the Minister:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • minimum height of 2.4m, • electric outriggers, • prefabricated mesh (15/17/190) • logbooks to record fence maintenance 	<p>Feedback highlighted that the proposed fencing standards were cost-prohibitive, impractical and, most importantly, that they would not stop deer pushing under the fence. There was no support for logbooks.</p> <p>The proposed minimum standards in the final draft policy have been changed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimum fence height of 1.9 m; • Prefabricated deer mesh, appropriate for the deer

		<p>species being kept;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A strainer wire, either high-tensile plain or barbed, that can be tightened as needed, attached to the bottom of the prefabricated mesh and posts, positioned as low as practical, but no more than 50 mm from the ground; • A strainer wire attached to the top of the prefabricated mesh and posts; • Posts spaced a maximum of 8 m apart; • Cattle/sheep fences can be retrofitted into deer fences by securely attaching prefabricated mesh to the fence, and adding extra full-height single posts between existing posts. <p>DIAA requested that existing farms from which deer are regularly escaping (and which are put under a protection order) should not all be subject to these standards, but should be considered on a case by case basis, depending on terrain undulations and soil type.</p>
Tagging	The draft policy that the NRM Board endorsed for public consultation proposed that all farmed deer over 10 months must be tagged, with one type of ear tag.	<p>Most DIAA members supported mandatory tagging because deer in most commercial farms are already tagged. DIAA did not support the use of one type of ear tag because a range of tags are currently used for different deer species. The industry requested that the minimum age for tagged deer be increased to 12 months to align with the timing of handling operations.</p> <p>The proposed tagging requirements in the final draft policy have been changed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All farmed deer over 12 months of age must have an ear tag that is visible from close range (i.e. while

		inspecting a shot deer).
<u>Permits</u>	<p>The draft policy that the NRM Board endorsed for public consultation proposed that 3-year permits will be issued by NRM boards (with assistance from Biosecurity SA) to deer farmers on the Livestock Registration list. The permits are required to exempt farmers from the control provisions for feral deer.</p> <p>DIAA requested that permits be issued for longer periods to provide certainty to businesses, and that fees be waived.</p>	<p>The proposed permit requirements in the final draft policy have been changed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5-year permits on mainland regions, and 12-month permits on Kangaroo Island, and fees waived until at least 2023, • Permits can be revoked if NRM boards decide that serious breaches have occurred.
Protection for escaped farmed deer	<p>The draft policy that the NRM Board endorsed for public consultation included the existing regulation that escaped farmed deer are protected from capture or destruction for 2 days after the deer farmer has notified neighbours that deer have escaped.</p> <p>Feedback highlighted that farmers may not detect damaged fences (cut by illegal hunters or from fallen trees) for several days, during which time neighbours, or illegal hunters may have shot the escaped deer. Most domesticated deer could be recovered in 7 days.</p>	<p>The proposed regulations for the protection of escaped farmed deer in the final draft policy have been changed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Escaped farmed deer (with ear tags that are visible from a reasonable distance) be protected from destruction for 7 days after neighbours or others have notified the deer farmer or the NRM Board of escaped deer.
Culling target	<p>The draft policy that the NRM Board endorsed for public consultation proposed that at least 40 per cent of females must be culled each year in all subpopulations.</p>	<p>Most public feedback supported the target. DEW staff requested that the target be increased to at least half of females on each property, to reduce feral deer numbers more quickly, and to improve responsiveness by landholders.</p> <p>The proposed culling target in the final draft policy have been changed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At least 50 per cent of female feral deer must be culled from all subpopulations and properties each year.

Table 2: Feral Pigs draft Policy feedback and proposed changes

Subject	Board feedback	Proposed Changes
Declarations	<p>The draft policy that the NRM Board endorsed for public consultation proposed the following declarations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to prohibit entry to, and movement, keeping and sale of feral pigs; • to require for landholders to destroy feral pigs on their properties; • to require notification of feral pigs (in areas where they are not established); • to prohibit the release of all pigs (existing declaration); • to require pig keepers to comply with instructions of authorised officers (existing declaration); and • to require domestic pigs to be adequately confined. 	<p>Feedback from the public was mostly supportive of the proposed changes to NRM Act declarations for feral pigs.</p> <p>No changes have been made to the proposed declarations in the final draft policy.</p>
Culling target	<p>The draft policy that the Kangaroo Island NRM Board endorsed for public consultation proposed that at least 60 per cent of feral pigs must be culled each year in all established populations, and that all incursions of pigs are eradicated.</p>	<p>Most public feedback supported the target. Pork SA members requested a higher culling target in established populations to minimise risks of disease transmission between feral and domestic pigs.</p> <p>No changes have been made to the culling target in the final draft policy.</p>

Other feedback on both policies

- The following suggestions from the Kangaroo Island NRM Board have been included in the draft policies:
 - opportunity to use risk matrices to inform fencing requirements for domestic pig owners;
 - support for the use of dogs to flush feral pigs from vegetation during control programs; and,
 - highlight that deer (with visible tags) that have escaped a farm for more than 7 days, become feral deer (by definition) and must be destroyed.
- Pork SA would like feral pig control to be prioritised in areas where disease transfer risks are highest, such as where piggery locations and feral pig distributions overlap, and where feral pigs may move into South Australia from eastern States. For both policies, the public highlighted that greater compliance was needed to enforce provisions in the draft policy. Landholders want shared responsibility for controlling feral deer and pigs, including public land managers. Many advocated for coordinated, landscape-wide control programs such as aerial control. Volunteer hunting groups are keen to assist with programs on public and private land. Some landholders do not have firearms, capacity, skills or resources to control feral deer and pigs, and others do not have a strong trust of volunteer shooters to undertake control for them.
- Any comments that the Board may have on the two draft policies can be addressed to Dr Annelise Wiebkin (Biosecurity Policy Officer, Biosecurity SA (Annelise.Wiebkin@sa.gov.au, phone 08 8429 0805). Annelise can also be available to answer questions by phone during the next Board meeting, if required. Biosecurity SA requests the NRM Board to consider endorsing the two draft policies before **18 May 2018**.

DISCUSSION

- The Board is asked to consider the final draft policies in **Attachments 1 and 2** noting your comments to date in Table 1 and 2.
- The draft policies are consistent with the the *Kangaroo Island Natural Resource Management Plan 2017-2027*.

CONSULTATION

This paper has been prepared in consultation with Annelise Wiebkin, Brad Page and John Virtue from Biosecurity SA (PIRSA).

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Kangaroo Island Natural Resources Management Board:

1. **Endorses** the final draft policies on feral deer and feral pigs (Attachments 1 and 2) under the *Natural Resources Management Act 2004* (NRM Act).

Motion

Moved

Seconded

That this recommendation be adopted.

Attachments:

1. Final draft policy for feral deer
 2. Final draft policy for feral pigs
-

3. Board Matters

3.3 KANGAROO ISLAND BUSHFIRE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

Priority: For decision

PURPOSE

That the Kangaroo Island Natural Resources Management Board considers membership on the Bushfire Management Committee.

BACKGROUND

- The board nominated David Welford as a representative on the Kangaroo Island Bushfire Management Committee on 28 July 2017 up to 30 June 2018.
- Peggy Rismiller is recorded as the Deputy also up to 30 June 2018. This is to ensure a board representative is able to attend all committee meetings.
- The relevant part of the Act regarding establishment of the Bushfire Management Committee is attached in **Attachment 1**.
 - It is the member's responsibility to inform the nominated deputy of their inability to attend a meeting of the committee, and ensure the deputy member understands the role of the Bushfire Management Committee and any ongoing discussions or recent decisions to ensure continuity of committee business.
 - It is the deputy member's responsibility to inform the member and the board of outcomes of the meeting.
- The board is asked to appoint a board member as a Member and a Deputy to be the board's representative on the Kangaroo Island Bushfire Management Committee. The term of appointment will be for three years up to 30 June 2021.

DISCUSSION

- Bushfire is a significant issue for NRM and in general Kangaroo Island. It is important the board is represented on this committee to both raise issues of concerns from the board, and bring information back to the board.
- It is important the board nominate two members. If a rep is unable to attend, the deputy could be considered. This ensures the both the board and committee always has consistent representation.
- The State Bushfire Management Committee would appreciate if the board can ensure there is always a board representative at committee meetings. The committee has asked that all nominations be received by 30 April 2018 to ensure the committee is established by the end of June 2018 for the 2018-19 Fire Danger Season.
- A membership nomination form is required to be completed and forwarded to the State Bushfire Coordination Committee (**Attachment 2**).

RECOMMENDATION

That the board nominates two members, (a member and a deputy) to be Board representatives to the Kangaroo Island Bushfire Management Committee.

Motion

Moved

Seconded

That this recommendation be adopted.

Attachment	1	Fire and Emergency Services Act, 2005
	2	Bushfire Management Committee Membership Nomination Form

3. Board Matters

3.4 ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT OF WATER MANAGEMENT OPTIONS FOR KANGAROO ISLAND UPDATE

Priority: For noting

PURPOSE

To provide a summary of the progress on the *Environmental Assessment of Water Management Options for Kangaroo Island* project.

BACKGROUND

- An independent review of the methods used to determine water take limits in the 2009 Water Affecting Activity policy, undertaken by the CSIRO (Aryal, 2011), recommended that water take limits be based on studies that determine ecological risks and increased monitoring.
- Following the CSIRO review and Water Resources Task Force recommendations (a former NRM Board sub-committee), the following tasks were placed on the Department for Water and Environment Five Year Forward Work Plan:
 - Undertake a hydro-ecological assessment and associated ecological monitoring work to improve the water take limits
 - Extend the monitoring network.
- In 2015-16, the KI NRM Board supported the *Five year Environmental Assessment of Water Management Options for Kangaroo Island Project Plan* (July 2015- June 2020).
 - The project plan allows for the modification of project effort, via annual implementation plans, to suit available funding and adapt to learnings through the project.
 - A deliverable for the 2017-18 year is to summarise what data was collected and report on general findings.

DISCUSSION

- To date, *the Environmental Assessment of Water Management Options for Kangaroo Island Project* has been largely focused on monitoring, data management and refining the methods of evaluation.
- There has been no conclusive analysis at this point to indicate the impact of developments at monitoring points.
- A summary of the monitoring effort and future analysis is included as **Attachment 1**. Key points include:
 - 1) We now have a monitoring and analysis framework document that describes:
 - a) what to monitor
 - b) how to monitor
 - c) why we are monitoring, in particular how it will be analysed
 - 2) We have consolidated a large amount of historical data and continue to collect data on:
 - a) flow regimes
 - b) watercourse shapes
 - c) riparian vegetation
 - d) macro-invertebrates
 - e) water quality

- 3) We can commonly describe the variation over Kangaroo Island and seasonally (subject to the availability of data) but many factors contribute to the variation, not just dam construction and forestry.
 - 4) Future analysis will attribute some of the variation to drivers that are under the control of the Board of the and predict impact change under various scenarios.
- The timing of the macro-invertebrate monitoring reflects a wet and a dry year with significantly different flow regimes. The different flow regimes over time will improve the confidence and representation in the analysis.
 - There are plans to make available a similar summary of *the Environmental Assessment of Water Management Options for Kangaroo Island* project progress for the community in the near future.
 - The surface water model for the Cygnet River Catchment is currently being developed and will be delivered at the end of June.

[LINK TO NRM PLAN \(or other state strategies\)](#)

Water Affecting Activity Policy

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The cost of this project is estimated to be \$165,000 over 5 year (July 2015- June 2020), subject to the availability of funding.

The Board and DEW also pay for the operation of surface water monitoring sites on Kangaroo Island used for multiple purposes including this project.

CONSULTATION

Doug Green, Senior Aquatic Ecologist, DEW

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Kangaroo Island Natural Resources Management Board:

1. **Notes** the current summary of the *Environmental Assessment of Water Management Options for Kangaroo Island* project.
2. **Notes** plans to make available a similar plain English version summary to communicate progress on the Environmental Assessment of Water Management Options for Kangaroo Island Project to the community later in the financial year.

Motion

Moved

Seconded

That this recommendation be adopted.

Attachments:

1. Environmental Assessment of Water Management Options for Kangaroo Island Summary 2018
-

4. Board matters – for noting

4.2 BIOSECURITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Priority: Consent Schedule

PURPOSE

That the Kangaroo Island Natural Resources Management Board **considers** the draft minutes of the Biosecurity Advisory Committee meeting held Monday 9 April 2018.

BACKGROUND

The Biosecurity Advisory Committee met on Monday 9 April 2018 and the draft minutes of the meeting are attached (**Attachment 1**).

In accordance with *Board Policy A03 Agendas and Minutes*, a summary of committee meetings is prepared for inclusion in the next board agenda together with the draft minutes.

ITEMS OF INTEREST

Bridal Veil / declared weeds

- At board meeting 141, the board raised concerns about the disposal of plant material, including declared weeds that are then turned into a composted mulch product that is sold to residents. The concern is that some seeds and bulbs may remain viable and will contribute to the further spread of weeds.
- Ms Mooney advised the BAC that she has been in contact with the Fleurieu Regional Waste Authority (FRWA), who operate the dump on the KI Councils behalf. The advice from FRWA is that the green waste is in fact treated on site as part of a process to reduce the volume while also devitalising most if not all reproductive material. The process produces 'pasteurised mulch' and involves various processes that result in the product decomposing and generating heat. The temperatures reached (60 degrees Celsius +) are considered appropriate for devitalisation.
- Also discussed at board meeting 141 was the biological control efforts underway in the AMLR region for horehound. This biocontrol is already present on Kangaroo Island and has not proved particularly useful for containment and will not be effective in eradicating the plant. Animal and Plant Control Officer Jason Walter will be attending a weed control forum with equivalents from other regions and will gather information on effective biological controls for horehound. Information from this event will be shared with the BAC and the board.

Exotic grain pest

- The board were advised at the last meeting of the recent discovery of a new exotic grain pest on a primary production property on Kangaroo Island. It should be noted that ongoing assistance is being provided to Biosecurity SA as part of the quarantine measures put in place. While not considered a significant, the incursion still needs to be assessed and advice received on appropriate measures control or eradicate the insect.

Rabbit seizure

- The board is advised that DEW Compliance are finalising the brief for assessment by the Prosecutions Steering Committee.

Marine pests

- The Committee noted the Coast and Marine Team report on marine biosecurity in particular the recent efforts to assist Biosecurity SA following the discovery of Pacific Oyster Mortality syndrome (POMS) in the Port River, Port Adelaide (the first time in SA).
- The board are advised that during the response to POMS, project staff were involved in assisting PIRSA Fisheries and Biosecurity SA in monitoring feral pacific oysters on Kingscote jetties and examination of other areas at American River. As of 9 April, the testing has not found any further cases and as such the movements and other measures have been revoked.
- Eighteen European fan worms were removed from Kingscote jetty - timed to reduce likelihood of spawning, which occurs when the water temperature drops.
- An article was published in the Cruising Yacht Club's 'Ground Swell' magazine on marine biosecurity and its importance to KI.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Kangaroo Island Natural Resources Management Board:

1. **Notes** the draft minutes of the Biosecurity Advisory Committee meeting held Monday 9 April 2018.
2. **Notes** that the Board have been invited by FRWA to conduct a visit to the KI Dump to view the operation producing pasteurised mulch. It is recommended that the board consider contacting FRWA about a site visit and should that occur, invite all members of the BAC to attend.
3. **Notes** the involvement of project staff in assisting Biosecurity SA and PIRSA Fisheries staff with recent monitoring and surveillance work for the POMS incident in Port Adelaide and the discovery of an exotic grain insect on Kangaroo Island.

Motion

Moved

Seconded

That this recommendation be adopted.

Attachments: 1. Draft minutes of the Biosecurity Advisory Committee meeting held Monday 9 April 2018

4.3 MAJOR CORRESPONDENCE FOR MARCH — APRIL

Priority: Consent Schedule

Incoming

Received from:	Subject:
Roni Cohen Date received: 18 March 2018	Request for information regarding the new watering monitoring program.
Minister for the Environment and Energy Date received: 28 March 2018	House of Representatives Question 906 re project <i>Feral Cat Eradication on Kangaroo Island</i> expenditure.
Leigh Miller, EO State Bushfire Coordination Committee Date received: 5 April 2018	Nominations for Bushfire Management Committees.
Keith Armstrong, Director Department of the Environment and Energy Date received: 9 April 2018	Acceptance of final report for the Regional Natural Resources Management Planning for Climate Change (Stream 1) project <i>Regional NRM Planning for Climate Change in the Kangaroo Island NRM region</i> .
Minister for Environment and Water – David Speirs MP Date received: 17 April 2018	Reform of natural resources management in South Australia.

Outgoing

Sent to:	Subject:
Roni Cohen Date sent: 5 April 2018	Kangaroo Island Water Monitoring Project.
Michael Cornish, Senior Policy Advisor, Office of Rebekha Sharkie MP Date sent: 10 April 2018	Question 906 re project <i>Feral Cat Eradication on Kangaroo Island</i> expenditure.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the board notes the above correspondence

Motion

Moved

Seconded

That this recommendation be adopted.

Attachments: 1. Tabled Correspondence

5. Activity Reports

5.1 PRESIDING MEMBER REPORT

Priority Consent Schedule

ACTION SOUGHT

That the Board **notes** the activities of the Presiding Member since the last board meeting.

KEY ACTIVITIES:

The Presiding Member has attended the following activities on behalf of the board:

4 April Presiding Members Forum update

- The Liberal government has a strong reform agenda. Premier has issued Machinery of Government instructions and these changes are underway.
- A 'Whole of Government Machinery of Government' task force has been established. The Acting Chief Executive of Premier and Cabinet is the chair. Every government agency has a representative on the task force. As the five new Chief Executives are appointed things will bed down.
- Department for Environment and Water (DEW) is not as affected as other agencies by the machinery of government changes because we don't have major chunks of the department removed or added.
- DEW is more affected by internal changes – especially around the changes to NRM boards and work.
- Premier has advised all his ministers to push the reform agenda with:
 - Humility
 - Responsibility
 - Delivery
- These three are touchstones for everyone working within Government, and all leadership is to align with these. Leaders need to be mindful of this approach.
- The Premier is re-establishing the tenets of the "Westminster" system with a key point being ministerial responsibility – the buck stops with the minister.
- Our Minister wants to connect regionally very soon and his office is working on setting up regional visits in the near future. He has a genuine desire to meet with community and staff in the regions.
- Community engagement, done well and appropriately, is a key driver for the Minister. Leaders need to be mindful of this and to pay due regard to building on our existing community engagement work.
- Minister sees the reform agenda as a central aspect for his Ministry, the department and for whole of Government. He sees the shift in NRM as very significant.
- The Minister genuinely wants frank and fearless advice from his Chief Executives (as part of the Westminster system). Therefore it is important to understand what our Minister wants, understand that changes to NRM delivery will occur, and understand that we have a role to influence change.
- Note that our Minister is managing cabinet business and will be a "gate keeper" for all cabinet submissions across government. Cabinet meetings will be held twice a week for the coming period to enable the cabinet to drive the reform agenda.
- The Minister will make dedicated time for electorate business.
- The Minister is pushing for NRM reform and Glenthorn Park to begin within the first 30 days and to progress within the first 100 days.
- The Minister is paying attention to relationship building with Federal Government and has spent time in Canberra.
- The Acting Chief Executive is to brief the Minister on options for appointing new Presiding Members.

- Presiding Members see it is clear the Minister wants to pull Boards more away from the agency. This will enable more direct contact between the Presiding Members and the Minister.
- Acting Chief Executive has indicated that the way the Minister will engage with Presiding Members is still developing, but it is clear he wants more on ground results, so there will be opportunities for Presiding Members to influence this.
- Acting Chief Executive indicated that the politics of the change agenda is work for the Minister (eg getting the Landscapes Bill through the upper house). DEW and the Presiding Members role is to facilitate good consultation and work on quality draft legislation.
- There is potential opportunity to use the existing NRM Act to deliver some aspects of the reform agenda quickly. This may include staffing, Naming of Boards etc.
- There are 3 parallel aspect of change occurring across the Department. These are interconnected:
 - Landscape Management reform
 - Internal DEW structure
 - Significant budget cuts
- There are concurrent changes to PIRSA that will interconnect with NRM landscape management changes in DEW. These will be worked through in a joined up approach.
- Note that the Minister will be listening to views that are from outside the current Boards and DEW. The Minister will be consulting widely on changes. Therefore Boards and DEW need to understand and listen to what others are saying and identify areas for improvement – rather than ‘defend’ existing models.
- Presiding Members to consider best way to inform the Minister of existing partnerships that are working so that the best elements of current work can be maintained within the future changes.
- The Minister has indicated that NRM is single biggest issue that his cabinet colleagues discuss with him.
- Minister believes that current NRM planning is top heavy, expensive and does not give good results on the ground.
- Minister is looking to change the ‘system of delivery’ of NRM work. He believes that it is currently not functioning well and leads to poor outcomes.
- The Minister will seek to remove NRM as a ‘political football’ within local government.
- Be aware that name change of boards away from NRM is a key element of reform agenda – NRM name or brand is not well ‘liked’ in the community.
- The Minister sees climate change issues as being integrated and woven through everything we do.
- Minister understands that changes process is a long term proposition. He wants to lay the foundation for change within this political 4 year cycle but knows the change will take longer to mature.
- Acting Chief Executive made it clear that Boards and DEW leaders need to be mindful of staff at this time of change and to be doing everything appropriate to help staff.

Landscape SA Reform – Presented by Saravan Peacock (DEW)

- The process to consult with Regions, timeframe needs to be developed.
- There will be more extensive consultation will occur in May-June
- There is possibility of interim changes (using the existing Act) for:
 - Name of Boards
 - Assigning staff to boards
 - Removing and replacing the Letter of Direction
 - Boundary changes (for AMLR)
- The Presiding Members will write to the Minister setting out their desire to work with the Minister to achieve reform and to ask what interim changes the Minister may wish them to progress now. Sharon Starick will draft the letter and all PMs will be able to comment before it is sent.

- There are important aspects of levy funding, including distribution, that need to be worked through. The Minister will be seeking outside influence on this reform – not just same old people doing the same old things – this is a good opportunity to make improvements.

State-wide NRM Landscapes plan

- The NRM plan was reviewed last year.
- The change in government will have implications on what the outcomes of this review are.
- There has been no decision about whether a new state plan will be created before or after the introduction of new legislation.
- The most likely outcome is that the development of a statewide landscapes plan will be put on hold until further notice.

NRM Regions Australia Update

- Parry Agius reported that the NLP2 partnership outcomes were due to be announced on the 7th May 2018.

NLP2 and Landscapes reform

- Each Board Presiding Member will write a letter to the NLP2 assessment committee indicating that the ongoing reform of NRM delivery will still enable all projects to be delivered.
- Boards who have submitted Smart Farms applications will write a similar letter to the appropriate assessment committee.
- Letters will be signed by each presiding member.
- Letters should be sent as soon as possible.
- The overall purpose of the letter is to give re-assurance that appropriate governance (and thus delivery and accountability) will be maintained throughout the NRM reform process.
- The details of how contracts and delivery responsibilities will be moved to new Boards are not settled as yet.
- The Acting Chief Executive will also write to the assessment panels reassuring good governance during the reform process.

Sustainable Agriculture Policy

- Tim Hermann gave a presentation on sustainable agriculture and soil management.

NRM Research and Innovation Network

- Jennie Fluin gave a presentation about the research and Innovation network, its funding and its achievements.

Succession Planning

- Presiding Members resolved to establish a group of past Presiding Members to assist in mentoring new PMs .

Inappropriate Conduct Procedure

- Verbal

5 April Ag Excellence Alliance Forum

- Strong connection between NRM in all regions and various trial groups that are members of AG Excellence

9 April Soils Workshop

17 April Parliamentary Council letter – verbal update

RECOMMENDATION

That the Board:

1. **Notes** the activities of the Presiding Member since the previous meeting.
2. **Supports** discussions being held on the Presiding Member's six priorities for 2018/2019.

Motion

Moved

Seconded

That this recommendation be adopted.

5. Activity Reports

5.2 REGIONAL DIRECTOR REPORT

Priority

Consent Schedule

PURPOSE

That the board notes the Regional Director activities by exception and relevance to the board the since the March 2018 board meeting.

KEY ACTIVITIES

Since the March 2018 board meeting, the Regional Director has attended the following activities:

- Reviewed and approved water affecting activity permit application K17002, with conditions, for the construction of a 0.5 mega litre dam, Newland under delegation from the Board.
- Delegated Mike Greig to support Presiding Member at the Council of NRM Presiding Members.
- Undertook a number of actions from Board 141 which will be discussed in Business arising. In relation to writing to Council regarding an education strategy for disposal of bridal veil green waste (including tubers, corms and runners) it is proposed we seek to host Fleurieu Regional Waste Authority to a future event.
- Undertook staff meetings across the region providing updates to staff on the national landcare programme, changes to the agency and new government and other matters.
- Participated in Department for Environment and Water executive meetings particularly in relation to election commitments and new polices.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Board

1. **notes** the activities of the Regional Director since the previous meeting.

Motion

Moved

Seconded

That this recommendation be adopted.

Attachments:

5. Activity Reports

5.3 FERAL CAT ERADICATION PHASE ONE AND TWO PROGRESS REPORT

Priority: For noting

PURPOSE

To provide the Board with an update on phase one and proposed Phase two activities for the feral cat eradication program.

BACKGROUND

- Deliverables to be completed in the transition of phase one to phase two of the Feral Cat Eradication Program include installation of the barrier fence, technical analysis of data and a final report. While the final report is anticipated to be completed by May-June 2018, some issues have arisen regarding approval of the fence.
- Commencement of phase two was marked by Australian Government approval of the project: *Felixers versus Felis: Innovative engagement of Kangaroo Island landholders in feral cat control*, part of its Threatened Species Recovery Fund, in January and due for completion by 30 June 2019.
- The *Felixers versus Felis* project will involve culling of up to 500 feral cats on private and public land using seven Felixer™ grooming traps augmented by other control techniques, as well as monitoring radio-tracked cats and collecting data on cat abundance and distribution.
- Two supporting NLP2 projects: *Creating a safe haven for the Kangaroo Island Dunnart and other priority threatened species by eradicating feral cats from the Dudley Peninsula* (RLP funds), and *Feral Cat Strike Force - Developing an Innovative, Best Practice, Community Wildlife Detection Dog Program for Feral Cat Eradication on Kangaroo Island* (SF) are currently being assessed.

DISCUSSION

- Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) about the Feral Cat Eradication program, referring to the different phases and outlining outcomes from phase one, are being finalised for updating of the website, together with a press release and other media activities to be released as a package.
- General information about 1080 and its effects have been included as part of the FAQs, including that the initiative will be guided by the steering committee and the *Model code of practice for the humane control of feral cats and standard operating procedures in the eradication of the feral cat*.
- Negotiations with the landholders for the barrier fence Option B has proven to be a complex matter. Two of the landholders have not raised concerns and are amenable to its installation, while others have requested significantly more information, with one involving an environmental consultant and another their lawyer in the process.
- The current direction is to continue to work with these landholders and provide them with the information or services requested in order to progress fence installation, however pragmatic consideration of previously developed options will also be needed.

- Funds for the *Felixers versus Felis* project have been received and a selective tender process to engage a contractor closed Monday 9 April. Submissions were assessed Tuesday 10 April, with the successful tenderer, Terrain Ecology, notified following approvals.
- The MERI plan for the project has been completed and an operations plan developed describing the methods and resources required to deliver field activities against agreed timelines.

[LINK TO NRM PLAN \(or other state strategies\)](#)

Kangaroo Island Natural Resources Management Plan 2017-2027

Goal: Healthy, resilient ecosystems

Strategy- Implement feral cat control on Kangaroo Island.

Other state, regional and Australian strategies supported the delivery of phase two are:

- Feral cat eradication on Kangaroo Island 2015-2030 Prospectus
- South Australian NRM Plan: Our Place Our Future 2012-2017
- Australian Government Threatened Species Strategy (2007)
- The National Threat Abatement Plan for Feral Cats (2007)
- Australia's Biodiversity Conservation Strategy 2010-2030
- The Australian Pest Animal Strategy (2007).

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

No financial implications for the Board, however there may be further legal costs from Crown Solicitors office in relation to the stakeholder management agreements. This will be monitored.

CONSULTATION

NRKI Regional Director, Business Support, Science & Program Planning, and Strategy & Engagement staff were consulted for the preparation of this briefing.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Kangaroo Island Natural Resources Management Board:

- **Notes** the preparation of FAQs for updating the website together with a press release and other media opportunities to promote the success of the program to date and inform the community of the next phases
- **Notes** some complexities around barrier fence option B currently being worked through by the project manager.
- **Notes** the procurement of a project contractor to assist with delivering project design, on-ground activities, data management and reporting
- **Notes** that NLP2 projects including those submitted by the Board for phase two are still being assessed.

Motion

Moved

Seconded

That this recommendation be adopted.

