



EAST REFERENCE GROUP

AGENDA OF MEETING NO. 09/03

- Venue:** Perth Region NRM Chambers
80 Great Northern Highway (corner Bishop Road)
MIDDLE SWAN WA 6056
- Date:** Thursday, 29 July 2010
- Time:** 9:30 am to 12:30 pm
- RSVP:** 10:00 am Tuesday, 27 July 010 to Gill on 9374 3322 or
Gill.Hayden-Smith@perthregionnrm.com

Time	Agenda Item	Responsibility
9:30	1. WELCOME, APOLOGIES and PROXIES	Chair
9:40	2. CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES East Reference Group Meeting held on Thursday, 29 April 2010	All
9:45	3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES / ACTION LIST UPDATE	Chair
9:55	4. NATIONAL, STATE AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENTS 4.1 Regional Developments: Updates on activities from other Reference Groups 4.2 State Government Position on NRM 4.3 Federal Government – Caring for Our Country 4.4 Local Government Reference Group Update – Integrating NRM into LG Core Business	Colin Heinzman – PRNRM Reference Group Coordinator Bruce Hamilton
10:10	5. INTEGRATED CATCHMENT MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATES	Toni Burbidge
10:20	MORNING TEA BREAK	
10:30	6. Carnaby's Cockatoo Strategic Management and the "Great Cocky Count" 6.1 The "Great Cocky Count" 6.2 Black Cockatoo Recovery Centre	Dr Geoff Barrett Glenn Dewhurst
11:45	7. MEMBER UPDATES 7.1 Eastern Hills Catchment Management Project 7.2 Illegal Damming 7.3 Site Visit to Wungong	EMRC EMRC Tori Lowe
12:15	8. OTHER BUSINESS	All
12:25	9. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT PERTH REGION NRM BOARD MEETING	Chair / All
12:30	10. NEXT MEETING, VENUE AND CLOSURE OF MEETING	Chair / All

1. WELCOME, APOLOGIES AND PROXIES

2. CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

East Reference Group Meeting held on Thursday, 29 April 2010

Motion: That the minutes of the East Reference Group meeting held on Thursday, 29 April 2010 be accepted as a true and correct record.

3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES / ACTION LIST UPDATE

ACTION LIST

Action No.	Meeting Date	Agenda Item No.	Action	Person(s)	Status
1	30/10/08	5	LGRG Update - Request that an investigation into on ground implications for resourcing of the sub regional realignment be carried out. <i>Bruce Hamilton will provide members with an update under Agenda Item 4.4.</i>	Bruce Hamilton	D
2	30/07/09	7	Request that the South Reference Group hold a presentation at a future East Reference Group meeting about the Canning River sedimentation. <i>Updates from other Reference Groups is now a standing Agenda Item (see Agenda Item 4). A table of ongoing activities from each reference group will be included in the Agenda.</i>	Victoria Lowe	C
3	30/07/09	9.3	A structure is to be negotiated with Water Corporation to facilitate communication between Water Corporation and Friends of groups. <i>The Water Corporation, through Peter Armanasco, has agreed to discuss the best way for Friend's of Groups and Water Corp to communicate. A review of Friend's of Groups in the Eastern region that require help and/or support from the Water Corp is underway to ensure the right community groups are represented in this process.</i>	Linda Soteriou/ Victoria Lowe	O
4	30/07/09	9.3	East Reference Members (max 20 people) to be invited on a field trip to the Wungong Catchment hosted by the Water Corporation. Another date to be set for this trip – on a Thursday Morning. <i>The final Reference Group meeting for 2010 (Thursday 28th of October) will incorporate a trip to Wungong Catchment. Victoria will send out invites to other Reference Groups. Members are asked to invite any interested community members in the East.</i>	Victoria Lowe	O
5	29/10/09	9	Invite the Water Corporation and Western	Victoria	O

Action No.	Meeting Date	Agenda Item No.	Action	Person(s)	Status
			Power to a future East Reference Group Meeting regarding the Wungong Catchment. <i>See previous item.</i>	Lowe	
6	25/02/10	2	The East Reference Group will review the ICM document to see if it is still relevant today. A Working Group will be set up. <i>The ICMP Working Group has met and the review of the document has begun. The East Reference Group will be updated in a standing agenda item "ICMP Updates" until the review is completed.</i>	Victoria Lowe	O
7	29/04/10	4	Arrange a Forum to discuss the effect of climate change on surface water runoff (CSIRO recently released the findings of the South-West Western Australia Sustainable Yields Project – a comprehensive assessment of water yields and demands to 2030 ever undertaken for south-west Western Australia).	?	O
8	29/04/2010	7	EMRC to arrange meetings with LG in the East Region to look at the alignment of their policies on Dam construction. <i>A draft "common dams policy" for the Bunbury Region was forwarded to EMRC and is available upon request.</i>	Naomi Rakela?	O
9	29/04/10	7	Arrange a meeting with the Minister for Water to review the ' Rights In Water and Irrigation Act 1914 '. <i>EMRC have completed a suggested Amendment to the Act</i>	Naomi Rakela, Una Bell and Victoria Lowe	O

LEGEND C Completed D Deferred O Ongoing

4. NATIONAL, STATE AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

The PRNRM Board has endorsed the final draft of the Strategic Overview and work is now progressing on the Reference Group Business Plans, which will set out how collectively all of our stakeholders will work to achieve the agreed Goals and Targets. A key part of this process will be to support State and Local Government NRM objectives and targets.

The intention is that the Reference Group Business Plans will be drawn together in an overarching 'Perth Region NRM Business Plan'.

Colin Heinzman has been contracted by Perth Region NRM to provide coordination between the theme and geographic reference groups and to record and follow up the actions generated by reference group meetings. Colin will provide updates on the work of other Reference Groups, as well as updates on any relevant State and National developments. He will also support the development of the Business Plans and participate in the development of the 'Perth region NRM Business Plan'.

4.1 Regional Developments: Updates on activities from other Reference Groups

Natural Diversity Reference Group	The work of the past three years is to be brought together to produce a Green Map and a set of decision support tools to guide the planning system. This will then lead to the ability to evaluate the cost of effective management of the system, and will guide targeted control programs. In talks with the EPA and WAPC. The group is currently working to finalise its program logic.
Light Industry Reference Group	The program has moved to a sustainability focus, and is facilitating a consortium of investors which include Western Power, Synergy, Horizon, Water Corporation and Local Government to deliver water and energy efficiency and reduce illegal discharge. Water Corporation have some funding to look at waterless works, the SRT have provided funding for another 800 audits in Canning, and we have won contracts to do energy auditing for the Office of Energy. The SRT has provided funding for another 800 audits to be carried out in a negotiated Local Government, and the new industrial Estate Guidelines have been launched.
Aboriginal Reference Group	The Noongar trails for the Swan-Canning system are a major project as well as continuing the development of Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management Plans with Belmont and Fremantle. Filming of the Trails Project has commenced and a boat trip with the SRT has been held.
Local Government Reference Group	The recommendations from the Lonsdale report on Local Government and NRM are currently being piloted by 5 Local Governments. The priority NRM issues have been updated. C4OC have used the LGRG as a case study for LG engagement. A letter was sent to Minister Castrilli and Faragher re support for LG involvement with the industry project. Examples of good community engagement with LG are being collected.
Integrated Water Management Reference Group	The focus for this year is on urban drainage governance and the implementation of the Water Quality Improvement plans in three case study catchments, Bayswater, Ellen Brook and Southern River. Bayswater is developing an action plan which is well advanced, Ellen brook has met twice, as has Southern River.
Rural Landuse Reference Group	The Rural Landuse Reference Group is looking at Best Management Practices. The Rural Landuse Group is also working with the Wineries and Grape Growers in the area and have helped Jane Brook Wineries to reduce their Energy usage by 40% and Water usage by 20%. Jane Brook Wineries would now like to rollout this case study to other Wineries in the South West area. A questionnaire has gone to all members to collect information on what each industry association is doing and on the priority areas for investment.
South Reference Group	Managing water quantity and sediment in the Canning River and implementation of the Southern River WQIP are key projects. Town of Kwinana have good mechanisms for managing sediment from building sites, and SRG will run a workshop for all LG's on their project. SRG is looking at all natural areas in the south managed by State and Local Government to look at levels of management, current funding and required funding. They will start with Bush Forever sites.
North Reference Group	The group is looking at coordinated fox control (and potentially rabbit control) across all the Local Governments in the North, and are talking to Mike Butcher about how this could be done. All LG's present at the meeting are supportive, and a scoping workshop has been held.

East Reference Group	Working with the Community Groups, which are moving back to an integrated catchment management approach for the hills streams. The ERG has also formed a working group to review the 1997 Integrated Catchment Management Plan. Also looking at the issue of illegal damming of streams and extraction of water, particularly in the hills. EMRC will approach the Minister for Water re review of the Act, they will work with all the hills LG's to look at their policies on dams, and we will host a forum for the LG's and DoW to see how we can streamline the process between them.
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4.2 State Government Position on NRM

The WA NRM Ministerial Council has approved funding of \$250,000 to each of the six Regional NRM organisations for the provision of the following services in 2010-2011:

- Identification and prioritisation of highly valued community NRM assets and actions;
- The provision of advice on opportunities for NRM investment and leveraging of other resources;
- The provision of high level feedback on the implementation and progress of the State NRM Program; and
- The promotion and provision of a consistent understanding of the Government's NRM policy and direction to all community stakeholders

These services are being funded by the State Government to ensure more effective on ground action occurs.

4.3 Federal Government – Caring for Our Country

Attachment 4.3 is the Caring for Our Country Community Action Grant Fact Sheet. The Federal Government has announced up to \$8 million in additional funds to help community groups protect the environment and support sustainable farming through its 2010-11 Caring for our Country Community Action Grants program.

Small community groups nationwide are encouraged to apply for grants of \$5,000 to \$20,000 to help them take action to protect and revitalise the Australian landscape. The funding can be used for a range of purposes, including for Landcare facilitators, removing weeds, planting trees, controlling pests and field days.

Eligible community groups may include: Community groups involved in coastal rehabilitation, restoration and conservation; Groups of farmers or land managers working on sustainable farming or improving natural resource management; Indigenous partnerships involved in protecting or improving the environment; Groups involved in biodiversity, environmental protection or managing natural resources.

More information is available at: www.nrm.gov.au

4.4 Local Government Reference Group Update – Integrating NRM into LG Core Business

Bruce Hamilton will update members on the progress made by the Local Government Reference Group on engaging Local Governments as full partners in NRM in the Perth Region; including an update on progress of testing the Recommendations in the paper “Integrating NRM into Local Government Core Business”.

5. INTEGRATED CATCHMENT MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATES

Toni Burbidge will update the Reference Group on progress by the ICMP Working Group on the revision of the Integrated Catchment Management Plan. This work is very important to the East Reference Group, as it will form the basis of the Action Plan for the group by providing the strategic framework for the coordination of on-ground activities in the East region. **Attachment 5** is an outline of the process being undertaken by the working group, as well as the minutes and actions from the last meeting.

MORNING TEA BREAK

6. CARNABY’S COCKATOO STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT AND THE “GREAT COCKY COUNT”

An issue that emerged from the last round of State NRM Funding was the lack of coordination across sub-regions and community groups to ensure that they were not applying for funding for the same, or similar, activities. One case was the number of separate funding applications for individual Carnaby’s Cockatoo projects, where a coordinated, cross-regional approach is required.

6.1 The “Great Cocky Count”

Dr Geoff Barrett from the Department of Environment and Conservation will talk about DEC’s development of an overarching strategic framework for the protection of Carnaby’s cockatoo; and how Community groups can be involved in this process using the practical example of the “Great Cocky Count.”

His presentation will be followed by question time and a discussion on what the East Reference Group can do to support cross-regional initiatives.

6.2 Black Cockatoo Recovery Centre

The mission of the Black Cockatoo Recovery Centre is to care for, rehabilitate and release Black Cockatoo’s to their families in the wild. Glenn Dewhurst from the Black Cockatoo Recovery Centre, will discuss issues from his perspective, and will be able to answer specific questions about Carnaby’s. Glenn will speak about issues that relate to development vs Carnaby Cockatoos and how we can move forward.

7. MEMBER UPDATES

In this agenda item, progress on previous issues will be provided to members.

7.1 Eastern Hills Catchment Management Project

Karen Warner from EMRC will update members on the Eastern Hills Catchment Management Project. **Attachment 7.1** is an update from EMRC on the Eastern Hills Catchment Management Project up to the 16th of July.

7.2 Illegal Damming

EMRC will continue to liaise with Eastern Local Governments to align their policies on dam approvals. Since the previous meeting, EMRC has begun to develop an amendment to the RIWI Act 1914 on damming. The need for this amendment arose out of the panel discussion. Naomi Rakela from EMRC will update members on progress.

7.3 Site Visit to Wungong

Attachment 7.3 is the draft Itinerary for the Site visit planned for the 28th of October- the date of our final Reference Group meeting for 2010. This Reference Group meeting will be longer than normal due to the travel time and itinerary provided by the Water Corp. Ian Freeman at the Department of Environment and Conservation has kindly offered the hall at the DEC office at Jarrahdale for our lunch and other Reference Group business (standing agenda items).

8. OTHER BUSINESS

9. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT PERTH REGION NRM BOARD MEETING

10. NEXT MEETING, VENUE AND CLOSURE OF MEETING

The next meeting will be from 9am at Perth Region NRM, or 9.30am from Jarrahdale General Store for a Wungong Site Visit. (TBA)