

MINUTES MEETING 8th March 2011 COMMENCING 10:00 AM HAY BOWLING CLUB

Welcome: Chairman welcomed delegates and guests noting that the proceedings were being electronically recorded.

Apologies: C.Hendriksen (ARTC), A. Thompson (Balranald Shire), L. Palmer (LMDCMA), P. Scarlis (Leeton Shire), B. Burford (Griffith Shire), P. O'Shannassy (Riverina LHPA), S. Cowley (LMPA)

Moved: J. Morrison

That apologies are accepted.

Seconded: K. Woods

Carried

Attendees: A. Clarke (Narrandera Shire), P. Bosse (W/ERNWAG), P. Derrig (Hay Shire), P. Bisset (LMPA), M. Michelmore (Dept I&I), I. Stuckings (Murrumbidgee Shire), G. Stoll (Carrathool Shire), K. Woods (Carrathool Shire), J. Morrison (Leeton Shire), A. Berry (Griffith Shire), J. Ellis (Murray CMA), D. Morris (CMWCC), S. Battenally (Wakool Shire), I. Lockhart (Landholder Wakool Shire), G. McDonald (Landholder Wakool Shire), M. Hastings (Jerilderie Shire), J. Gamble (MIA Rural), S. Watts (Wentworth Shire), G. Portbury (Jerilderie Shire), R. Ferguson (RENWA)

Minutes: Moved: A. Berry

That minutes of last meeting as presented are a true and accurate record.

Seconded: S. Battenally

Carried.

Business Arising

- Repayment of unspent grant monies. Nothing resolved to date.
- Creeping Peril document discussed.
- Mr. M. Michelmore introduced to the meeting. Mr Michelmore gave a short description of his duties.

Local Government

Balranald Shire
Bland Shire
Carrathool Shire
Central Murray County
Griffith City
Hay Shire
Jerilderie Shire
Leeton Shire
Murrumbidgee Shire
Narrandera Shire
Temora Shire
Wakool Shire
Wentworth Shire

Livestock Health and Pest Authorities

Balranald/Wentworth
Hay
Murray
Narrandera
Riverina

Other Agencies

Dept Environment &
Conservation
Land & Property
Management Authority
Murrumbidgee
Irrigation
Murrumbidgee Private
Irrigators Inc (YACTAC)
National Parks &
Wildlife

All Correspondence:

Geoff Portbury
The Group Secretary
PO Box 96
JERILDERIE NSW 2716

T 0358860025
F 0358860025
M 0427 848 194

Correspondence In

MARCH MEETING 2011			
18/10/2010	Have a Chat Coffee		Invoice for fruit basket
20/10/2010	Hay Bowling Club		Invoice for Venue Hire
10/12/2010	I & I (Michael Michelmore)		Notification of NWAct review launch

Correspondence Out

MARCH MEETING 2011			
19/10/2010	Dept. Fair Trading		Annual Financial Statement and fee.
19/10/2010	Have a Chat Coffee Hay		Payment of fruit basket invoice.
19/10/2010	Have a Chat Coffee Hay		Payment of catering invoice.
10/12/2010	Mr. K. Moore National Weeds & Productivity Research Program		Support letter for the Dr. R. Stanton SLN research program

Moved: A. Clarke.
 Seconded: K. Woods
 Carried

Financial Reports

Moved: G. Portbury
That the financial report as presented is accepted.
 Seconded: P. Derrig
 Carried

RNWPO (Paula) Report – March 2011

Important dates over the coming weeks/months:

- Mach Inspect and Clean, Wagga 16/3/11 – 17 enrolled – only 3 places left – as at 28/2/11
- Project Officer forum to discuss WAP progress – Goulburn 24/3/11
- I&I NSW is calling for nominations for the Buerckner & Stephenson LG Weed Professional Awards. Nominations close on **29th April 2011**. The two categories in this year's Awards:
 - The Buerckner Award -for outstanding contribution to the on ground control of weeds in NSW
 - The Stephenson Award -for outstanding contribution to planning and coordinating weed management programs in NSW.

Riverina WAP allocations – The Minister approved a grant of \$1,234,459 for the Riverina WAP submission. Our increased request for funding for our regional coordinator (RNWPO), Alligator weed operational funding & Riverina LHPA funding was not approved. **Invoices outstanding!!!!!!**

RWAC Report Template – still on the to-do list. It will be circulated when finalised.

Proposed changes to CG declaration – nothing to report.

Tropical soda apple – 15/2/11 – I emailed out a pathway analysis (map) and copy of I&I NSW letter that went to GMs in February.

Hawkweed – A Primefact & MR are in the pipeline for next season. Map from DECCW – circulate.

Sagittaria – Strategic plan currently being updated. When I receive a final draft I will circulate it to all for comments. Also Brian Keener, a Sagittaria taxonomist from the University of West Alabama is coming to Australia to look at plant specimens and hopefully identify them. Rae Kwong is hoping to grab some samples in the Riverina for id – CMCC might give an update later?

Draft NSW Prickle bush strategy – available if anyone would like to comment. Next meeting: ?

NWA 1993 - Consistent with section 76 of the Act, a review is being undertaken to determine whether the policy objectives of the Act remain valid, and whether the terms of the Act remain appropriate for securing those objectives. The Issues Paper on the review of the *Noxious Weeds Act 1993* is available for download at: <http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/aboutus/about/legislation-acts/review/noxious-weeds>. Closing date for submissions was 28/2/11. I do have a copy of the WOA response to the issues paper – all members should have received this.

Order 26 – details emailed out 23/11/10 summarising the changes. The major change is that a few of the state-wide CC5 weeds have been moved into CC4. I&I also sent correspondence 21/12/10

Mesquite & Parkinsonia - I&I are proposing to add Mesquite and Parkinsonia to (Corowa, Albury, GHSC, WWCC, Tumut, Tumbarumba, Junee, Cootamundra & Gundagai) Class 2 weed list to bring it into line with all other Riverina councils. Councils were emailed this information 8/2/11.

NSW Biennial weeds conference – draft program available. Rego details will be online soon

I&I Regional Coordinators – Feedback requested by LGSA – the request came through in late Oct 2010 & I formulated a response with the chairs & secs of both groups. Our response is available if anyone would like a copy. No follow up received to date.

Alligator weed update – Woomargama. Several surveys have been undertaken over the last few months with Melissa Freeman assisting hibbo & cma reps onsite with walking the creek and locating plants. 7th dec 2010 - all AW sites were marked by GPS (show map) and most above ground plant material was manually removed. 20 garbage bags of material were collected from the site. Cattle & Sheep had grazed the creek prior to the inspection which assisted in accessing the creek and visibility of fragments and infestations. Next site inspection will be in April.

Weed management capacity building services – results of survey from Birgitte – 8% of extranet subscribers responded! Results from the survey will guide a review of the project activities and targets for the 2011-15 financial years. Summary of conclusions:

Part 1: Capacity building Services - The weeds websites & information resources available on the websites are valued the most by respondents this is followed by the Weeds Training Program & weed awareness coordination. The printed resources & Weed Resource Bulletin was least valued.

Part 2: Provision of printed resources - Many respondents' value & are reliant on the provision of free printed resources to extend information about weeds to the community. Some areas are more self sufficient & would easily transition to doing their own print runs. Overall a reduction in printing resources will result in less information being provided to community & landholders on weed management.

Part 3: The Extranet for weed management professionals - There is good support to retain and expand the use of the extranet. Most agree that the extranet should remain a closed site. Most people want the extranet to be redesigned to make it a more interactive site for weed professionals.

Birgitte emailed the results to us to ensure that we are happy that the results are a fair indication of our regions priorities regarding the capacity building services I&I NSW provide and to give us one more chance to have a say. Our response/confirmation of results is required **by the 11th March.**

Moved: A. Berry

To endorse the Capacity Building Services survey results.

Seconded: D. Morris

Carried

Car Sunshades I&I are looking at ordering some car windscreen shades (the kind that you put up on the inside of the car windscreen to shade the vehicle and then fold away and keep in a bag behind the seat) as a NS4W merchandise item. They have a large area to print on and offer a good space for promoting our message. We would use some of the key messages from the hygiene theme and the logo. They have the opportunity to order larger numbers and have some available at a cost (approx. \$12.00 each) if you think it could be an item that councils might purchase for vehicles?

WoNS Strategies being reviewed - currently open for formal comment
www.weeds.org.au/wons

Boat ramp signage – currently at the printer – printed this week or next. 52 signs coming our way!

Albury	4	Gundagai	1	Tumut	8	Central Murray	12	Narrandera	2
Corowa	6	Junee	1	Wagga	3	Murrumbidgee	1	Wakool	4
Greater Hume	2	Tumbarumba	1			Griffith	2	Wentworth	5

WAP reporting 10/11 – I have incorporated the reporting into everyone's individual WAP spreadsheets (all 27 of them). Has everyone received and had a go at filling them in? Last ones were emailed out 17/2/11. Questions? The only additional information I'll require I will email out closer to the end of financial year – 1 pager to do with new incursions, inspection program – high risk sites/pathways, community extension, educations and involvement, regional highlights & achievements. Reporting under the WAP is a lot earlier than in past years – end of August for me!

Density and Spread – regional definition: As a recommended action out of our Rapid Response plan and a reporting requirement in the WAP, we need to list/report new weed incursions along with their current density and spread at the end of each year using the same spread & density definition as per our control programs. This is what you'll refer to when determining density of new incursions

Moved: I. Stuckings

That the Density and Spread of New Weed Incursion document is adopted.

Seconded: P. Derrig

Carried

High Risk Species WAP 1.2.1 – circulate handouts. I've combined our priority listings from our 4 RWS with the Class 1 & 2 state wide list into one document. This will form the basis for a lot of the planning to be undertaken in the coming months. Anything to add – let me know!

Moved: G.Portbury

That the High Risk Species document is adopted as the Western Riverina High Risk Species prevention plan

Seconded: P. Derrig

Rapid Response Plan WAP 2.2.1 – in draft and circulated to all for comments. This plan outlines the specific procedures and recommended actions to be undertaken upon finding a new incursion of a Category A or B weed. Any comments / additions – please let me know ASAP.

Regional Inspection Program WAP 1.2.3 – after trawling the web looking for examples to base our regional policy on; I ended up looking over Lachlan & Macquarie Valleys. It was very broad & straightforward which is exactly what I was looking for. I've modified it to suit our region & linked it to our WAP, MoU & RWS. The only way to achieve regional endorsement is by giving councils the ability to detail their own inspection goals. Discuss. Anything missing, am I completely off track?

Regional High Risk Pathways WAP 1.1.1 – this will ultimately be a list of HR Sites & Pathways. We need to do exactly what we've already done for boat ramps – but for everything else. I'm in the process of putting a spreadsheet together that will be circulated to everyone for input. You'll need to list all new incursions that you can remember – site & pathways, as well as details of HR sites.

Regional Management protocol of high risk pathways – to be developed once Pathways are id.

Regional Incursion Plan for High Risk species – base on the NSW incursion plan.

RNWPO (Lisa) Report – March 2011

Important Dates over the coming weeks/months:

- Riverina Field Day 13-14 May 2011
- NSW Biennial Weeds Conference – 18th-21st July 2011 Coffs Harbour

Chinwag – Lisa emailed out Chinwag Edition 40 in November – available for download on the website. Thank you to all those weedos who took the time to contribute to the stories in Chinwag. It actually makes the newsletter much more interesting when others tell their own stories! Please remember to email her anything that you think might be of interest for the next edition. Edition 41 coming soon!!

Our website – www.riverinaweeds.org.au – is constantly being updated. Remember if there is anything you want to see on there let Lisa know. We generally put info on there before we circulate it – so check it regularly!

Red Guide Post system - currently working on a Red Guide Post flyer. Stay tuned to see more....

Weed Awareness update Jessica Grantley – I & I

The kits are now available. One will be placed in the trailer and one left in our office for use. These kits will include copies of the new posters, postcards, samples of new NS4W merchandise (and ordering info), kids activity sheets, a display presentation on a disc and pdf copies of all printed materials on a disc. It is proposed that these resources will be able to be used as a stand alone hygiene focused display and regions can add other and local information to tailor the display as required. Any further info contact Lisa

Photo competition

Entries are being sort for the inaugural NSW *no space 4* weeds photography competition The challenge is on for keen photographers to get snapping and be in line to win some great prizes! There are two competition categories to enter 1. Weed identification– a set of no more than six photographs to be used for the purposes of plant identification OR 2. Weed management – a single photograph of any aspect of weed management (eg a weed infestation; weed control efforts, on the job action etc).

Everyone is eligible to enter, entry is free and you can enter as many times as you like! The winning entries will be displayed at the [16th NSW Weeds Conference](#) 18-21 July 2011. The competition closes on Friday 8 July 2011. All acceptable entries will be added to our image library and made available for use in weed publications and awareness campaigns. For more information please contact: weed.resource@industry.nsw.gov.au

Communication Strategy is finally well under way. There will be a draft circulated soon for people to peruse and if you have any thoughts or comments after this please let Lisa know.

Audit of Weed Information Resources – we are still waiting for many responses from you. (see list) all I need is either a no – nothing to report or Yes – and details of what you have. ASAP please.

Update of Regional Weed Identification Guide (Weeds of the Riverina) – An update of Weeds of the Riverina is required. There are not many copies left throughout the region now. Lisa has began the process of going through the old guide and changing what has become outdated etc. If anyone else has any comments or thoughts on these can you please contact Lisa. If you would like to be involved in the review process please let Lisa know and she will send you an electronic copy of the document to review and comment on. I have also had a quote from local printers for 5000 copies. The approx cost was \$5873 plus GST.

Riverina Field Day Griffith

Some discussion was had previously as to whether or not the Griffith field day will be a regional one or ran just by locals. A decision needs to be made as to whether the RNWPO needs to be in attendance or not. (Remembering that it is the best part of a 3 hour drive there and then back)

Plants that Cannot be sold in the Riverina

Lisa has been updating this list to bring it in line with Order 26. As soon as it is finalised it will be available on the web.

Weeds Officers Reports

Weeds Officers presented their reports of activities undertaken since the last meeting.

- A discussion on herbicide resistance. G. Gamble of MIA Rural stated that all weeds officers should vary which chemicals they use from time to time to reduce the risk of resistance occurring.

General Business

- P. Bosse alerted the meeting to the **Small Area Farming supplement** that is included in **The Land** rural newspaper occasionally. This supplement always has a double page article on weeds.
- Amended Constitution is now on the web site.
- A. Clarke asked for information regarding the obligations of the seller of a property to inform the buyer of any noxious weed infestations on the property. M. Michelmores stated that there was no obligation to inform. The proposal is not expected to make it through Cabinet.



- WAP: P. Bosse gave a short explanation of how the WAP report should be completed

Date, Time & Venue of Next Meeting

- 7th June 2011
- 10:00 AM
- Hay Golf Club

Meeting Close: 2:15 PM