



GENERAL MEETING 10.08.2016

| Meeting | |
|---------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 5.11.2016 | 9:30-12:30 |
| Note taker | Fiona Spier |
| Attendees | Fiona Dyer (University of Canberra), Karissa Preuss (Ginninderra Catchment Group), Deb Kellock (Molonglo Catchment Group/Waterwatch), Janelle Dennis (ACT NRM), Anna van Dugteren (ACT Government), Alex Mond (Gossoon, Upper Murrumbidgee Landcare Group), Lynton Bond (Molonglo Catchment Group), Woo O'Reilly (Waterwatch), Luke Pope (South East LLS), Ann Milligan (Friends of Grassland), Martin Lind (Southern ACT Catchment Group), Lara Odell (Icon Water), Tony Robinson (UMLC / K2C), Martine Franco (Southern ACT Catchment Group), John Feint (EPD) |
| Guest Speaker | Anke Maria Hoeffler (Frogwatch), Danswell Starr (ACT Waterwatch) |
| Apologies | Glenys Patulny, Angela Calliess (Greening Australia), Peter Smith, Antia Brademann (Cooma Waterwatch), Simon Holloway |

- **WELCOME TO UMCCC MEMBERS AND GUESTS**

FD Welcomed all to the August UMCCC General meeting. Guests Anke Maria Hoeffler and Danswell Starr were welcomed.

- **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

MOTION: "That the minutes of the 11th May 2016 be accepted"

Moved Martin Lind; Seconded Anna Van Dugteren; Passed

- **REPORT FROM THE CHAIR**

- UMCCC Forum

- Fiona Dyer following up on processing of the film footage from the forum. Hopefully this will be ready for the AGM in November.
- Strategic Planning
 - The UMCCC Strategic Plan has been finalised. Once endorsed by the members it will be formally accepted at the AGM and then the constitutional changes arising from the plan will be made.

MOTION: 'That the UMCCC Strategic Plan is endorsed'
 Moved Alex Monds; Seconded Woo O'Reilly

- ACT & Region Catchment Management Coordination Group
 - The Regional Catchment Strategy has been finalised and has been sent to the Minister to endorse. All parties to the plan need to endorse it before it is released.
 - Ian Falconer has met with NSW reps who are all supportive of the document.
 - NSW Environment and Planning are updating a similar regional plan for NSW, which is currently available for comment.
- UMCCC Business
 - Resignation from Kim Nixon, which leaves the local government rep vacant.
 - Resignation from the role of Treasurer from Martin Lind.
 - Luke Pope has agreed to be the Public Officer.
 - Fiona Spier will take on an administrative role.

ML tabled the financial report (attached).

- BAS payment made to the ATO of \$451. Other activity on account is all memberships.
- Current BAS has not been submitted due to issues with signatories with the ATO due to change of address.
- John Feint will confirm who pays membership fee from EPD.

MOTION: That the Treasurers report be accepted'
 Moved Martin Lind; Seconded Tony Robinson; Passed

● FROGWATCH AND THE NEW REPORT FOCUSED ON FROGS AS AN INDICATOR OF WETLAND HEALTH BY DANSWELL STARRS AND ANKE MARIA HOEFER

Frogwatch has been running since 2002 and have developed a good dataset which can now be used to inform us about population dynamics and how best to protect frog habitats.

Census during October and some sites, as part of the Climate Change study are monitored more frequently.

In 14 years:

- 1500 volunteers,
- 4750 surveys at 500 sites.
- Have identified Green and Gold Bell frog site in ACT.
- Frogwatch often a first step into citizen science and NRM for new people.
- New sites in ACT for *Litoria lesueuri*, and *Litoria latopalmata*
- only frog monitoring program in ACT

Funded through Waterwatch study was undertaken in October 2015. The report will help develop guidelines for the planning process for future wetlands.

Hoefer, A.M., and D. Starrs (2016) One pond fits all? Frogs as an indicator of urban wetland health. Final Report to Upper Murrumbidgee Waterwatch. Ginninderra Catchment Group, Canberra.

33 peri urban sites were looked at; 9 species found in total. Each wetland included 2 – 8 species.

Study found frogs (bell whether species) require:

- Complexity in the riparian vegetation, including fallen logs.
- Increased patch size with connection to forest/wetland areas (5 species preferred tree cover)
- Reduced mowing around ponds and wetlands
- Good connectivity between ponds.
- Good water quality (smooth toadlet very sensitive to electrical conductivity (salt) levels).
- Reduced competition from feral species such as *Gambusia holbrooki*.

More data is needed into size and design of ponds and habitat patches. Males appear to stay close to the wetland while females disperse further away into connected woodland.

We are losing green fill spaces in suburban areas, and need to find ways of building ponds that do the primary function while maintaining biodiversity.

Gambusia often mistaken for tadpoles by the public, and can also be moved between ponds with yabbies.

The introduced Oriental Weather Loach may be a concern in the ACT.

Peer reviewed publication about Frogwatch program- Westgate MJ, Scheele BC, Ikin K, Hoefer AM, Beaty RM, Evans M, et al. (2015) Citizen Science Program Shows Urban Areas Have Lower Occurrence of Frog Species, but Not Accelerated Declines. PLoS ONE 10(11)

● MEMBER REPORTS

Tony Robinson: Upper Murrumbidgee Landcare

- 52 people attended last meeting.
- Tanya Cox and Peter West, (DPI Orange/ CRC for Feral Animals) spoke about K5 Calici Virus.
- Friday night Damon Oliver (ACT Gov) will be talking about SOS program at Michelago Hall.
- Rebecca Bradley (SE LLS) - SOS sites at Burra, Delegate, Bredbo and Michelago – focus on protection of species such as Scarlet Robin. 10 year program, funding for 6 years only.
- Maya Potopowicz (nee Beretta) has replaced Lesley Peden on the K2C NSW ET Education grant Yass Gorge project “Being a good neighbour to the bush”.

UMLC

- Submitted comments to NSW Biodiversity bill.
- Protection of paddock trees for connectivity

Martin Lind, Waterwatch, Southern ACT Catchment Group
– no report

John Feint: Catchment Management and Water Policy

- The Regional Catchment Strategy will be out soon.
- Kate Rhool will be starting in the Stormwater Education Program role on the 31 August.
- Basin Priority Project – 24 wetlands to be put in – September – open houses adjacent to each site throughout September. Currently looking to engage head contractor.

- Catchment Planning Project – 10-12 year catchment strategies and implementation plan for the catchment groups. Currently looking to engage contractor. \$20,000 EPD will do the procurement.
- Commonwealth Disaster Planning Project - \$500,000 – flood management and associated risks. Disaster recovery and how to organise across catchments.
- Team also looking into illegal dumping

Lara Odell: Icon

- Icon has contracted an ecology specialist to assess fire reduction issues within their vegetation management (trees and weeds) plans at all of their assets within the reserves.
- Project to increase vegetation (for habitat and amenity) around Fyshwick Lagoon. This is a secure site which is good for bird watching - Icon is looking at how to increase habitat in area which benefits birds and birdwatchers as well as the processes associated with the treated sewerage.
- Macquarie Perch in the Cotter dam to see whether they are swimming upstream and spawning.

Janelle Dennis: ACT NRM

- Last Friday the RLF organised a tour of 6 sites where Rural Grants had been successful. 6 people from the Commonwealth attended as well as the Catchment groups and the NRM Council. Feedback was very positive.
- Next round will be announced in September.
- Darren Chong and ACT NRM have bid for a 'Kick Start' program for Indigenous youth, and are currently advertising for an educator.
- PCS merged with the Environment and Planning Directorate in July. RLF has met with the Rural Programs Unit and will meet with Community Programs soon. May boost funding and capacity.
- RLF is supporting Small Farms Network in a series of events over next 12 months.
- Shona Chisholm, Tidbinbilla CVA volunteer passed away last week. Service is tomorrow at Greenhills Conference Centre. Shona bequeathed estate to the reserve.

Woo O'Reilly: Waterwatch

- The data for the ChiP is all in and Dan is crunching the numbers. Coordinators are writing reports for all 96 reaches (240 sites). Increased confidence in the data as more time spent training volunteers. The report will be released mid October in water Week.
- Antia has groups surveying all along Cooma Creek for the first time, and found platypus.
- The Cooma Council have a \$100,000 grant to improve Cooma Creek. Waterwatch data was used in the application.
- 'Carp Loves 20c' will start soon.
- Herpes biocontrol will be released in 2018.

Luke Pope: DPI Biosecurity

- Now Local manager for Monaro, Biosecurity at DPI. The LLS have closed office in Queanbeyan and have gone to a regional focus.
- \$1 million grant for SOS – no on ground in first year. Catchment Action NSW also funded this project for \$150,000.
- \$200,000 for wetlands in SE NSW. Donna Hazell will organise.
- Project looking into grassland in travelling stock routes.
- Lachlan/ Upper Murrumbidgee has riparian funding available for projects in area.
- Native Grassland ID flyer

Alex Monds

– no update

Ann Milligan: Friends of Grassland
– no update

Lynton Bond: Molonglo Catchment Group

- Bernie retired.
- Lori Gould working 2 days a week as Program Manager until June 2017.
- For National Tree Day Queanbeyan Landcare and Palerang Council ran a walk on Stringy Bark Hill to mark end of MCG project. A landcare group was formed from this which is a subgroup of Queanbeyan.
- Burra program -building smaller projects under the SOS grant from Icon and Environmental Trust of NSW. Purpose is capacity building and erosion control.
- Winding up Lower Molonglo Environment Grant and Upper Molonglo weed management project.
- New group at Googong.
- Environa to Stringybark Hill connectivity program is continuing with the Environment Trust,

Karissa Preuss: Ginninderra Catchment Group

- GCG busy with many projects connected to the Gubur Dhaura site.
- Have developed a strategy to highlight Aboriginal Landcare.
- Continue to work with Riverview. Fauna survey completed – some species found by GCG not in Riverview's plans.

Landcare ACT

- Landcare ACT, through its member groups represents 60 Landcare groups.
- Have developed a Board, Constitution, and a member's council. Members of the Members Council are Megan Dixon, Karissa Preuss, Martine Franco, Peter Gullet, and Wally Bell.
- 3 members sit on the NLN members Council.
- Currently developing strategic plan
- Looking at funding an Aboriginal land management NRM program - Green Army style program.
- Sustainable Agriculture grant – survey of local rural landholders, 2 regional scale workshops, 15 smaller workshops. Will have technical advice committee

Martine Franco: Southern ACT Catchment Group

- Attending Directors Forum – need new treasurer
- Focusing on governance issues
- Upcoming projects :
 - Signage at Theodore Grinding Grooves
 - Restoration at Westwood Farm
 - Weed program at Amberley Farm
 - Weed program at National Equestrian Centre

Fiona Dyer: University of Canberra

- New paper of interest by Paul Downey looking as invasive weeds impact on native plants. Will send link.
- Looking for project ideas for new PhD students.
- The UC Environment Students Society pass on their thanks to Martin for helping them with macro invertebrate surveys.

● GENERAL BUSINESS

- Lara suggested a gold coin donation or bring a plate to share for morning tea rather than it be one person's responsibility.

- Martin reminded all of the change of address for the UMCCC.
- John asked if anyone has a project that the integrated catchment management strategy could fit into could they let him know.
- AGM will be on the 9th November and FD would like any suggestions for a speaker.

● MEETING CLOSE

Meeting closed at 12.30pm



Treasurer: Martin Lind
Ph: 62996400

ABN: 13 633 588 180
Unit C8 'Erindale Business Park' 2 Lansell Cct, Wannlassa ACT 2903

| Bank Reconciliation at 10 August, 2016 | | Cheque | Online Saver | Term Deposit 2.35% p.a Matures 13/3/2017 | Total |
|------------------------------------------------|-------------|-----------|--------------|---------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| Opening Balance | 12/05/2016 | 12,880.87 | 10,200.14 | 23,149.43 | 46,230.44 |
| Interest | | | 19.55 | | 19.55 |
| Fees | | | | | 0.00 |
| Payments | | | | | -0.00 |
| Deposits | | | | | 1,565.00 |
| ATO BAS May 2016 | EFT | 451.00 | | | |
| Transfer from CommBank app M2016 01 Dyer | EFT | 25.00 | | | |
| Direct Credit 421520 GINNINDERRA CATC | Bpay | 25.00 | | | |
| Direct Credit 421520 MOLONGLO CATCHM MCG | Bpay | 25.00 | | | |
| Direct Credit 165074 BENDIGO BANK | Bpay | 25.00 | | | |
| Direct Credit 186923 NCA Payment EFTD010237 | Bpay | 125.00 | | | |
| Direct Credit 048483 GREENING AUSTRAL GREENI | Bpay | 125.00 | | | |
| Direct Credit 026326 Cooma Monaro Shi UPPERMCC | Bpay | 125.00 | | | |
| Cash & cheque deposit | Cash&Cheque | | 639.00 | | |
| Net Transfers | | 0.00 | -0.00 | | 0.00 |
| Closing balance at 10 August 2016 | | 13,806.87 | 10,858.69 | 23,149.43 | 47,814.99 |

Profit and loss (GST Exclusive) 10 May 2016 - 10 August 2016

includes year end adjustments

Income:

Interest 19.55
Deposits 1,565.00

Total income: 1,584.55

Expenses:

Finance costs 0.00
Operating Expenses 0.00

Total Expenses: 0.00

Profit/(Loss) 1,584.55

10 August 2016



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Unit C8 'Erindale Business Park' 2 Lansell Cct, Wannlassa ACT 2903

Balance sheet as at 11 May 2016

| | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|------------------|------------------|
| Current Assets | | | |
| Bank at 10 August 2016 | | 47,814.99 | |
| GST credits | | <u>0.00</u> | |
| Total Assets | | <u>47,814.99</u> | |
| | | | |
| Current Liabilities | | | |
| GST liabilities | | <u>144.00</u> | |
| Total Liabilities | | <u>144.00</u> | |
| | | | |
| Net Assets | | | <u>47,670.99</u> |
| Represented by | | | |
| Accumulated surplus at 30 June 2016 | | 47,814.99 | Unaudited |
| Current year earnings | | <u>9.36</u> | |
| Total | | <u>47,824.35</u> | |

10 August 2016