

Tatiara WAP Stakeholder Advisory Group
Summary Meeting 22 2 July 2021 – LCLB Office Keith

Group Attendees- Steve Bourne (Group chair) - LCL Board General Manager, Michelle Irvine – SA Water, Robert Mock – District Council Tatiara (arrived 6:13pm), Scott Manser - Lucerne Australia, Scott Campbell – Lucerne Australia , David Edwards – Mundulla Vignerons Inc., Richard Halliday – Livestock SA (arrived 5.10pm).

Apologies- Paul Leadbeter – Conservation Council SA, Wayne Dodd.

Staff Attendees- Phil Elson (PE) – Senior Project Officer Water Planning LCLB, Sue Botting – Team Leader Water Planning LCLB, Dean Zeven – Project Officer Water Licensing DEW.

Item	Notes
Welcome	Steve Bourne welcomed attendees. Meeting started at 5:05pm.
Previous meeting notes	Minutes Previous minutes from meeting 21 confirmed as true and correct. Action outcomes to note • Action 21.2 – Completed to be removed. • Action 21.4 – Completed to be removed. Outstanding action list items noted • Action 19.2 – To be discussed in meeting. • Action 20.2 – Draft under development. • Action 20.3 – Planning initial community consultation. • Action 21.1 – To be followed up. • Action 21.3 – All issues except one completed. Recommendations • Nil Advisory Group member Tasks • Task 19.2 - Completed to be removed.
Ground rules	No points were raised by members in relation to the Ground Rules.
Group charter	No points were raised by members in relation to the Group Charter.

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Recap and Next Steps	The Group requested that Kerry DeGaris’ role as chair of the SAG be acknowledged and their thanks be extended to her. ACTION 22.1: Arrange acknowledgement of Kerry DeGaris’ contribution on behalf of the SAG. Phil Elson provided an update on work completed since last meeting and status of the review process. • A significant amount of the Plan has been drafted. This is an iterative process as feedback is received and the draft refined. • DEW Science are undertaking further work to test the recovery of the water resource following the implementation of RCT / RCL management responses. DEW Policy advised that this work would be needed to “close the loop” and confirm that the proposed management responses are effective. The modelling is showing that a management response of 15% restriction at RCT(a) does not recover the resource when extraction is at full allocation. Further refinements to model scenarios are needed as RCT(a) would be expected to be triggered prior to 100% extraction. • DEW Science completed modelling on Poocher Swamp recovery. As the recovery relies on recharge events the application restrictions to extraction can only slow a decline in water quality, not recover it. • Issues Paper summary has been provided with the resolution, action and status of each item addressed. • Although further work is needed on some points, the key concepts are confirmed and the Landscape Board has approved community consultation on those concepts. Group discussion: - Steve B: Staff are keen to move to community consultation, and would like to have it completed prior to the election and the government going in to Caretaker mode. - Q: How does Caretaker mode affect the WAP? - Steve B: Essentially work needing approvals can’t progress and will be on hold.
ASR Consumptive Pool	Aquifer Storage and Recovery Consumptive Pool An ASR Consumptive Pool allows for the storage and recovery of managed aquifer recharge (MAR). • Currently there is no MAR / ASR in the Tatiara but including principles in the WAP now ensures there is an immediate mechanism available to manage it if introduced. Alternatively, to have a less complex WAP, the ASR principles could be removed from the WAP but be available to be included if needed. • ASR Consumptive Pool to cover whole PWA with management zones same as Unconfined Consumptive Pool. • Annual allocation based on volume of water put in to the aquifer the preceding year. • Extraction would be metered.

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	Group discussion: - Has been a contentious issue previously in the area with people wanting to claim water that is draining through runaway holes. - Could present a risk to natural recharge. - Concern that it can be effectively managed. - If there is currently no interest / demand for ASR then, given past experience, precautionary to not include it. - Proposal generally lacks support of Group. • Decision: To go to community consultation for the group to consider any feedback.
Monitoring Program	Phil Elson presented the details of the proposed monitoring program to be included in the Plan. • Monitoring to provide information on condition of resource, to enable implementation of adaptive management (RCTs/RCLs) and to assess consumptive use. • GW level, salinity, hydraulic gradient (condition of resource and adaptive management), in alignment with departmental monitoring program. • Hydraulic head to be monitored for confined aquifer. • List of wells and threshold limits presented for RCTs/RCLs • Few Obs wells in Poocher management zone so mainly using TWS wells. Salinity to be monitored quarterly. • Criteria proposed for evaluating the Plan. Group discussion: - Confirmation of timing of monitoring, advising of licensees and implementation of management response. - Further explanation needed on confined aquifer hydraulic head. - MI: TWS11 offline due to iron. May still be able to be used for monitoring. - MI: Variable salinity levels in TWS wells managed by providing shandy water to customers. - MI: SA Water currently monitors TWS bores monthly to meet health requirements. Quarterly monitoring could be reported for purposes of adaptive management. - Group discussed current Poocher salinity levels as concerned it may have already triggered RCT/RCL. - PE: All TWS wells currently below 650 mg/L. - Q: Could aquifer recharge impact monitoring program? - Q: Who is responsible for evaluating the plan? - Sue B: To be confirmed. Part of evaluation will be communicating back to licensees. - Q: Will evaluation provide for consideration of opportunities, not just risk?

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	Task 22.1 MI to check usability of TWS11 bore for on-going monitoring. ACTION 22.2: Distribute monitoring evaluation criteria to the Group.
Hydro Assessment	Update on hydro assessment methodology - The hydro assessment is a standard methodology that is used across the State in all groundwater PWAs. DEW is responsible for determining that methodology. - The department has discussed reviewing the methodology but is not currently undertaking that work. - To allow for any future changes to the methodology it is proposed that the WAP refers to the department's standard assessment, as gazetted, rather than detailing the methodology within the Plan. Group discussion: - SB: LCLB will be requesting a review of the hydro test methodology but, if agreed to, timing of review will depend on departmental resourcing. - Main concern is the upfront cost without knowing if the application has a chance of being successful. - DZ: SE DEW office calculates metered use and hydrogeologist reviews it. For complicated applications the hydrogeologist will undertake the complete assessment. - PE: The hydro assessment won't relate to allocation or entitlement. It is only needed to put in a new well or to change the maximum volume on the WRWA
For confirmation	Decisions required on a number of issues - RCTs and RCL, and management responses proposed for Poocher management zone Group discussion: - Will the initial 20% restriction have any real effect if people are only extracting less than 80% of their max WRWA volume. - Someone in Poocher may be limited in using water elsewhere due to their Wirrega WRWA max volumes. - Need to consider critical human needs. - MI: SA Water are continuing to look at the options for Bordertown's town water supply. Decision: Proposed Poocher Swamp RCTs and RCLs and management responses agreed to go to consultation. - Carryover proposed to continue as per current plan for classes T and D and Class S (SPR) to move to a two year carry-over rather than a three year rolling average.

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	• Decision: Carryover to continue as per current plan for classes T and D. Class S will move to a two year carry-over. • Transfers for water access entitlements to apply to Class T only, permanent or temporary up to 5 years. - Within or between management zones - Class D and S associated with Class T transfer forfeited - Transferee may apply for Class D forfeited if for same purpose - Transferee may only apply for Class S forfeited if for same purpose and whole licence permanently transferred - Forfeited Class D may be returned at end of transfer - Forfeited Class S not returned at end of transfer • Transfers for water allocations apply to Class T only, may only be temporary and for up to 12 months, and not between management zones. - Class D and S associated with Class T transfer forfeited for that water use year - Transferee may apply for Class D forfeited if for same purpose - Transferee cannot apply for Class S forfeited - Forfeited Class D and S returned at end of transfer Group discussion: - Need to be very clear that Class D is only transferred where like-for like. - Correction suggested to slide: “Class D and S that was forfeited” rather than “Forfeited Class D and S”. - Proposal good to go to consultation. - Need to use very plain language in consultation – start consultation with “terminology has changed”. • Decision: Proposed water access entitlement and water allocation transfer principles agreed to go to consultation. • Proposed to establish Class Ta water access entitlement equivalent to water holding licences. Allocations only granted on conversion to Class T licence. Conversion only where current allocations are below PAV. Group discussion: - All water holding licences are in Zone 8A in the Border zone, so only applies to that management zone. • Decision: Class Ta and proposed conditions agreed to go to community consultation.

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Community consultation	Phil Elson provided details of proposed community consultation and the Group provided feedback on the draft fact sheets. Group discussion: - Present as a story. Provide an overview to introduce story. - People most concerned about whether there will be reductions – address early on. - Number the fact sheets for reference. - Where describing the consumptive pools refer to the unconfined aquifer first. - Most people don't know about the highlands and the plains so needs explanation. - Water licence instruments factsheet – second para is too long and needs to be broken up with plainer language used. - Carry-over paragraph – clarify carry-over of up to 20%. - RCTs/ RCLs – talk about triggers before limits. Include RCL / RCT table. Be consistent with references. Be clear where RCTs/ RCLs are above or below the defined measure. - Transfers – coloured table was easier. - To understand entitlements and allocations have an example of current licence similar to previously presented coloured table. - Give the current licence with new language – don't confuse with new licence authorisations. - Reference to terrestrial groundwater dependent ecosystems is confusing (red gums), consider rewording. ACTION 22.3: Amend fact sheets as advised.
Summary of Discussion and Next Steps	Next steps: • Community consultation on key concepts. • Next meeting following community consultation.
Meeting Close	7:40 pm

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Tatiara WAP Stakeholder Advisory Group
Action Table

Action	Tatiara WAP Stakeholder Advisory Group Actions	Status	Outcome
1.2	Positions for Onion and Potato Grower Organisations be held open for members if they are able to become involved as the planning process develops.	Ongoing.	Organisations may be represented at any stage of review.
1.4	Build in engagement of JBS into the Community Engagement Strategy	Engagement with JBS has been established.	Ongoing.
1.7	Set Ground Rules and the Charter as a standing meeting agenda item.	Ongoing.	Remain open for discussion and review.
19.2	PE to investigate RCT monitoring options for Poocher.	To be progressed following advice from SA Water hydrogeologist.	Draft monitoring option and RCT developed for discussion at meeting.
20.2	Prepare draft companion documents for Group review and comment.	Clarification that draft companion documents include a plain English guide to the WAP. Draft under development.	Ongoing.
20.3	Plan engagement activities as discussed: community meeting, radio interview, interactive pdf platform, industry group meetings.	Ongoing.	Ongoing.
21.1	Follow up with DEW (George MacKenzie) the current status of realtime monitoring within the Poocher area, including v-notch weirs, runaway hole, observation wells.	Contacted but staff member on leave.	
21.2	Amend Poocher management zone review principles as agreed by the Group.	Completed.	To be removed.
21.3	Update issues table as completed or not completed, and actions as relevant.	Updated.	All issues except one completed.
21.4	Further investigate scenario of Class S where infrastructure is sold. Consider Plan allowing /advising splitting of licences.	Completed.	To be removed.
22.1	Arrange acknowledgement of Kerry DeGaris' contribution on behalf of the SAG.		
22.2	Distribute evaluation criteria to the Group.		
22.3	Amend fact sheets as advised.		

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Recommendation Table

No.	Recommendation	Board Decision
6.1	That the nominations by Mundulla Vignerons Assoc. of David Edwards as member representative and Trent Reilly as observer representative be accepted and approved.	Approved
6.2	That the resignation of David Edwards as observer representative for the District Council of Tatiara be accepted.	Approved
6.3	That the District Council of Tatiara be contacted seeking a nomination for an observer representative to replace David Edwards.	Approved
6.4	That upon the disbandment of the USE NRM Group in February 2018 that the SAG charter be amended by the removal of the USE Group from the stakeholder membership list and that a community stakeholder representative membership position be added to the SAG charter.	Approved
6.5	That upon the disbandment of the USE NRM Group, Wayne Dodd be reappointed to the SAG as the community stakeholder representative member on the SAG.	Approved
6.6	That the final draft version of the principles as endorsed by the SAG be submitted to the Board for approval.	Approved
8.1	That the revised timeline for the Tatiara WAP review be submitted to the Board for endorsement.	Approved
8.2	That the group chair send a letter to the NRM board recommending that the Board provide comment to the Landscapes SA Bill public consultation on unbundling.	Approved
11.1	The amended group charter endorsed by the SAG to be submitted to the Board for approval.	Approved
12.1	The revised Tatiara WAP review and amendment timeline be submitted to the Board for approval.	Approved
13.1	That Michelle Irvine nomination to the group as observer representing SA Water be forwarded to the Board for approval.	Approved
14.1	Final endorsed drafts of all 6 discussion papers be forwarded to Board for approval to release.	Approved
16.1	That the resignation of Trent Reilly (Mundulla Vignerons) as observer be accepted. That the SAG decision to not replace this position be accepted.	

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Members Task Table

Task No.	Task	Status	Outcome
19.1	MI to consult SA Water hydrogeologist as to what monitoring would be more useful for SA Water.	SA Water unable to advise on suitable RCT monitoring program.	SA Water to consult further with DEW Science and Monitoring teams.
19.2	Group to provide feedback and comments on draft community engagement plan.	Completed.	To be removed.
21.1	Industry representatives to email organisation's contact person to send a letter requesting a meeting presentation.	On-going.	
22.1	MI to check usability of TWS11 bore for on-going monitoring.		