

StAG subcommittee meeting 15 October 2013, 2.00pm-4.00pm

Present: Wendy Roe, Anna Grayling, Warren Webber, Tanira Kingi (via conference call in parts), Hera Smith, Sarah Omundsen, Lisa Power, Stuart Morrison, Simon Park

Apologies: Liam Dagg, Ollie Parsons, Gwyn Morgan.

Action List

1. Sarah and Anna to (respectively) present draft rules and incentives work schedules at next StAG and seek feedback
 2. Simon to ask DairyNZ and Beef & Lamb NZ for advice on NDA ranges and rationale
 3. Sector definition, dairy support and revised incentives papers circulated for next StAG
 4. Anna to arrange StAG gorse presentation by BOPRC staff
 5. Simon to add "science and communication" agenda item for next StAG
 6. Next subcommittee (post-StAG) 12.30pm-2:00pm 22 October, BOPRC Rotorua
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1. Rules Programme

Sarah outlined the pre-circulated 2-page table summary. Key points:

- A busy schedule focused on getting draft RMA rules to Council March 2014
- Multiple windows for StAG input, open to more opportunities as needed
- StAG input to be sought on 22 October

Current consultant "rules" work includes:

- Review of other regional council rule activity status (permitted, controlled etc)
- Use of Overseer in RMA rules – expert panel due 15 November, Simon coordinating
- Nutrient trading, building on earlier Motu work
- Properties < 40ha, effectively complete, useful data and qualitative lessons

Wider "rules and incentives" community engagement events flagged: 21 October 6:00pm, Ngongotaha Hall; 22 October, 6:00pm Apumoana Marae, 27 Tarawera Road

- See more at http://www.rotorualakes.co.nz/rotorua_rules_incentives

2. Sector definitions, dairy support, sector ranges

Draft definition paper (as pre-circulated) – discussion points:

- Dairy and drystock definitions accepted, consistent with ROTAN e.g. NDA 35kgN/ha/yr applies only to milking platform

- Base year definition important, an issue needed attention at 22 October StAG

Draft dairy support NDA options (covering about 2500 ha):

- i. status quo dairy and drystock sectors (no dairy support sector)
 - ii. dairy support NDA @ 18 with dairy @ 35, drystock @ 12 (i.e. reduced from 13 to accommodate dairy support)
 - iii. additional 3kgN/ha/yr linked to the actual dairy stock i.e. the allowance moves with the stock to support blocks, while maintaining the “two sector” approach
- provision for dairy support links to economic importance (both dairy and drystock) and wider equity
 - Reducing drystock NDA to 12 (average) is challenging, but can be partly balanced by the incentives scheme opportunities
 - Seek StAG feedback, pros and cons i.e. information gathering, not a “decision” yet

Sector ranges –this adds complexity, difficult to resolve given the advantage of being at the upper end of any defined range. Can industry sectors advise a logical range rationale?

Action: Simon to ask DairyNZ and Beef & Lamb NZ for advice on range rationale

3. Incentives programme

- Revised incentives programme pre-circulated, amended since last StAG
- Workshop on incentives fund governance mid-November, date to be confirmed – a report by APR will help inform this workshop. Focus is to identify critical success factors to drive incentives scheme
- Short term funding specifics needed for BORPC Annual Plan and Govt Deed

4. Gorse project

- Project to be led by BOPRC land management team, internal delivery using BOPRC funds - note 30 tN cost estimate rise due to many small gorse stands with poor economies of scale
- Alternatives to pines OK (reversion, multiple tree crops) but incentive amount linked to lowest cost option
- BOPRC staff experts to present to StAG , although funding Main discussion points, resolutions and actions to be recorded in a manner which accurately reflects meeting content

5. General business

The wider science programme and communication to stakeholders

- Farmers have bought into rules and incentives work programme but still want more timely information on the Water TAG science programme e.g. explaining recent TLI improvement, alum impact etc
- Raise at next StAG, with separate follow-up later given busy StAG schedule