

StAG subcommittee meeting 3 December 2013, 10am-12.10pm

Present: Anna Grayling, Hera Smith, Warren Webber, Alastair MacCormick, Lisa Power (11-11.30 by video), Simon Park, Sarah Omundsen, Gwyn Morgan, Ollie Parsons (by phone), Tanira Kingi (till 11.20am), Te Taru White (until 11.10am), Neil Heather, Chris Paterson

Apologies: Paulina Wilhelm, Neville Nepia, Wendy Roe, Stuart Morrison (latter 2 substituted by Neil and Chris)

Action List

1. Anna: prepare incentives governance options paper for StAG 17 December
2. Anna: circulate BOPRC's most recent "rules and incentives" power point to Simon so he can pass on to Gwyn et al to use with their members.
3. Anna: set up a meeting with Murray Scott and Chris to get feedback on Comms Plan.
4. Anna: set up meeting with Lana, Hera and Arapeta (plus John Fenwick?) to discuss Māori engagement
5. Sarah: circulate to subcommittee (via Simon) NDA and permitted rules papers
6. Everyone: give feedback on NDA and permitted rule papers by noon Monday 9 December
7. Alastair: Rule 11 drystock data analysis to be presented at 17 December StAG

From previous action list:

8. Lisa: adapt policy cycle diagram (plan/do/review) for Rotorua specific situation
 9. Jenny: draft 2014 StAG and subcommittee schedule as soon as BOPRC and RDC meeting calendars available NB: draft to be attached to StAG agenda
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1. Previous subcommittee minutes

Subcommittee minutes for 5 November were OK'd at the brief post-StAG 18 November subcommittee meeting. There are no notes from 18 November as it was simply a recap of StAG action items (see 18 StAG minutes at <http://www.rotorualakes.co.nz/StAG>).

2. General business items

Incentives governance option

- Broad support at 13 November incentives workshop for a CCO (council controlled organisation) at arm's length from BOPRC
- Options need to be assessed and advice sought from StAG

Science forum scheduled for 7pm 9 December Ngongotaha Hall

- Lots of farmer interest – postscript: farmer science questions sent to David Hamilton

3. NDA options analysis

- Draft paper tabled by Sarah – it combines and extends previous papers on NDA sectors, possible ranges and base year. Feedback sought from members after meeting.
- Concern at complexity and seeking feedback while analysis is incomplete, notably the economic impact of the 35/12/3 NDA regime. Conversely, it was noted that the collaborative approach is iterative, with feedback sought at multiple steps.

4. Permitted activity (PA) rules analysis

- Draft paper tabled by Lisa – as with NDA paper, feedback sought by 9 December
- Pragmatic balance sought between managing effects (N loss) and resource consent workload. Draft paper identifies a preferred hybrid PA option of:
 - <2ha excluding dairy, cropping (unless part of larger consented farm)
 - 2-40ha provided N loss < 10 kgN/ha/yr
 - If PA conditions not met, then likely controlled activity consent required

5. Drystock sector characterisation with Rule 11 data

- Alastair noted challenges of sorting through data – time consuming, definitions needed as drystock much more variable than dairy
- Rule 11 already provides an integrated measure i.e. N loss
- Overlay of soils and rainfall with benchmark levels still wanted – this should clarify how much variation is due to physical factors Vs management

6. Land TAG options (e.g. expand Lakes TAG), process from here

- Raised as a discussion point in StAG Chairman’s report to RTALSG
- Need to consider land/economics expert input to policy plus medium term advice on innovative farm systems, mitigation, farm trials etc plus integration with Lakes TAG
- Comparable broad-based expert group being set up for Waikato
- Need to explore TAG/expert options with Andy Bruere as science programme lead

7. Engagement on Lake Rotorua Rules and Incentives

Discussion was on the pending Ngongotaha 9 December meeting and comms generally (not specifically the draft engagement plan):

- Community do not appreciate “spiel” at start of presentations. Want to cut to the chase about what impacts on them what stage we are at and how they can be involved.
- Need to have a few paragraphs which we all agree to regarding timeframes, simply why they are so crucial. While the Cabinet paper is important, it is not the key driver
- Historical issues with David’s past presentation being about N and with long times forecast for improvement - now its P reductions and explaining how the lake has

improved. Therefore advise David to explain: previously we have “presented x, since then y happened and now we have modelled it to look at xyz”.

- Comms and engagement is very important and we will be expecting a request from the Collective for additional funding to support them engage with their members. We will also need to set up a separate effort for Māori landowners who want to be resourced to speak to their land owners as well.

8. Work plan update and Agenda for full StAG 17 December

- To prepare draft rules/incentives by March 2014, given Xmas, gives ~6 weeks writing
- Farmer concern at haste – how definitive does the analysis need to be before engaging with farmers / wider community, especially on the cost of meeting 35/13/3
- Farmers also feel agendas for StAG are too big
- Key 17 December StAG agenda items will include:
 - fund governance options
 - NDA options paper
 - Permitted activity paper
 - Engagement plan