

**MINUTES OF THE 2ND MEETING OF THE NSW KANGAROO
MANAGEMENT ADVISORY PANEL
OEC CENTRE, DUBBO – 22ND FEBRUARY 2005**

PRESENT: Joshua Gilroy (DEC-Chair), Nicole Payne (DEC), Phil Cameron (Dubbo Field Nats) Geoff Woods (DPI), Rosemary Barnes (NSW Farmers Assoc), Marie Russell (RLPB), Sandy Bright (PAWD), Mike Cavanagh (KIAA), Michael Mulligan (AGMPA), Dr Tony English (Aust Vet Assoc), Marsha Isbester (NSW Farmers Assoc), Stephen Coleman (RSPCA).

APOLOGIES: Michael Anderson (PAWD), Dr Mark Lawrie (RSPCA)

1.2 Arrangement for meeting and adoption of agenda

- Nicole introduced Mark Gardner and explained how the meeting would be conducted.

1.3 Adoption of Minutes of Meeting #1

- No concerns were raised prior to the meeting.
- Once the minutes are ratified they will be posted on the KMP Web page and a copy will be sent to the Minister.

1.4 Role of primary and alternative representatives

- Alternate members cannot be effective if not kept up to date.
- It is important that Panel members talk to their alternates and bring them up to date if they know they cannot attend a meeting.

1.5 Facilitated session – development of Code of Conduct and Terms of Reference (session conducted by Mark Gardner)

CODE OF CONDUCT

During discussions for Code of Conduct, it was agreed that:

- Each member will prepare a mini CV to be circulated to other members
- A contact list of all members will be provided to panel members
- Meetings will where possible be informal and Minutes kept brief.

Points raised by members for inclusion in the Code of Conduct:

- Stick to the agenda
- Concise – stick to the theme
- Time-framed agenda items, as much as possible
- Agenda needs to be circulated beforehand
- Appropriate speakers appointed, suggested by appropriate persons
- Be professional (all)
- Accountability. High standards
- Achieving goals by the end of the meeting
- Table actions- follow up

- Be outcome focused
- Communication between the whole panel be encouraged outside of the meetings
- Enjoy the experience
- The role of the chairperson
 - Manage the meeting for time and making sure everyone has their say
 - Relevant discussion
 - Arrive at an outcome in a relevant time-frame
 - Keep focused on the issue
 - Comfortable atmosphere
 - Does everyone have relevant information
 - Respect the chair
 - Clearly articulated points/actions
 - Induct new panel members
- Draft Code of Conduct is attached as Appendix 1.

TERMS OF REFERENCE

- Previous (1997) Terms of Reference were updated and slightly modified as required.
- New draft ToR attached as Appendix 2.

Action 1: Contact details table to be sent to all members.

Action 2: Mini CV's to be made available from each member.

OPERATIONS GUIDE

- Previous (1997) Operations Guide had been updated and circulated prior to meeting.
- Draft discussed and modified by Panel as required.
- New draft Operations Guide attached as Appendix 3.

1.6 2005 tag allocation and commercial take figures

2005 Allocation Figures

Current to end of February allocation period.

- Armidale presently at 44 per cent of their Eastern Grey tag allocation, Glen Innes 30 per cent of their Eastern Grey allocation and Upper Hunter at 33 per cent of their Eastern Grey allocation.
- Tag limits are in place in these areas, but they will inevitably be fully allocated before the end of the year. This always generates calls to DEC from farmers wishing to cull.
- Limits include:
 - In zones where crops and sown pastures are important 40 per cent of the commercial quota for each species will be withheld for release on 1 June 2005. This will ensure that commercial quota is still available when crop and pasture protection needs are greatest.
 - Limits on the number of tags that will be issued per property per month, mainly based on size of property, and

- ❑ Licences approved for three months only to assist in the re-allocation of unused quota.
- Success of these limits will be considered at the end of the year.
- Far Western zones have no limits in place
- There is no take data available yet for 2005
- Aerial surveys will commence on June 6th 2005 and will continue for about 8 weeks.

Action 3. Tony Pople's report "Harvest Management of Kangaroos During Drought" to be emailed/posted to all members.

2004 Allocation and Take figures

- 2004 take data cannot yet be finalised. The Kangaroo Management Unit is still chasing up outstanding returns and validating data.
- Figures at the moment stand at 77 per cent allocated , 67 per cent harvested.
- Shooters failing to send in tags in time to be re-allocated is one of the reasons full quotas are not being harvested.
- South Australia had difficulty taking all the quota in 2004. KIAA believe this is due to the system of allocation. The system is currently under review
- Queensland did not take full quota in 2004 – prevented largely by weather conditions.

1.7 Review of Code of Practice for the Humane Shooting of Kangaroos – update on progress

- Almost 50 public submissions received on discussion paper, from a range of interests.
- Concerns cover a wide range of issues, from no cull to details on appropriate methods.
- Ballistics remains a major concern (eg shotguns in or out)
- Destruction of ex-pouch young also an issue.
- NSW DEC has requested that the working group reconsider obtaining expert advice on the major issues of ballistics and destruction of ex-pouch young.
- Working group as a whole has not responded to request – supported by RSPCA and Animals Australia.
- Trappers in SA have stated they will not endorse the code while the difference between qualifications required for commercial and non-commercial shooting remains.

1.8 Review of Fauna Dealer Wholesaler Review – update on progress

- The consultant is currently collating submissions. Late submissions are known to be coming and need to be in by the end of February
- The consultant will summarise and address issues raised in the submissions before presenting to NSW DEC.
- The information will be provided to the Minister for a decision.
- These submissions will not be made available on the KMP web page unless requested by individuals/ groups making the submission.

Action 4: Advisory Panel to receive a draft for two weeks for clarification (not to raise new issues). Responses will be forwarded to the Minister.

1.9 Other Business

Review of the KMP

- The review of the KMP will commence mid-late 2005.
- DEC may need a sub-committee/working group from the Panel for this process
- A special meeting will need to be called for July to develop a review strategy and a two-day usual meeting held in September to accommodate both the quota submission for 2006 and the review of the KMP process.

Composition of Panel

- A position on the Panel for the Nature Conservation Council remains open.

1.10 Next meeting/s

Action 5: Possible meeting dates to be circulated for July and September.

Table of Actions:

Action	Completed
Action 1: Contact details table to be sent to all members.	
Action 2: Mini CV's to be made available by each member for distribution within the Panel only.	
Action 3. Tony Pople's report "Harvest Management of Kangaroos During Drought" to be emailed/posted to all members.	
Action 4: Panel to receive a draft of the consultant's report collating submissions to the Fauna Dealer licensing policy review for two weeks clarification. Responses will be forwarded to the Minister.	
Action 5: Meeting dates to be circulated for July and September.	

Appendix 1

NSW KANGAROO MANAGEMENT ADVISORY PANEL

Code of Conduct

Agenda

- Agenda to be circulated beforehand
- Time-frame agenda items as much as possible
- Stick to the agenda
- Appropriate speakers appointed, suggested by members or Chairperson

General

- Achieve goals by the end of the meeting
- Table actions- follow up

All Members

- Respect the authority of the Chairperson
- Enjoy the experience
- Be outcome focused
- Be professional in attitude
- Be concise – stick to the theme and don't ramble
- Be accountable and act to achieve high standards
- Communicate with each other outside of the meetings

Chairperson

- The role of the chairperson
 - Manage the meeting for time and making sure everyone has their say
 - Allow relevant discussion
 - Arrive at an outcome in a relevant time-frame
 - Keep focused on the issue
 - Provide a comfortable atmosphere
 - Ensure everyone has the relevant information
 - Clearly articulate points/actions

Appendix 2

NSW KANGAROO MANAGEMENT ADVISORY PANEL

Terms of Reference

The function of the Panel is to advise the Director-General of the NSW Department of Environment and Conservation on matters pertaining to the implementation and review of the NSW Kangaroo Management Program (KMP), which sets the framework for the commercial harvest of kangaroos. These matters will include:

1. Kangaroo population dynamics including population surveys, population estimates, and factors impacting on kangaroo populations;
2. Comment on the determination and management of harvest quotas;
3. Licensing and compliance monitoring as provided for in the KMP;
4. Animal welfare issues;
5. Legislation and policy;
6. Fees and funding;
7. Research needs and priorities;
8. Long term strategic planning;
9. Any matter raised by the Minister and/or the Director-General.

All of the above matters will be addressed in a manner consistent with the provisions of the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974*, the National Parks and Wildlife Regulation 2002, and the KMP. Due consideration will be given to social and economic influences and impacts and will be undertaken in a manner which is transparent and effective.

Members represent the views and interests of their organisation on the Panel.

Appendix 3

NSW KANGAROO MANAGEMENT ADVISORY PANEL

Operations Guide

The Panel will operate in a manner consistent with the following principles:

1. The Panel will meet regularly twice per year with the provision for Special Meetings. The main business of the first meeting of any year will review the previous calendar year's commercial take and the main business of the second meeting will review estimates of population trends and the ensuing calendar year's commercial quotas.
2. Special meetings may be called as required; they may be requested by members. Discretion to call special meetings remains with the Chairperson. All members will receive notice of both regular and special meetings.
3. The Kangaroo Management Program within the Department of Environment and Conservation will administer and service the Panel and fund all meetings and member costs.
4. Meetings will normally be held at an appropriate venue in Dubbo. Meetings may be held in other locations depending on agenda items and logistics.
5. Resolution of matters before the Panel will be decided by consensus wherever possible. The Panel does not vote. In cases where a clear conclusion is not possible, all views will be recorded and reported.
6. The Chairperson may appoint working groups to investigate specific matters and report back to the Panel. Working groups will generally consist of existing Panel members only, but where appropriate the Chairperson may co-opt specialists to the group.
7. Members of the Panel who wish to bring forward items for inclusion in the agenda for meetings should forward these to the Executive Officer (Manager of the Program) at least four weeks in advance of the scheduled dates of the meetings.
8. If a Panel member refuses to abide by the Panel's agreed Code of Conduct, the Chairperson of the Panel may request that the member's organisation take disciplinary action against the representative. Should the problem continue, the Director-General may request that the organisation to provide an alternative representative, or may remove the organisation from the Panel.

9. Member organisations are appointed to the Panel for a three-year term. It is the responsibility of the member organisations to provide an appropriate representative/s, and to ensure that their representatives operate in a manner consistent with the organisation's policies.
10. Protocol for appointment: Director-General of DEC will seek nomination/s from appropriate organisations; organisation nominations forwarded through the Executive Officer to the Director-General; Director-General considers nominations and appoints organisations so as to achieve a broad representation of relevant community views.
11. Other persons directly involved in kangaroo management in New South Wales may participate in discussions with the Panel at the request of the Minister, the Director-General, or by invitation from the Chairperson of the Panel.
12. Draft minutes will be distributed within two weeks of the meeting. Comments on the draft minutes to be submitted by members to the Executive Officer (Manager, KMP) within three weeks. The final set of unratified minutes (still draft) will then be sent to the members, and placed on the web-page. The draft minutes will be ratified at the next meeting.
13. Anything flagged as confidential will not be recorded in the minutes or discussed by Panel members outside of the meeting.
14. The Chairperson is the only authorised spokesperson for the group unless by prior agreement.