

**MINUTES OF THE 5TH MEETING OF THE NSW KANGAROO
MANAGEMENT ADVISORY PANEL.**

OEC CENTRE, DUBBO – 2ND MARCH 2006

PRESENT: Ros Muston (Facilitater), Joshua Gilroy (Chair), Nicole Payne (DEC), Geoff Woods (DPI), Marie Russell (RLPB), Mike Cavanagh (KIAA), Dr Tony English (Aust Vet Assoc), Stephen Coleman (RSPCA), Michael Mulligan (AGMPA), Michael Anderson (PAWD), Rosemary Barnes (NSW Farmers Assoc)

GUEST SPEAKER: Sally Egan (EA Systems P/L Armidale)

APOLOGIES: Sandy Bright (PAWD), Phil Cameron (Dubbo Field Nats)

- Phil Cameron has advised that he is no longer able to commit to the panel and an alternative representative for the Dubbo Field Naturalists will be sought.

1. Formalities

Ratification of Minutes #4

- The minutes for Meeting #4 were formally adopted.

Review of Actions from Meeting #4

- Action 1: A new folder will be given to the KMAP members, with a list of what information is relevant, for the Review of the KMP.
Done. Received at Meeting #5. For those not at the meeting, posted [date]
- Action 2: DEC will collate information on shooter/take figures over the last three years.
Chart summaries sent 26 October.
- Action 3: DEC will commission a literature review to update previous review for the 2002 Management Program.
This is in progress.

Action 1: A Draft of the literature review will be sent to Panel members as soon as it is available.

- Action 4: Clarify with DEH re: non-commercial shooting not being included within the plan.
As the plan relates to the Export of Kangaroo and Kangaroo products, non-commercial shooting should not be included in the plan.
- Action 5: How many non-commercial licences are issued in the commercial zone?
Extracts from reports to Commonwealth 2003 – 2nd quarter 2005, plus chart summary. Sent 26 October.

- Action 6: DEC to make available to the new members of the panel the presentations from guest speakers at the last review.
Sent on 3 February.
- Action 7: All panel members to receive a copy of the “Commercial Harvesting of Kangaroos in Australia”.
Panel members were given a copy of this document at their inaugural meeting on 20 October 2004. Document not sent again.
- Action 8: DEC to collate figures on previous Euro take and how many properties were licensed
Chart summary sent 26 October.
- Action 9: DEC to send an updated list of who holds a current Fauna Dealer licence to the Panel members with the draft minutes.
List sent 26 October with a further update sent in February.
- Action 10: An updated list of the correspondence register will be sent to the Panel members before the March meeting.
List sent 3 February, a further update will be sent with the draft of the Meeting #5 minutes.

2. Final take statistics 2005 interim.

- Data not quite finalised due to a small number of overdue unsubmitted returns.
- Overall 70% of the quota was taken.
- Armidale, Glen Innes, SENSW all had high utilisation.

Action 2: Provide final total tag allocation figures for 2005 to the KMAP members.

3. Managing 2006 Quota.

Management of reduced quotas

Tag allocations year to date

Issues that have arisen

- DEC asked for submissions in October 2005 for management of reduced quotas in 2006.
- Panel members were sent copies of the proposals that were used, many of which remained from 2005.

- Comments and submissions from landholders, trappers, other stakeholders, as well as those written submissions from the KMAP members, were taken into consideration when putting measures into place.
- Not all suggestions could be accommodated.
- KMAP would like DEC to request that all submissions which could be a policy issue, are either put into writing or redirected to the appropriate member of the Panel. This would lead to better record keeping, more clarity and accountability over decisions made.
- DEC advised that the quota is set on the kangaroo population, not the number of Trappers, and would like to see the allocation spread over a greater part of the year to reduce non-commercial culling undertaken to protect crops. Culling over and above the commercial quota has the potential to reduce populations (and therefore quotas) over time.
- DEC are concerned that they do not have enough information coming in to deal effectively with unexpected issues that may arise during the year. Eg Unexpected rainfall that would mean crops were planted earlier than expected.
- It was decided that DEC would write to Panel members for feedback should this situation occur.
- Special quota is available to increase quotas should situations change, but release of Special Quota depends on certain conditions being met and is not always easy to issue.

4. Review of KMP.

Presentation of report into skin-only shooting by consultant, Sally Egan.

- The status of the report is final and can now be made available to Panel member's organisations.

Action 3: DEC to email an electronic version of the report into the feasibility of re-introducing skin-only shooting in NSW to all Panel members.

- Submissions from organisations will be received until the COB 31st March. DEC would like all organisations to comment regardless of their position, as this would help with transparency issues.
- DEC will acknowledge receipt of all submissions and distribute them to other Panel members. They will then be forwarded onto Sally Egan for collation.
- Issues raised via submissions, and responses to the issues, will become part two of the first report. All previous responses will also be sent to Sally.

Impact of Skin Only Shooting on Legislation:

- There would be no need for changes made to the State legislation.
- The reintroduction of skin only shooting will increase the risk of a challenge to the new program in the AAT.
- The standard of welfare controls could also be challenged.

Review progress on information requirements.

Literature Review/Situation Analysis

- Dr Penny Olsen should have a draft review available to DEC in one weeks time. This will be made available to the Panel within three weeks.
- The report is not expected to change organisations' positions on key issues within the review, and may not even require comment.
- If members of the Panel require a special meeting or a tele-conference to discuss the outcome of the Literature Review they should contact DEC to arrange.
- A copy of the FATE program (Future of Australia's Threatened Ecosystems) research proposal was given to the Panel as requested by the organisers. Members have been asked to consider the proposal and comment by 31 March. Responses will be circulated and passed on to the FATE team.

Action 4: An electronic copy of the FATE program to be sent to all Panel members.

Discussion on any submissions received since Meeting #4

- No submissions have been received since the October meeting, only those referring to "skin only shooting" which were passed on to Sally Egan.

Preparation of first draft KMP 2007-11

- Panel members all received a copy of "Background Information – Commercial Kangaroo and Wallaby Harvest Quotas", from the Commonwealth Government website.
- The timelines for reviewing the KMP and preparing the new draft for approval are very tight, and will require everyone to make a big effort to meet deadlines.
- In light of the EPBC Act, stricter requirements for animal welfare and performance indicators need to be put into place in the new KMP.
- Panel members were given a copy of the interim "Management Action and Performance Indicators". Any comments will need to be received from the Panel by 6 April.

Action 5: An electronic copy of “Management Action and Performance Indicators” to be sent to KMAP.

- A draft of the 2007-11 KMP will be put into public display on 1 June 2006, coinciding with the launch KMAP will meet to discuss the draft.
- Joshua Gilroy will be the only spokesperson for the KMAP and will handle any media response to the launch.
- Panel members will need to let DEC know contact details of their organisation’s spokesperson.

Action 6: DEC will send a letter to each organisation first week in May advising them of the launch of the draft KMP 2007-11 so that they can organise their response.

- Public submissions in writing will close on 14 July.
- A special email account will also be set up for submissions from the public.
- The new KMP will need to be approved by November to enable printing prior to commencement on 1 January 2007.

Register of interested parties.

- KMAP to let DEC know of any groups they know will be interested in receiving a copy of the Draft 2007-11 KMP.

5. Other Business

Code of Practice Review progress

- A second draft of the review has been received and reviewed by the working group.
- Two issues are still on going:
 1. Young at foot (and if/how to fund a review of methods of euthanasing them)
 2. The format of the draft with regard to commercial/non-commercial shooting and the ballistics specifications for each.
- The Industry and DEC are arguing strongly for a separate code that deals with the commercial industry only, to avoid confusion. Other members argue that the provisions are very much the same as for non-commercial shooting and are keen to keep both in a single code.

- The completion of the CoP review will have no impact on the new KMP as the plan only makes reference to the Code, and can be worded to incorporate revisions of the Code as necessary.

Compliance Update

- In 2005 about 50 fines were issued, mainly for unsubmitted chiller and trapper returns and failure to return unused tags.
- 16 fines have been issued so far in 2006, again mainly for unsubmitted returns from 2005. One fine was issued for fraudulent occupier's licence applications.
- One person is being prosecuted for attempting to sell a carcass containing a bullet wound.
- Evidence is being gathered in preparation to prosecute two people for allegedly selling kangaroos that have been taken unlawfully.

6. Next Meeting

- 1 June for launch of KMP 2007-11
- 8 or 15 August, with a possibility of this being a two-day meeting (so, 8/9 or 15/16 August)

List of Actions

Action 1: A Draft of the literature review will be sent to Panel members as soon as it is available. Sent 24 March 2006.

Action 2: Provide final total allocation figures for 2005 to the KMAP members. Sent 16 March 2006.

Action 3: DEC to email an electronic version of the report into the feasibility of re-introducing skin-only shooting in NSW to all Panel members. Sent 3 March 2006.

Action 4: An electronic copy of the FATE program to be sent to all Panel members. Sent 8 March 2006.

Action 5: An electronic copy of "Management Action and Performance Indicators" to be sent to KMAP. Sent 3 March 2006

Action 6: DEC will send a letter to each organisation first week in May so that they can organise their response to the launch of the draft KMP 2007-11. Copy of draft KMP 07-11 sent with covering letter 31 May 2006.