

**Tatiara WAP Stakeholder Advisory Group**  
**Summary Meeting 4** 27 July 2017 – 5pm NRSE Office Keith

**Group Attendees**-Kerry DeGaris (Group chair proxy and member SENRM Board), Robert Mock - Tatiara DC, Scott Manser - Lucerne Australia, Glyn Ashman – SA Water, Jeff Flint – Mundulla Vignerons, Richard Halliday – Livestock SA, Paul Leadbeter – Conservation Council, Wayne Dodd – USE NRM Group, Scot Campbell – Lucerne Australia

**Apology**- David Edwards – Tatiara DC, Jodie Carey – SA Water

**Staff Attendees**-Phil Elson (PE) - Senior Planning Officer NRSE, Jennifer Schilling (JS) - Team Leader Water Policy and Planning NRSE

Item	Notes
Welcome	Kerry DeGaris welcomed attendees
Previous meeting notes	<p><b>Action outcomes to note</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Still no response from SE Potato Growers Association, Onions Australia and Mackillop Farm Group concerning membership.</li> <li>• SAG meeting notes to be available on the NRSE web site.</li> </ul> <p><b>Outstanding action list items noted</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Actions 1.8, 1.10, 1.16, 2.2, 2.5, 2.6, 2.7, 2.9, 2.10, 2.11, 2.12, 2.13, 2.14, 2.15, 2.16, 2.17, 2.18, 3.1, 3.3, 3.4, 3.6, 3.7, 3.8, 3.9, 3.10, 3.11, 3.12, 3.13, 3.14, 3.15, 3.16, 3.17, 3.18, 3.20 &amp; 3.21 completed.</li> </ul> <p><b>Recommendations</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• nil</li> </ul> <p><b>Advisory Group member Tasks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SAG members have provided additional issues for inclusion on issues list.</li> </ul>
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 Ground Rules
Resource Condition Reports	<p>PowerPoint presentation by JS – Overview Tatiara PWA Unconfined aquifer 2016 Groundwater level and salinity status report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prescribed Wells Areas of the South East Confined aquifer 2016 Groundwater level and salinity status report</li> </ul> <p>The reports are standard across the State for all prescribed water resources using the same format and method using a traffic light system to report on 5 year trends.</p> <p>Unconfined report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In the Tatiara the aquifer trends are primarily influenced by climate, clearance of vegetation and recycling of water.</li> <li>• <b>Plains status</b> – Amber: Moderate adverse trends have been observed over the past five years</li> <li>• <b>Highlands status</b> – Yellow: Minor adverse trends have been observed over the past five years</li> <li>• 46% of observation wells recorded drops in water levels with 38% at lowest recorded level.</li> <li>• Extraction in 2015/16 was 95,000ML.</li> <li>• Some resource condition triggers were exceeded</li> <li>• Rainfall in 2015/16 was below the long-term average.</li> </ul>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Salinity is considered stable.</li> </ul> <p>Confined report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The confined report covers all of the PWA in the SE.</li> <li>• There is little emphasis in the report and lack data groundwater observation data for the Tatiara PWA.</li> <li>• Status – Yellow: Minor adverse trends have been observed over the past five years.</li> <li>• Extraction in 2015/16 was 28,225ML across all PWAs.</li> <li>• Pressure levels not well described for Tatiara PWA, most showing declining levels, this is most likely due to the decline in water levels in the unconfined aquifer .</li> <li>• Salinity is considered stable.</li> </ul>
Review Paper - Issues	<p>PE outlined the three stage process used to identify issues for inclusion in the review paper.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Compile all issues into consolidated list.</li> <li>2. Group up the same and similar issues into an amalgamated issue list.</li> <li>3. Using each amalgamated issue write up a synopsis of each amalgamated issue and proposed response for inclusion in the review paper.</li> </ol> <p>The Amalgamated list was provided to members for review and draft of issues synopsis and proposed response presented for comment and feedback.</p> <p>Questions posed to SAG members:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Are there any issues missing?</li> <li>2. Has anything been misinterpreted?</li> <li>3. Is the proposed response suitable?</li> </ol> <p>Several issues discussed and points raised.</p> <p><b>Question:</b> Can Crown Solicitors Office advice on restriction of water use be provided to SAG? JS/PE to follow up on question <b>Action 4.1</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• GAT (groundwater access trench) less than 2.5m deep do not require a well permit but can still have issues for water quality associated with their management. Currently not control by existing provisions.</li> <li>• Simplification of plan should also include simplification of processes to be reviewed as well.</li> </ul> <p><b>Question:</b> One issue listed quotes “social, environmental and heritage requirements”. Is heritage included in the assessment of requirements? <b>Answer:</b> Heritage was picked up as the original issues listed were verbatim records of the issues submitted. In the synopsis of the issue heritage has been dropped as equitable balance requirements only list social, environmental and economic as requiring consideration.</p> <p><b>Question:</b> There is concern for the lateral flows coming across the Border how much influence will the WAP have safe guarding them? <b>Answer:</b> The BGWA only covers the area 20km either side of the border, this area is subject to agreed Permissible Annual volumes outlined to ensure equitable sharing of the groundwater resource.</p>

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	<p><b>Question:</b> 2km restriction on amalgamation of licences can this be reviewed? Incorporate into issues list. <b>Action 4.2</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review of carryover provisions is ok as long as it includes the examination of provisions to increase the carryover amount.</li> </ul> <p><b>Question:</b> Could an increase in SPRs allow a licensee to expand? <b>Answer:</b> No – not in the long term as the allocations expire.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The WAP should recognise the requirement to return water reductions to licensees when the resource improves. (The Tatiara WAP does provide for the return of water after reductions if the sustainable level of allocation is above the current allocation.)</li> <li>• DS Key issues –</li> <li>• I DS is made permanent it would increase the value of water on a licence/ the asset</li> <li>• If a DS was included in the tradeable allocation and used for other purposes there could be losses to the system e.g. less recharge.</li> <li>• There is concern about the equity issues related to making this type of allocation permanent. A view was put that DS should be temporary or scaled back.</li> </ul> <p>Un bundling</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Components – Water Access Entitlement, Water Allocation, Delivery Capacity Entitlement, Water Resource Works Approval and Site Use Approval.</li> <li>• It is not necessary to completely unbundle or use all 5 elements.</li> <li>• good communication around unbundling is required. (<b>Note:</b> issue has been included in review paper.)</li> </ul> <p>Hydo assessment</p> <p>Consideration of why a hydro assessment is not needed for seasonal transfers is required.</p> <p>Importation of water issue should be included in the review paper. (<b>Note:</b> issue has been included in review paper.)</p> <p>Water dependent ecosystems – technical input needs to be included in the recommendations.</p> <p>Consideration should be given to simplifying the allocations e.g. categories of allocations. (<b>Note:</b> issue has been included in review paper.)</p> <p>Under the proposal for guiding principles need to define the term ‘equitable’. SAG to consider what the term ‘equitable’ means in relation to the proposed guiding principles. <b>Action 4.3</b></p> <p>The endorsement on licence of Certificate of Title may not be relevant when unbundling has been implemented</p> <p>The review should include what is the desirable state for the resource.</p> <p>PE to circulate the draft issues section of the review paper to SAG members for review and feedback due back by 4.8.17. <b>Task 4.1</b></p>
Community Engagement	<p>Review Paper</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Draft needs to be ready by 10.8.17 for inclusion in August NRM Board meeting approval to release for public comment.</li> <li>• Public comment period proposed 30.7.17 to 28.9.17.</li> <li>• Public meeting proposed late August. (Set for 31.7.17 - 7.30pm Keith Institute)</li> <li>• Draft to be placed on NRSE web site.</li> </ul>

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Item	Notes
Summary of Discussion – Next Steps	Next meeting (proposed meeting date of 24.7.17 changed) 31 August 2017 NRSE Keith Office – Time to be confirmed.
Meeting Close	7.45pm

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Action	Tatiara WAP Stakeholder Advisory Group Actions	Status	Outcome
1.1	That the Onion and Potato Grower Stakeholder organisations are written to again to seek nominations to the Advisory group, the letter should also seek their views on how they feel that can be more closely involved if they are unable to nominate a member.	Completed	No response
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
1.3	That the McKillop Farm Management Group is written to again to check if their views on nomination have changed and ask if they would now like to nominate. This letter should also advise them of the full membership of the group to check if they feel their members enterprises are adequately represented by the current group membership.	Completed	No response
1.4	Build in engagement of JBS into the Community Engagement Strategy	JBS to be contacted along with other confined users	Ongoing
1.7	Set Ground Rules and the Charter as a standing meeting agenda item.	ongoing	Remain open for discussion & review
1.9	Roger Cranswick to locate the study that examined the transition line between the Mallee Highland and the Coastal plains and share with the group	JS to obtain document from Nick McIntyre	
1.12	The CSIRO salinity report prepared as part of the Padthaway project by Helen Cleugh be made available to the group. Kerry Degaris to source	JS to circulate document to group	
1.13	Impacts of clay spreading / delving requires greater understanding – Naracoorte ranges report to be located and communicated to the group	Dan Newson to be contacted to provide clay spreading presentation to group	Address when discussion paper is prepared
1.14	Work on consumptive pools and unbundling will need to be scheduled into the groups work plan / forward agenda programme	Discussion to be scheduled at a future meeting	
1.15	More information/ discussion needed on the basis for the transition line between the Highland and the Plains	See action 1.9	
2.1	Dot point summary of meetings to be supplied to SAG members within 7 business days of each meeting	Ongoing	
2.3	Provide the 2015/16 Tatiara Groundwater Resource Condition report and the separate region wide Confined Aquifer Status report when ready	Still awaiting reports	Tabled at Meeting 27 July
2.4	Raise question with SAG of how to deal with DS in modelling scenarios.	See action 3.2	
2.8	Propose that 140% usage be included in additional modelling scenarios	See action 3.2	

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<b>Action</b>	<b>Tatiara WAP Stakeholder Advisory Group Actions</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Outcome</b>
2.19	JS to seek direction on the placement of SAG meeting notes on the NRSE web site	Completed	Draft notes available on NRSE web site
3.2	Roger Cranswick (DEWNR Senior hydrogeologist) to be invited to a future meeting to discuss how the Groundwater model treats extraction and the return to the aquifer of the delivery supplement and the potential to model 140% use of all allocations		
3.5	Organise Roger Cranswick to attend a future group meeting and provide a presentation on the confined aquifer	Completed	
3.19	NRSE Staff to review permit provisions against state wide permit provisions.	PE to undertake review	
4.1	NRSE staff to follow up to determine if CSO advice on restriction of water use can be provided to SAG.		
4.2	Include amalgamation of licences distance restriction in issues list.		
4.3	SAG to consider what the term 'equitable' means in relation to the proposed guiding principles.		

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**Tatiara WAP Stakeholder Advisory Group  
Recommendation Table**

No.	Recommendation	Board Decision

**Tatiara WAP Stakeholder Advisory Group  
Members Task Table**

Task No.	Task	Status	Outcome
2.1	SAG members to consult with stakeholder organisations to identify any additional issues	Completed	Issues considered for inclusion in Review paper
4.1	SAG members to review draft Review Paper issues section and provide feedback by 4.8.17.	Completed	Issues considered for inclusion in Review paper