

Meeting 34 – FINAL record of decisions & actions
Joint Queensland / Australian Government NRM Steering Committee
Held in Toowoomba 15-16 November 2007

Meeting No.	Agenda Item No.	Issue	Decision	Action	By Whom	By When
M 34	1.1	Agenda for JSC M34 The JSC noted apologies provided by: Christine Schweizer	Mr Taylor welcomed members and agency representatives to the 34 th meeting of the JSC. Mr Speirs acknowledged the traditional owners. The JSC agreed the agenda for JSC M34.			
M 34	1.2	Welcome to new AG Co-chair and JSC Secretariat staff	Mr Taylor advised members of the official appointment of QLD co-chair, Mr Speirs, to General Manager, Community Partnerships. The JSC keenly welcomed this appointment and congratulated Mr Speirs. The JSC noted with appreciation the outstanding contribution from former AG co-chair, Mr Mike Lee. Mr Taylor further noted Mr Lee's outstanding record of attendance. Mr Taylor welcomed new JSC Secretariat member Ms Suzie Thomas.			
M 34	1.3	Record of Decisions for M33	The JSC noted that the record of decisions and actions for JSC M33 had been agreed prior to M34.			
M 34	1.4	JSC Meeting Dates for 2008	The JSC noted the dates provided with an agreement for a further meeting to deal with NHT3 bilateral issues which would likely be a teleconference, as well as an additional meeting prior to the February meeting on an if needed basis. The JSC noted the April meeting (36) may need to be extended to two days to accommodate both the Regional Investment Strategy (RIS) issues and attendance of the regional bodies. Mr Wensing suggested the option of approving some			

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			<p>RISs early and Out of Session.</p> <p>The JSC noted that meeting 37 would likely be held in Rockhampton, hosted by the Fitzroy Basin Association.</p>	<p>The JSC Secretariat to contact FBA to discuss meeting in Rockhampton in May / June 2008.</p>	<p>J Harris</p>	<p>12 Dec 07</p>
<p>M 34</p>	<p>2.0</p>	<p>Workplan Update / Exception Report</p> <p>1. Note the following Reports which together provide detailed progress and exceptions regarding JSC actions associated with the implementation of the National Action Plan for Salinity and Water Quality and the Natural Heritage Trust Extension in Queensland:</p> <p>a) Att 1 – JSC Completed Actions since JSC M33.</p> <p>b) Att 2 – JSC Pending Actions.</p> <p>c) Att 3 – JSC Correspondence Register since JSC M33.</p> <p>d) Att 4 – JSC OoS Register since JSC M33.</p>	<p>The JSC noted the workplan update/exception reports presented under this agenda item and expressed its appreciation of the efforts of relevant officers both in maintaining these registers and in advancing the work covered by them.</p>			

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M 34	2.1	RGC – Key Activities/Issues	<p>Mr French advised the JSC that Mr Mike Berwick will commence as Chair of the Regional Groups Collective in early 2008.</p> <p>Mr Taylor noted with appreciation the significant contribution from Mr French both as a representative on the JSC and as Chair of the RGC.</p> <p>The JSC noted the report tabled at the meeting by Mr Drysdale.</p> <p>Mr French advised the JSC there is work outside of the RIS process that is managed and undertaken by the regional bodies. At a later date, the JSC would like to be updated on these activities.</p> <p>The JSC noted the annual report provided at the meeting which Mr Drysdale will make available for distribution.</p>	<p>The JSC Secretariat to prepare a letter of thanks to Mr French in his capacity as outgoing Chair of the RGC.</p> <p>The JSC Secretariat to discuss with Andrew for possible presentation at May JSC meeting.</p>	<p>J Harris</p> <p>J Harris</p>	<p>Mid-Jan 08</p> <p>26 Feb 08</p>
M 34	2.2	LGAQ – Key Activities/Issues	<p>The JSC noted the report tabled at the meeting by the LGAQ.</p> <p>Mr Greenwood expressed his appreciation on behalf of LGAQ, to Mr French and Mr Lee for their contribution in their respective roles and congratulated Mr Speirs on confirmation of his appointment.</p>			
M 34	3.0	FINANCE/ PERFORMANCE				
M 34	3.1	Single Holding Account Financial Summary Reports (NAPSWQ/Trust/ NLP)	<p>The JSC noted the financial summaries tabled at the meeting and further noted that regional bodies need to be reminded that if funding is to be carried over from 30 June 2008, the JSC requires a financial report to ensure the processes are complete (RBs to comply prior to 30 March 08).</p>	<p>JSC Secretariat to ensure Regional Bodies are reminded of the need for them to comply with financial obligations related to</p>	J Harris	3 Dec 07

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			<p>Mr Wensing asked the JSC to note that the Australian and Queensland Governments are close to resolving the availability of the \$1.9 million that was paid into the Single Holding Account for the Coastal Catchments Initiative (CCI) program in a previous financial year.</p> <p>JSC will be briefed by way of an Out of Session (OoS) paper on all uncommitted funds in the Single Holding Account for the NAP and NHT 2 before the end of December 2007. The OoS paper will also provide some options for JSC on a process for allocating those funds, noting that the remaining funds need to be committed before the end of the current financial year.</p>	<p>the possible carryover of NHT2 funds.</p> <p>Contracts Management and Grants unit to draft OoS paper as per JSC decision. JSC Secretariat to ensure RGC and LGAQ are provided with the draft OoS papers regarding this issue.</p>	<p>S McLean E Wensing J Harris</p>	<p>20 Dec 07</p>
M 34	3.2	Business Improvement Reviews (BIRs) 2006-2008	<p>The JSC noted the approved OoS paper provided at the meeting regarding the second round of BIRs for information only.</p> <p>The JSC discussed this BIR process and the Organisational Performance Framework for NRM bodies. Mr Wensing suggested that the JSC revisit this issue following the completion of the BIR process. Mr Wensing also mentioned that the BIR process was instigated by the Parties to be able to demonstrate to Ministers and to auditors that appropriate accountability measures are in place.</p>			

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M 34	4.0	Transition to NHT 3	<p>Mr Taylor provided the following update qualifying the Australian Government position during the current caretaker period pending the Federal Election on 24 November 2007:</p> <p><i>“During this meeting, all comments made with regard to the proposed bilateral arrangements under NHT3 are made in the context of the following points:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The Australian Government is in Caretaker mode;</i> • <i>A draft bilateral document has been negotiated between officials of the QLD and AG governments;</i> • <i>This draft bilateral document has not been signed by ministers of either government; and</i> • <i>In the absence of a signed bilateral agreement, and without prejudice to the ultimate outcome of the negotiations between the QLD and AG governments, officials have continued to work in good faith on operational arrangements required to underpin the current draft bilateral document”.</i> 			
M 34	4.0	(a) Strategic / operational issues	The JSC noted the verbal update provided by Mr Speirs regarding NHT3 strategic and operational issues.			
M 34	4.0	(b) Joint statement of program emphases	The JSC noted the paper provided at the meeting under this item.			
M 34	4.0	(c) Proposed NHT 3 RIS guidelines / RIS operational	The JSC noted the two papers provided at the meeting for this item.			

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		arrangements	<p>The JSC requests:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • that a paragraph be inserted in the Regional Investment Strategy (RIS) guidelines (page 4) to the effect that RIS's are to reflect the scope and content of the draft program emphases document, which is to be approved out of session. • that Schedule 4 (page 10 RIS guidelines) be reviewed to test the value and utility of the inclusion of outputs in this schedule. • the changes to the RIS guidelines are to be circulated to the regional bodies for comment and return to the JSC for out of session approval prior to 4 December 2007. 	<p>RLOs to prepare an Out of Session paper as per JSC decision.</p> <p>JSC Secretariat to distribute guidelines to regional bodies as per JSC decision.</p>	<p>K Flower C Macdonald</p> <p>J Harris C Macdonald</p>	<p>26 Nov 07</p> <p>29 Nov 07</p>
M 34	4.0	(d) Review of regional plans	<p>The JSC approved the papers provided at the meeting.</p> <p>Mr Lee highlighted the value of the regional plans and importance of the targets and the critical role of the regional bodies as custodian of the regional plans.</p> <p>The JSC noted there is work ongoing in the AG NRM team on regional targets and the work is being shared with the QLD state team.</p>	<p>JSC Secretariat to prepare letters for regional bodies advising of JSC's approval of the revised protocol for reviewing NRM plans document.</p>	<p>J Harris M Bradby</p>	<p>3 Dec 07</p>
M 34	4.0	(e) JSC operational arrangements	<p>The JSC noted the draft paper tabled at the meeting which summarises the main points from the draft bilateral agreement; noting a final version is to be approved at the six monthly performance reporting meeting scheduled for February 08.</p> <p>Mr Drysdale suggested that the work done by Mr Andrew Campbell on future considerations for the RGC could add some value to this process.</p>	<p>JSC Secretariat to review comments / input as provided by members and agency representatives for inclusion in the final version of JSC operational arrangements.</p>	<p>J Harris</p>	<p>Feb 08</p>

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				RGC to provide comment into the operational process.	A Drysdale	Feb 08
M 34	4.0	(f) NHT3 State Level Projects	<p>The JSC noted the paper tabled at the meeting under this item.</p> <p>The RGC will advise the JSC in writing their comments / input into this item by early December 07.</p> <p>The Australian and Queensland Governments will further consider the emerging issues tabled at the meeting and extend discussions to include RGC and LGAQ.</p>	RGC to provide correspondence as per JSC decision once received.	A Drysdale	3 Dec 07
M 34	4.0	(g) Indicative allocations – including multi criteria analysis	<p>The JSC noted with appreciation the presentation provided by Stefan Hajkowicz from the CSIRO.</p> <p>Mr Speirs proposed that a workshop be arranged to conduct and refine the MCA process. Mr Drysdale suggested that a viability threshold be considered in applying the MCA.</p>	<p>JSC Secretariat to distribute CSIRO presentation to members as requested.</p> <p>Mr Speirs to arrange the workshop in conjunction with AG representatives, CSIRO, RGC and the Regional Bodies chairs / CEOs.</p>	J Harris B Speirs H Taylor	As required basis Dec 07
M 34	4.0	(h) In-kind operational arrangements	<p>The JSC noted the papers provided at the meeting for this item with further approval to be considered out of session.</p> <p>LGAQ expressed its preference to provide further comments especially regarding bio-security issues.</p>	Out of session paper to be prepared to further consider the papers provided at the JSC meeting.	D Guzek D Robinson C Macdonald I Gaze	Dec 07
M 34	4.0	(i) Reflections on NHT2	The JSC noted the verbal update provided by Messrs			

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			Delzoppo and Wensing. Mr Lee reflected on the work done in the MERI area – particular Mr Rowley (AG) and Ms Blackett (QLD) regarding intermediate outcomes and performance story reports which will provide a more visible reflection on NHT2 investment.			
M 34		(j) Continuation of the NRM Facilitator Network into the next round of NRM programs	The JSC noted the approved out of session (OoS 504) paper tabled at the meeting. QLD Government noted with appreciation the invitation from the Australian Government to participate in both the recent state and national facilitator network meetings.			
M 34	5.1	CRC Savannah Presentation	The JSC noted with appreciation, the presentation provided by Drs Gabriel and Crowley.			
M 34	5.2	Cape York Peninsula Development Association (CYPDA): Presentation	The JSC noted with appreciation, the presentation provided by newly appointed CEO, Paul Baxter. The JSC approved the scheduled payment of \$100,000 for the October – December 2007 quarter as the JSC agreed CYPDA had met its obligations. The JSC acknowledged the work done by CYPDA and accepted that this work has addressed the JSC issues of concern raised in the business improvement review process. The JSC noted CYPDA's interest in participating in the establishment of a regional body for Cape York. The RGC supports the CYPDAs involvement in this process.	Contracts Management and Grants Unit to progress payment to CYPDA as per JSC decision. RLOs to write to CYPDA expressing their appreciation that matters have been dealt with in respect to the BDO Kendalls	W Yuen K Flower G Dyne	13 Dec 07 30 Nov 07

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				report. Australian Government to brief their Ministers regarding the remaining core funding. Preview the delivery of the Cape York projects contracted to NRW in favour of delivery through CYPDA.		
M 34	5.3	Murrinetwork Subcommittee – Update	The JSC noted the activity report provided to members by Messrs Tromp and Wensing and noted the draft progress report tabled at the meeting.			
M 34	5.4	Coordinated review of multi-regional initiatives	The JSC noted the paper provided at the meeting.			
M 34	5.5	Water Quality Improvement Plans	The JSC noted the paper provided at the meeting.			
M 34	5.6	Condamine Alliance Presentation	The JSC noted with appreciation the presentations provided by Mr McCullough, Ms Hamilton and Mr Browne. Mr Taylor further commented to members of Condamine Alliance’s that their commitment, passion and level of professionalism was abundantly clear and expressed with appreciation the candid and insightful comments made by the CA Chair to the JSC.	JSC Secretariat to prepare a letter of thanks to Condamine Alliance for hosting JSC meeting 34.	J Harris	23 Nov 07
M 34	5.7	New agenda item: Regional Body for Cape York	The JSC noted the brief discussion on establishing Cape York as a regional body which may be further considered out of session.			

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JSC Meeting 34 (15-16 November 2007) – Attendees		
Australian Government		
Hilton Taylor	JSC co-chair	Dept of the Environment and Water Resources
Mike Lee	Former JSC co-chair	Dept of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
Ed Wensing	Regional NRM Team (Qld)	Dept of the Environment and Water Resources
Ian Gaze	Regional NRM Team (Qld)	Dept of the Environment and Water Resources
Dave Patmore	Coastcare Facilitator	Dept of the Environment and Water Resources
Queensland Government		
Bob Speirs	JSC co-chair	Dept of Natural Resources & Water
Joe Pappalardo	JSC member	Dept of Natural Resources & Water
Jim Groves	JSC member	Dept of Primary Industries and Fisheries
Lindsay Delzoppo	JSC member	Environmental Protection Agency
Fred Tromp	Director, Strategic Policy & Support	Dept of Natural Resources & Water
Dave Wildermuth	Manager, Client Services	Dept of Natural Resources & Water
Mike Bradby	Principal Project Officer, Client Services	Dept of Natural Resources & Water
Nicole Blackett	Senior Project Officer, L&E Unit	Dept of Natural Resources & Water
Jenelle Harris	JSC secretariat	Dept of Natural Resources & Water
Suzie Thomas	JSC secretariat	Dept of Natural Resources & Water
Regional Groups Collective / Local Government Association of QLD		
Gordon French	Chair	Regional Groups Collective
Andrew Drysdale	Executive Officer	Regional Groups Collective
Steve Greenwood	Manager	Local Government Association of QLD
Malcolm Petrie	Project Coordinator	Local Government Association of QLD

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JSC Meeting 34 (15-16 November 2007) – Attendees Continued.		
Guests / Presenters		
Phil McCullough	CEO	Condamine Alliance
Dick Browne	Chair	Condamine Alliance
Paul Baxter	CEO	Cape York
Gabriel Crowley	Biodiversity Information Officer	Tropical Savannas CRC
Peter Jacklyn	Communication Coordinator	Tropical Savannas CRC