

Taskforce Weekly Bugle



KEY MESSAGES 12/03/04

Joint Steering Committee (JSC) funding considerations

Next week JSC will discuss the National Landcare Program applications and on 30 March they will discuss the revised Interim Financial Agreement (IFA) extension proposals. Regional bodies will be advised of the outcomes soon afterwards. For the IFA projects, once JSC has considered the proposals, recommendations will be made to Ministers Robertson, Michel, Truss and Kemp. For further information contact David Wildermuth (Ph. 3224 2475) or Debbie Guzek (Ph. 3225 2676).

Changes ahead for the Taskforce

NRM&E's Regional NRM Taskforce is gearing up for changes for the future. The Taskforce was originally established for a short period of time to facilitate the establishment of healthier regional arrangements for natural resource management (NRM) across Queensland. The department has been reviewing its internal service delivery arrangements over recent months, looking specifically at how NRM&E works with regional NRM bodies. Over the coming weeks, the department will be looking at future options to support policy development and service delivery to regional NRM. For further information contact Paul McDonald (Ph. 3224 7520).

Condamine Alliance draft plan

Congratulations to the Condamine Alliance on the release of their draft NRM plan for community comment. The Alliance has done a remarkable job in recent months in getting the plan together, and the draft consultation phase will be critical in working through the draft with critical stakeholders. The plan is available at www.condaminealliance.com.au/plan

Designation cases

JSC is also considering the confirmation of regional body designation during its March 30 meeting. For JSC confirming designation is a critical issue, as getting solid regional bodies in place is essential to the delivery of the National Action Plan for Salinity and Water Quality and the Natural Heritage Trust extension. Formal letters will be sent to regional bodies in the week following the JSC meeting. In particular, JSC will be paying specific attention to:

- the capacity of the general community to get involved in regional body business
- the engagement arrangements for critical stakeholders in planning and implementation
- the skills and capabilities of the executive part of the regional body.

We welcome your input and feedback on this newsletter. If you have any contributions, comments or suggestions please contact phoebe.kinley@nrm.qld.gov.au