



Local Land
Services
Hunter

Aboriginal Community Advisory Group

Report



02/03/2015

2nd HLLS Aboriginal Community Advisory Group Meeting

Report of the Aboriginal Community Advisory Group Meeting

Tuncurry

26th and 27th of February 2015

Introduction

The second meeting of the Hunter Aboriginal Community Advisory Group (ACAG) was held in Tuncurry on the 26th and 27th February 2015. There were 9 members in attendance and 1 Board member.

At the start of the first day, Acknowledgement to Country was performed by Aboriginal Elder, Uncle John Clark. The morning session included a walk along the walking trail of Saltwater National Park near Old Bar to look at a weed management project that was undertaken by the TIDE Aboriginal land management team. The Afternoon session included a boat trip to Wallis Island near Forster where the group walked through Aboriginal owned land and the Aboriginal CAG provided their views on options relating to projects proposed for the area.

On the 2nd day the Aboriginal CAG provided their views on the membership and governance of the group, Regional Strategic Plan, Aboriginal engagement and Land Service Officer Aboriginal Funding. All of the comments recorded have been included below, there were many similar comments across each group which have been reflected in a single comment.

ACAG Outcomes

- Terms of Reference – Procedure, Recommendation - Autonomy for group, Moved arthur fletcher second Mick Green code of conduct
- Recommendation - Uncle John Clarke added to the group, Consensus decisions are made in the broader community
- LSO Discussion Paper – Recommendation \$150,000 develop strategy, develop ALMT capacity, equal opportunity, building commercial entity through synergy, tap into what we have nominate projects, what is the outcome how to create ongoing employment and training.
Recommendation - ACAG Report to SLSO
- Option 2 recommended LSO funds to generate Aboriginal Program.
- SLSO Aboriginal support - Sole Aboriginal position to serve community, HLLS gives office and mentor support and develop professional plan for skill development, ensure open door policy and responsive to needs, Manager support in terms of delegation of SLSO Aboriginal workload due to LSO Aboriginal position being removed.

Proposed opportunities for Aboriginal projects:

- Wallis Island – Property Management Plans, conservation of vegetation community and Aboriginal sites

2nd HLLS Aboriginal Community Advisory Group Meeting

- Visiting projects and sharing knowledge between Aboriginal land management teams in the Hunter region
- Biami cave Milbrodale potential for PVP conservation proposal
- Cultural Awareness training for HLLS Board and Staff members

Actions:

- Recommend ACAG as name of Advisory group
- LLS draft Letter to Council Helicopter Spraying monitor non target species Drift impact oyster leases (Emphasis), Engage ALMT Co-chairs signature
- Biami Cave letter from group, Any research or POM, Aboriginal designated place. Stakeholders involve eg Smiths, Xstrata, Parks
- Drone info email to Mick Leon
- Coastal and marine – seagrass friendly moorings circulate DVD
- Gis incorporate in training look into QGIS
- Public relations ACAG meetings and ALMT projects Koori mail, Indigenous times
- Cultural burning, seed collection workshop
- Biosecurity invasive pest species inf oat next meeting
- NPWS and depat attend next meeting to advise gateway process
- ToR Fee for service -paper trail
- Expenses for member to attend be included in ToR
- Travel Allowance payment processed adequately and efficiently
- LSO Discussion paper - letter draft up by LLS approach state land council dollar for dollar target NSWALC regional councilor

Next steps

- The report from the Aboriginal CAG will be provided to the HLLS Board.
- A report on progress against the actions will be provided at the next Aboriginal CAG meeting.
- The next Aboriginal CAG meeting will take place on 30th - 31th July 2015.