

Meeting	2018 Annual General Meeting
Date	Tuesday, 13 November 2018
Location	Zealandia room, Vibe Hotel, Darwin waterfront
Attendees	<p><b>Board</b> Chair – Clare Martin, Deputy Chair – Steve Morton, Finance and Audit Committee Chair – Sally Sullivan; Public Officer – Brooke Rankmore, Directors – Bilawara Lee, Ray Hall, Steve Rogers and Kate Peake.</p> <p><b>Members</b> Centralian Land Management Association – Liz Bird; Environment Centre NT – Shar Molloy; Friends of Fogg Dam – Jeremy Hemphill; Land for Wildlife – Kate Stevens (proxy); Mimal Land Management Aboriginal Corporation – Dominic Nicholls; NT Farmers Association – Greg Owens; Landcare NT - Madonna Wuttke; Roper River Landcare - Rosemary Sullivan; EcOz Environmental Consultants - David van den Hoek</p> <p><b>TNRM Staff</b> Chief Executive Officer – Karen May; Executive Assistant – Stephanie Burton (minutes)</p>

Meeting opened at 4:49pm, Meeting closed at 5.14 pm

### **Item 1: Welcome, introduction and apologies**

#### **1.1 Welcome**

The attendees were welcomed by the Chair, Clare Martin.

#### **1.2 Introductions**

The Board Directors introduced themselves to the attendees.

#### **1.3 Apologies**

The following apologies were received from TNRM Board Directors:

- Director – Rick Fletcher

The following apologies were received from TNRM Members and their delegates:

- Desert Wildlife Services – Bill Low
- Fire Stick and Associates – Ben Lewis
- City of Darwin – Shenagh Gamble

### **Item 2: Tabling of previous minutes**

***2017 TNRM Annual General Meeting Minutes accepted***

***Moved by Friends of Fogg Dam – Jeremy Hemphill***

***Seconded by Centralian Land Management Association – Liz Bird***

---

### **Item 3: Adoption of Agenda**

*Adoption of the 2018 TNRM Annual General Meeting Agenda accepted*

*Unanimously accepted*

---

### **Item 4: Reports**

#### **4.1 Chair – Clare Martin**

This last financial year 2017/18 has been one of change and challenge for Territory Natural Resource Management. But I'm pleased to be able to report to this AGM that we have emerged from the year with exciting natural resource management projects across the Territory, an enhanced reputation nationally and a confident financial position.

Inevitably this last financial year has been a pressured one, as all the projects and activities under the first National Landcare Program were finalised and reported on. At the same time, the Australian Government was undertaking consultation and redesign of the next five years of funding: The National Landcare Program 2.

Some of the key features of NLP2:

- That there was less funding available nationally. NLP1 had funding of one billion dollars over four years: NLP2 would have that same amount over five.
- That those funds would be open to a competitive tender process
- That the primary funding opportunity for TNRM – the Regional Land Partnership program – would have new and specific national targets
- And that those RLP programs would need to be delivered through partnerships with relevant bodies.

And it is worth elaborating on the outcomes the Australian Government requires of the Regional Land Partnership, to be delivered between now and 2023: They are that:

- The ecological character of RAMSAR sites be maintained or improved
- The trajectory of Threatened Species Strategy priority species improved
- The outstanding universal values of natural and mixed World Heritage Areas maintained or enhanced by a reduction in invasive species threats
- The condition of nationally threatened ecological communities on private land improved
- An increase in the awareness and adoption of land management practices that improve and protect the condition of soil biodiversity and vegetation.
- And that agricultural systems have a capacity to adapt to significant changes in climate, weather and markets.

The Australian government set out their desired outcomes in the Regional Land Partnership Program and TNRM's project bids had to respond accordingly. That was a considerable task for our small staff and required long hours of thought, conversations and project development.

I'm pleased to report to this AGM that we have been successful. TNRM is now the Australian Government's preferred provider of Regional Land Partnership services in the Territory – a significant achievement - and at this stage we have funding for one five-year major environmental project in the Top End and one year's funding for a Territory wide agricultural project. Further negotiations are currently taking place with the Australian Government and we'll be able to report on those in the coming months.

Delivering projects through partnerships is a key focus of NLP2. For TNRM, this has always been a strong focus of the way we work. Our current five-year Natural Resource Management Plan, now in its second year, it all about achieving NRM outcomes in partnership with bodies and businesses, large and



small, across the Territory. We value those partnerships and are confident that over the next few years they will be grow and be strengthened.

But a special thanks to all who worked with us as we developed our projects for NLP2 over this last year: among them the Northern Territory government, Charles Darwin University, the Land Councils, ranger groups, pastoralists, industry bodies and community organisations. Your engagement has been vital.

Although we head into the next five years with confidence about our core financial position, we still have the ongoing challenge of diversifying our sources of income. However, with our larger projects, still to be finalised and publicly announced under NLP2, I think there are greater opportunities now for us to build relationships and engagement with Territory and national businesses around these projects and hopefully win their support and investment into them. Also, as the Territory economy picks up over the next few years and the Territory government implements its promised environmental offset legislation, there is opportunity for TNRM to be involved in the environmental offset business.

As I said at the outset, this last year has been a challenging one for TNRM.

I'd like to thank my board colleagues for their engagement and wisdom over the time, and thank the TNRM staff for their tireless work over the year as NLP1 had to be finalised and new demands of NLP2 embraced.

A special thanks to our CEO Karen May who over sighted the year with calm and confidence and a lot of creativity. Much to the Board's delight, Karen has accepted another five-year contract with TNRM.

#### **4.2 Chief Executive Officer – Karen May**

Managing our natural resources responsibly is always a complex and dynamic process, and changes in government priorities and funding programs add to the challenge, but also bring new opportunities.

This year, phase one the National Landcare Program (NLP1) drew to a close and the Territory Natural Resource Management (TNRM) team worked with our project partners to wrap up NLP1 projects and activities by 30 June.

The annual report contains a snapshot of some of the 58 projects involving 48 groups and organisations, which were successfully completed this year, along with highlights from the numerous workshops, training events and activities which were attended by hundreds of people.

We acknowledge the effort and support of our partners in the successful achievement of the Northern Territory's regional NLP1 commitments.

As NLP1 came to an end, the Australian Government initiated a competitive tender process for the regional component of phase two of the National Landcare Program (NLP2). The new look regional component, Regional Land Partnerships, took a more targeted approach to natural resource management by focussing potential projects and activities on six key national environment and sustainable agriculture priorities.

TNRM staff committed substantial time and effort to the development of a NT Regional Land Partnership tender bid over the 2017 Christmas period and to ongoing negotiations and process discussions with the Australian Government through the remainder of the financial year.

The bid incorporated a suite of projects addressing community natural resource management priorities and meeting the requirements of NLP2.

TNRM were confirmed as the successful tenderer for RLP Services for the Northern Territory in July. We have recently been contracted to deliver services for a 5-year environment project in the Top End and a 1-

year agriculture project. We are currently negotiating additional RLP projects and hope to be able to announce further projects by the end of the year.

Throughout the last year, TNRM has the privilege of working in partnership with diverse and dedicated groups, organisations and individuals across the Territory. I am always impressed by the commitment and effort of all those we work with. None of the achievements captured in this annual report would be possible without the efforts of our project partners, thank you all for your hard work and contribution to managing the natural resources of the Northern Territory.

A special thank you to the amazing Territory Natural Resource Management staff team for all their hard work, dedication and support throughout the year.

#### **4.3 Finance and Audit Committee Chair – Sally Sullivan**

It gives me great pleasure to present to you, our TNRM members, my second report as Finance and Audit Committee Chair.

##### **Audits**

As per the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission and NT Associations Act requirements, TNRM engages independent auditors to review the organisation's financial records on an annual basis. The annual TNRM audit was completed with KPMG over the period May-September 2018 and the audited Special Purpose Financial Report for Territory Natural Resource Management Inc. 2017-2018 is included in the TNRM Annual Report. The TNRM accounts fulfilled the auditors' expectations as well as meeting Australian government reporting and audit requirements.

Audits require significant time and dedication from staff, so many thanks and congratulations to all staff involved. Special mentions and thanks to Ann Palmer and Rajiv Chaudhary for their sound management of TNRM's financial and reporting systems and to Karen for her oversight.

##### **Finances**

The 2017-18 financial overview, special purpose financial report and independent audit report are presented from page 33 in the 2017-18 TNRM Annual Report, along with a series of graphs representing financial activities for 2017-2018. TNRM showed a surplus of \$153,157 in the 2017/18 financial year, as shown in the audited statements.

In the 2017/18 financial year, TNRM received \$2.9M grant funding, of which \$2.87M was Regional Baseline Funding from the Australian Government. In the final year of NLP1, 52% of funding was directly invested in community projects contributing to NLP outcomes and a range of environmental and sustainable production benefits aligning with the 2016-2020 NT NRM plan. This far exceeded the Australian Government's requirement that a minimum of 20% of funding be spent on community projects. TNRM supported 82 projects and activities with NLP funding during the financial year with 48 organisations received grants. Indigenous and pastoral sectors were the main recipients of funds devolved to community organisations, with Land Councils and Indigenous organisations receiving 34% and Pastoral Landcare groups and Pastoralists receiving 31% of funds provided to the community.

The TNRM Public Fund's \$8500 donation from the Norman Wettenhall Foundation was used to support three indigenous groups work to identify and enhance habitat for Gouldian finch populations in their regions.

The end of the June 2018 marked a major turning point in the fiscal arrangements and program structures for TNRM. The National Landcare Program Phase 1, wound up with final reporting and acquittals extending into the first quarter of 2018/19. At the same time, staff were negotiating the processes and reporting structures of the new Regional Land Partnerships (RLPs). As this is a 2017/18 report I won't



expand much on details of the new arrangements, except to say Australia Government projects are still being negotiated and going forward we expect our funding situation to be similar to previous years.

The FAC Committee and the board are confident TNRM's accounts are in good order and the organisation is well on the way to successfully completing projects and operating under the new funding regime. We are all too aware of TNRM's heavy reliance on Commonwealth funding and are continually investigating and furthering means of diversifying income. That said, TNRM, being the service provider in the NT for RLP, is well-positioned to continue to attract Commonwealth funding and deliver outcomes going forward.

Once again, thank you to the hard-working staff of TNRM who work to deliver TNRM outcomes on the ground and to Ann, Raj and Karen for going above and beyond to ensure TNRM is a high performing and financially sound organisation.

Thanks also to the other members of the Finance and Audit Committee, Brooke Rankmore and Kate Peake for your powers of observation and contribution to the financial oversight of TNRM.

***Chair Report, Chief Executive Officer Report and Finance and Audit Committee Chair Report accepted***

***Moved by Mimal Land Management Aboriginal Corporation – Dominic Nicholls***

***Seconded by Roper River Landcare - Rosemary Sullivan***

**Item 5: 2017-18 TNRM Annual Report (including 2017-18 financial reports)**

---

***2017-18 TNRM Annual Report (including 17-18 financial reports) accepted***

***Unanimously accepted***

**Item 6: Election of Directors to board positions**

---

**Deputy Chair**

Kate Peake expressed her interest for Deputy Chair

No other nominees.

***Kate Peake confirmed her interest in holding the Deputy Chair position***

***Moved by Chair – Clare Martin***

***Seconded by Director – Ray Hall***

**Chair Finance and Audit Committee**

Sally Sullivan expressed her interest in continuing as Chair of the Finance and Audit Committee.

No other nominees.

***Sally Sullivan confirmed her interest in holding Chair Finance and Audit Committee position***

***Moved by Chair – Clare Martin***

***Seconded by Director - Steve Morton***

**Public Officer**

Ray Hall expressed his interest in holding the Public Officer position.

No other nominees.

*Ray Hall confirmed his interest in holding the Public Officer position*

*Moved by Chair – Clare Martin*

*Seconded by Director – Sally Sullivan*

---

**Item 7: Election of Board Directors and Members to Director Selection Panel**

---

**Director Representation**

Clare Martin and Kate Peake expressed their interest to sit on the Director Selection Panel.

No other nominees.

*Clare Martin confirmed her interest for Director Representation on the Director Selection Panel*

*Moved by Director – Steve Rogers*

*Seconded by Director - Bilawara Lee*

Kate Peake expressed her interest to sit on the Director Selection Panel.

No other nominees.

*Kate Peake confirmed her interest for Director Representation on the Director Selection Panel*

*Moved by Director – Bilawara Lee*

*Seconded by Director – Ray Hall*

**Member Representation – Pastoral Sector**

Liz Bird, Centralian Land Management Association, expressed her interest to sit on the Director Selection Panel.

No other nominees.

*Liz Bird confirmed her interest for Member Representation – Pastoral sector on the Director Selection Panel*

*Accepted Unanimously*

**Member Representation – Conservation sector**

Shar Molloy, Environment Centre NT, expressed her interest to sit on the Director Selection Panel.

No other nominees.

*Shar Molloy confirmed her interest for Member Representation – Conservation sector on the Director Selection Panel*

*Accepted Unanimously*

**Member Representation – Indigenous sector**

Domenic Nicholls, Mimal Land Management Aboriginal Corporation, expressed his interest to sit on the Director Selection Panel.

No other nominees.

*Domenic Nicholls confirmed his interest for Member Representation – Indigenous sector on the Director Selection Panel*

---

*Accepted Unanimously*

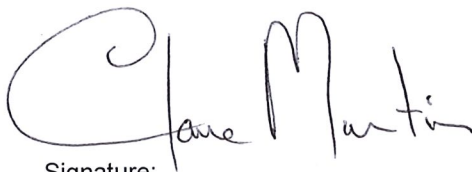
**Item 8: Other Business**

---

No other business put forward.

**Minutes endorsed by:**

Clare Martin, Chair



Signature:

2018 Annual General Meeting