



A communique is prepared after each scheduled official meeting of the twelve Local Marine Advisory Committees (LMACs) to inform relevant stakeholders, including the public, of the business of the LMAC. The document forms part of the records of the meeting and its content is limited to matters raised in the meeting. Any inquiries should be referred to the relevant LMAC email address or lmac@gbrmpa.gov.au.

BOWEN - BURDEKIN LOCAL MARINE ADVISORY COMMITTEE 8 September 2016 - Ayr COMMUNIQUE

Members of the Bowen-Burdekin Local Marine Advisory Committee (LMAC) met in Ayr on 8 September 2016 as part of their official meeting schedule for the 2015 – 2018 LMAC term.

Welcome

Joe Linton welcomed members and observers to the meeting.

North Queensland Dry Topics

Laura Dunstan, the Program Coordinator in Waterways, Wetlands and Coasts for North Queensland Dry Tropics (NQDT), gave a presentation about the organisation and what they are doing in the region.

In her presentation she asked everyone to identify opportunities where NQDT objectives align with the LMAC members and thus could work together on projects.

She told the members where NQDT get their funding from and gave an overview of the Natural Resource Management plan.

Their current projects in the region involve: landscape resilience, engaging and strengthening communities, riparian

management agreements, fish passages and systems repair work.

She explained that with wetlands, seasonality is important and they do not need to have continuous water to be productive. In the Burdekin, the biggest issue is too much water. Water supply schemes aimed at providing irrigation water have changed from what were once ephemeral wetlands into permanently wet systems. NQDT has been working with stakeholders to manage the natural resources and in particular with farmers to manage some of the threats to wetlands.

She also mentioned that NQDT are working with Lower Burdekin Water to upgrade two drop-board culvert structures and install automated flow control gates as part of Lower Burdekin Water's modernisation scheme. The twin-box culvert drop-board structures that are currently in use, cause a vertical and velocity barrier that stops the fish from migrating into the lagoon.

Once replaced, the new structures will allow for more efficient delivery of irrigation water and will also facilitate fish migration in a bypass channel, increasing the number of migrating fish in the lagoon.

Bowen Lighthouse Walk

Because the next low tide that is low enough for people to walk to the Lighthouse will be at 2am, there will not be an opportunity for people to walk there and back.

However, there will be a community event for the 150 year celebration of the Lighthouse. The next suitable low tide will be mid-2017 and the LMAC members will have a stall at the event to speak to people about best practises when reef walking.

LMAC Shirts

The LMAC members were shown the preferred option design for the sun safe shirts. These will be produced and given to the LMAC members and management partners.

LMAC Terms of Reference

The members, who did not attend the July LMAC meeting, were given a copy of the new LMAC Terms of Reference.

LMAC meetings

A discussion was held regarding the recruitment of new members to the LMAC and how we can encourage more people to get involved.

It was suggested that we have the presentations open to the public and then people have the option to attend the meeting afterwards.

Next meeting

The next official meeting of the Bowen – Burdekin LMAC will be held in Bowen on 2 November 2016. This will be the eighth meeting of the 2015-2018 LMAC term.

LMAC Membership

Arthur Darwen (Member)	Agriculture	Independent
Ivan Garrod (Member)	Conservation	Queens Beach Action Group
Joe Linton (Chair)	Recreational Boating	Independent
Anne Smith (Member)	Progress Association	Independent
Mardi Mathieson		Secretariat

Management Partners

Carolyn Thompson	World Heritage Partner	Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority
Richard Quincey	World Heritage Partner	Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority

Apologies

Ian Anderson (Member)	Recreational Fishing	Independent
Stephen Darwen (Member)	Tourism	The Bowen Independent
Gordon Little (Member)	Recreation Fishing	Bowen Outdoor Supplies
Ross Lewis (Member)	Marine Rescue	Transport Services
Anne Mecklem (Member)	Tourism	Aussie Reef Dive
John Moloney (Member)	Aquaculture	Pacific Reef Fisheries
Tom Mullins (Member)	Agriculture	Independent
Matt Quadrell (Member)	Commercial Fishing	Independent

Presenter

Laura Dunstan

Observers

Dave Clark
Des Smith