

## StAG Subcommittee, 22 May 2014

**BORPC, 1125 Arawa St. 12:30 PM**

### Present:

Collective Rep: Stuart Morrison, Joanna Carr Dairy NZ Ollie Parsons; BOPRC: Sarah Omundsen, Stephen Lamb, Lisa Power, and Anna Grayling; Tanira Kingi (StAG Chairman), Gloria Zamora, Simon Park (Subcommittee Chair), Gwyn Morgan (Fed Farmers), Natasha Tomic (MfE), LWQS: Warren Webber, Don Atkinson, Ben O'Brien (Beef and Lamb NZ)

### Previous Minutes, actions

- Apologies: Te Taru White
- No General business items
- Action List
  - Simon: to create hypothetical consent situations has been put on HOLD.
  - Simon: write one-pager on options to improve StAG effectiveness in providing policy advice- Not written yet, will be covered in Agenda

### ACTION LIST:

1. Gwyn Morgan assisted by Hera Smith and Ollie Parsons: Prepare an outline of what they would like to see in Section 32 report to be presented at next StAG meeting.
2. Gloria Zamora: Send Doodle to secure date in July for additional Overseer session
3. Sarah Omundsen: Establish date for FNP working plan
4. Simon: write one-pager on options to improve StAG effectiveness in providing policy advice.
5. Sarah: Set up schedule of economic work that can be done to help understand the impacts of the new rules being proposed. Include the farm scale analysis with the proposed catchment analysis and how it all fits in together.
6. Sarah: circulate a draft in confidence of the NDA impact analysis to industry reps on the sub-committee for review
7. Stephen/Anna: to work on the \$5.5m funding, how it might work and how it can be accessed - and report at next StAG meeting.
8. Sarah: to facilitate a specific consultation and engagement session at the next sub-committee meeting
9. Sarah: Present consultations schedule at next StAG meeting

### STAG Follow Up

#### Item 1: StAG direction review

1. StAGs ToR specify that a review will be undertaken after the group has been in place for 2 years. This review will most likely take place July/August
2. How can StAG function more effectively?
  - a. Meetings currently have too much on the agenda
  - b. Starting to evolve to workshops over critical issues.
3. StAG has more informed conversations when data analysis is presented
4. StAG has concerns that there is not enough information in the draft rules, and their impacts, to consult on yet.
  - a. Sarah noted that a significant amount of work has been done in developing the rules, mostly around principles and high level approaches. It is time to get feedback from a broad range of landowners, and from the wider community in order to inform next steps in the policy development.

**ACTION:** Sarah to set up schedule of further economic analysis that can be done to help understand the impacts of the new rules being proposed. Include the farm scale analysis with the proposed catchment analysis and how it all fits in together.

### **Item 2: Rules-next steps on paper and NDA Impact Analysis**

1. The summary paper on the draft rules will underpin the decision going to Council on 24 June – Council will be asked to approve the draft rules for consultation, and will need to agree specifically to each component of the draft rules.
2. Sarah emphasised that the NDA impact analysis report shows how a farmer **may** be affected, not how the farmer **will be** affected. It will be a useful tool to help farmers understand what the NDAs mean.
3. Warren tabled some concerns on the NDA impact work– particularly around:
  - a. How will the significant increase in maize consumption be supported?
  - b. Assumption of forestry \$200/hectare needs to be explained
4. Sarah noted that the report will be independently peer reviewed, and the reviewer will be provided with the RFQ to ensure they understand what Perrin-Ag were asked to do and the tight brief they had to work within. Industry representatives on the sub-committee also offered to review the report and Sarah agreed to circulate a draft in confidence.
5. It was noted that the groundwater catchment still needs to be defined. GNS will report groundwater catchment findings to the Water Quality TAG at their 12 June meeting and we can then develop policy around managing properties at this boundary.

**ACTION:** Sarah to circulate a draft in confidence of the NDA impact analysis to industry reps on the sub-committee for review.

### **Item 3: Overseer 6**

The discrepancies between OVERSEER 5 and 6 were discussed, as well as the concerns that OVERSEER 6.1.2 is still going through teething problems. Until we can be sure that all the bugs have been resolved, it will be best to stick with the data we know and consult on the 35/13 type numbers that have been generated through analysis of OVERSEER 5 numbers.

The sub-committee noted:

1. Work was still required on deciding how to use OVERSEER in the rules, knowing that knowledge and the model is always going to change through time
2. Care needs to be taken with all communications around the issue as it is complex and hard to explain to farmers how decisions have been made
3. Sarah and Alastair are meeting with AgResearch to discuss specific research needs in the Rotorua catchment
4. BOPRC staff are also meeting with other Councils to determine how best to work together on OVERSEER issues.

### **Item 4: \$5.5 million/\$2.75 million update**

1. It was recognised that there is an immediate need for farmers to have access to farm and business planning, particularly where there is an interest in accessing the \$40m incentives scheme once it goes live
2. The critical role of Farm Nutrient Plans in this process was discussed and Sarah advised that the working group to determine the FNP minimum requirements would be convened shortly.

3. Tanira advised that some farmers are going to want to move fast on this. Many farmers are just waiting for the incentives fund to go live, so BOPRC needs to be careful that farmers are fully informed.

**ACTION:** Stephen/Anna to work on the \$5.5m funding, how it might work and how it can be accessed - and report at next StAG meeting.

#### **Item 5: Rules comms & engagement July-Sept**

1. A BOPRC comms and engagement team has been pulled together to work on a plan for the July – September public consultation. An initial structure/schedule has been developed and will evolve over the next 6 weeks.
2. Resources are really limited with only a few staff involved in the process that can attend meetings etc. Federated Farmers, Beef & Lamb and DairyNZ advised that they would like to help with the consultation, and convene sector specific meetings. Tanira noted that Te Arawa representatives would also organise hui with Te Arawa landowners, trust & incs.

**ACTION:** Sarah to facilitate a specific consultation and engagement session at the next sub-committee meeting

**ACTION:** Sarah to present consultation schedule at next StAG meeting

#### **Item 6: Next sub-com Meeting**

1. Next sub-com meeting will be a comms strategy meeting.
2. Stuart Morrison will present at 3 June RTALSG meeting in Tanira's absence.

Meeting adjourned 3:28 pm.