

# Vic Catchments Communiqué

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Edition 5, May 2018

## Report from National Chairs Forum.

(with substantial help from Peter Hilbig, Chair Wimmera CMA)



Clare Martin, Chair Territory Natural Resource Management, on behalf of the national NRM Regions chairs, and Dr Stuart Minchin, Geoscience Australia, sign a heads-of-agreement.

## NLP2

A ‘wrap around’ of responses to NLP2 was presented by each of the state and territory jurisdictions. NRM Regional entities in most states have progressed to further negotiation of tender arrangements. Queensland’s state-wide joint bid has not been accepted so another approach is now being negotiated, and only one of Tasmania’s three NRM entities is moving to the next stage with further negotiation

required about how investment in other areas can proceed.

## Global drivers, risks and opportunities

An insight was provided into global drivers of NRM including economics and ‘green finance’ opportunities, with particular emphasis on carbon and potential industry links with financing (Stephanie Russo NAB) and peak bodies (Meat and Livestock Australia).

## Warm welcome from Northern Territory dignitaries

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The Chair of Territory NRM and former Northern Territory Chief Minister, Clare Martin, gave a warm welcome to meeting delegates. Most of the national NRM agencies were represented with eight Victorian CMAs represented by their chair or proxy. Bilawara Lee from the Larrikia people, gave the *Welcome to Country*. She spoke of the understanding of *Dreamtime* (the formation of the land) and *Dreaming*, the natural environment created from *Dreamtime*. The concept of *Dreaming* includes the stewardship of land for food, culture, spirit and identity.

Clare then led a presentation to showcase the region’s projects including weed management, fire management, feral animals, school programs and conservation agreements.

## *Carbon markets*

A detailed outline of the carbon industry and the role of NRM was provided by Brad Kerin, General Manager of the Carbon Market Institute. Significant opportunities are evolving for investment so businesses and nations can meet Paris Agreement goals. NRM Regions Australia has a working group engaging, informing and advocating with a series of 'next steps' for 2018-19.

## *Encouraging the next generation*

An insightful and entertaining insight into engagement through social media was given by Emma Jackson of Cape York NRM with a strong message about interacting with younger people.

## *Centre for Invasive Species Solutions*

An outline by Andreas Glanznig, CEO, Centre for Invasive Species Solutions of the strategic direction of research and responses to invasive species (including carp biocontrol). NRM Regions Australia is currently exploring how collaboration and engagement can be enhanced following the loss of a liaison position from the Centre.

## *Satellite monitoring and trend analysis*

A demonstration by Stuart Minchin (Geoscience Australia) of Digital Earth Australia's data mapping of 40 years of Landsat and Sentinel 2 imaging. These products show accumulated and 'time lapse' imaging down to 25m and 10m resolution using algorithms tailored to monitor an array of parameters. An NRM taskforce is identifying potential and promoting use of these tools among regions. Adam Bester is our representative on this taskforce. A heads-of-agreement was signed between Geoscience Australia and NRM Regions Australia to ensure close working ties in the development of satellite imaging trend analysis products.

## *National Landcare*

An outline of the evolution and merger of Landcare bodies on a national scale similar to the unification of the Victorian Landcare umbrella agencies. There is still no merger between Landcare Australia Ltd and the National Landcare Network. Angus Hume gave a perspective of how the CMAs are proactively working with Landcare through the development of the Memorandum of Understanding signed by Peter Veenker, Chair Vic Catchments and Terry

Hubbard, Chair Landcare Victoria Inc.

## *National NRM framework*

The seminar ended with all chairs participating in the development of a national NRM framework. This follows earlier work in developing a value proposition and strategic planning undertaken by the national working group (Alice Knight and Chris Norman are Vic representatives on this working group). Target audiences for this framework are senior ministers and shadow ministers as well as the major parties, and for chairs to share amongst their networks and key stakeholders (including ratepayers in NSW). The Framework identifies international obligations and global drivers, federal government policy, strategic goals, principles, a value proposition, and evidence required to support the framework. The working group will be reworking this draft for wider dissemination to chairs.

## *Future actions*

The forum organisers through Kate Andrews will be producing a number of action statements from the forum.

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