

Northern Australia Irrigation Futures	Charles Darwin University
Tropical Rivers Inventory & Assessment Project	NT Department of Natural Resources, Environment & the Arts

Teleconference

Thursday 4 October 2007

12:00-12:30 pm EST

Present:

Chair: Keith Bristow (NAIF), Ian Lancaster, NT Department of Natural Resources, Environment & the Arts (NRETA)

Apologies:

Rick van Dam, Tropical Rivers Inventory & Assessment Project (TRIAP)
 Renee Bartolo, Tropical Rivers Inventory & Assessment Project (TRIAP)
 Jeff Camkin, Northern Australia Irrigation Futures (NAIF)
 Michael Douglas, Charles Darwin University (CDU)

Agenda:

1. TRIAP Update
2. NRETA Update
3. CDU Update
4. NAIF Update
5. Collaborative arrangements/opportunities
6. Other business
7. Next Meeting

Minutes

1. TRIAP Update (Renee Bartolo)

2. NRETA Update (Ian Lancaster)

- Increasing interest in water issues in the NT with Ian being asked to give more talks on water, particularly to address changes in water allocation planning. Four meetings planned for the next few weeks, including:
 - Katherine Town Hall
 - NT Agricultural Association
 - NT Valuers
 - NT Land Corporation
- CDU Symposium
 - Plans underway for next years CDU Symposium which brings people from CDU and Government to talk about key issues. The topic will be Water

3. CDU Update (Michael Douglas)

4. NAIF Update (Keith Bristow)

- NAIF recently completed a highly successful set of workshops and meetings across northern Australia. The aim was to share the NAIF project learning's and experiences over the last 4 years

with a broad range of key stakeholders across northern Australia, and to seek their feedback on progress to date and views on future directions and priorities

- Workshops/meetings were held in Brisbane, Ayr, Darwin, Kununurra, Broome, Perth
- Engaged with a wide range of stakeholders including various government agencies and departments, research groups, agri-business, industry organisations, environmental groups, land and water managers
- There was strong support for NAIF and particularly for its long term strategic view (50+ years), the progress its made in progressing cross-jurisdictional relationships and activities, its focus on helping understand and manage the complexities of irrigation, and on the work on frameworks and knowledge platforms to help support decision making
- A report covering these workshops is currently being prepared
- NAIF currently involved in finalising a number of technical reports as well as the final report for the LWA NPSI funded component of work
- NAIF SC working on a communiqué regarding potential future directions for NAIF

5. Collaborative arrangements / Opportunities

- Nil

6. Other Business

- Nil

7. Next meeting

Thursday 1 November 2007