



AGENDA

**HODGSON DOWNS LOCAL AUTHORITY
MEETING**

MONDAY, 21 OCTOBER 2019

Notice is given that the next Hodgson Downs Local Authority Meeting of the Roper Gulf Regional Council will be held on:

- Monday, 21 October 2019 at
- The Alawa Board Room, Minyerri
- Commencing at 11.00 AM

Your attendance at the meeting will be appreciated.

Phillip LUCK
Chief Executive Officer

HODGSON DOWNS CURRENT MEMBERSHIP:

List Members of LA

Elected Members

- 1. Mayor Judy MacFARLANE**
- 2. Cr Annabelle DAYLIGHT**
- 3. Cr Ossie DAYLIGHT**

Appointed Members

- 1. Jonathon WALLA**
- 2. James NUGGETT**
- 3. Samuel SWANSON**
- 4. Ken MUGGERIDGE**
- 5. Clive ROBERTS**
- 6. Vacant**

MEMBERS: 9

COUNCIL: 3

LA: 6

QUORUM: 5 (minimum requirement)

PROVISIONAL: 4

Explanatory Note:

Meetings must meet a 'quorum' of 50% + 1 of all members (Elected and Appointed Members).

If no quorum, but a majority of appointed members (50% + 1) a 'provisional meeting' can be held.

During a 'provisional meeting', all agenda items may be discussed, and minutes must be kept.

Members at a 'provisional meeting' may by majority vote make recommendations to Council, however the recommendations shall be considered as those of a 'provisional meeting' rather than a Local Authority.

A 'provisional meeting' does not have the powers or function delegated to a Local Authority, and it cannot approve minutes of a Local Authority meeting.

Local Authority appointed members are paid for attending meetings, (not for Informal Meetings or Roper Gulf Regional Council Employees during their hours of work).

PLEDGE

“We pledge to work as one towards a better future through effective use of all resources.

We have identified these key values and principles of Honesty, Equality, Accountability, Respect and Trust as being integral in the achievement of our vision, that the Roper Gulf Regional Council is Sustainable, Viable and Vibrant”.

PRAMIS BLA WI

“Mela pramis bla wek gudbalawei bla meigim futja bla wi wanwei, en bla yusim ola gudwan ting bla helpum wi luk lida.

Mela bin luk ol dijlod rul, eprobodi gada tok trubalawei, wi gada meik so wi gibit firgo en lisin misalp, abum rispek en trastim misalp bla jinggabat bla luk lida, Roper Galf Rijinul Kaunsul deya maindim en kipbum bla wi pramis , dum wek brabli gudbalawei, en im laibliwan”

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CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES



ITEM NUMBER 5.1
TITLE Confirmation of Previous Minutes
REFERENCE 851983
AUTHOR Ashleigh Anderson, Local Authority Coordinator

RECOMMENDATION

- (a) **That the Hodgson Downs Local Authority confirms the minutes taken at the Hodgson Downs Local Authority meeting held on 16 September 2019 to be a correct record of that meetings decisions and proceedings.**

BACKGROUND

The Hodgson Downs Local Authority met on 16 September 2019 at 11:00am with **quorum**.

Attached are the record minutes from that meeting.

The next scheduled Hodgson Downs Local Authority meet is on Monday 09 December 2019 at 11:00am.

ISSUES/OPTIONS/SWOT

Nil

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

Nil

ATTACHMENTS:

- 1 [↓](#) Hodgson Downs Local Authority 2019-09-16 [848969].DOCX



MINUTES OF THE HODGSON DOWNS LOCAL AUTHORITY MEETING HELD AT
THE ALAWA BOARD ROOM, MINYERRI ON MONDAY, 16 SEPTEMBER 2019 AT
11.00AM

PRESENT/STAFF/GUESTS

1.1 Elected Members

- Mayor Judy MacFARLANE

1.2 Appointed Members

- Clive ROBERTS – **chairperson**
- Samuel SWANSON
- Jonathon WALLA
- James NUGGETT
- Ken MUGGERIDGE

1.3 Staff

- Phillip LUCK – Chief Executive Officer
- Marc GARNER – General Manager Corporate Services and Sustainability
- Ashleigh ANDERSON – Local Authority Coordinator

1.4 Guests

- Amanda HAIGH – Department of Local Government, Housing and Community Development.

MEETING OPENED

The Hodgson Downs Local Authority Meeting opened at 11.00am with **QUORUM**. The Chairperson welcomed members, staff and guests to the meeting and the Roper Gulf Regional Council Pledge was read.

WELCOME TO COUNTRY

APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

4.1 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

94/2019 RESOLVED (Judy MacFARLANE/Ken MUGGERIDGE)

CARRIED

- (a) That the Hodgson Downs Local Authority accepts the apologies from Councillor Ossie DAYLIGHT and Councillor Annabelle DAYLIGHT.

CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**5.1 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**

95/2019 RESOLVED (Ken MUGGERIDGE/Jonathon WALLA)

CARRIED

- (a) That the Hodgson Downs Local Authority confirms the draft minutes taken at the Hodgson Downs Local Authority meeting on Monday 08 April 2019, to be a correct record of its decisions and proceedings;
- (b) That the Hodgson Downs Local Authority confirms the draft minutes taken at the Hodgson Downs Local Authority meeting on Monday 03 June 2019, to be a correct record of its decisions and proceedings.

CALL FOR ITEMS OF OTHER BUSINESS

Nil

DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest at this Hodgson Downs Local Authority.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES**8.1 ACTION LIST**

96/2019 RESOLVED (Judy MacFARLANE/Samuel SWANSON)

CARRIED

- (a) That the Hodgson Downs Local Authority receives and notes the Action List;
- (b) That the Hodgson Downs Local Authority approves the removal of all completed Action List items.

INCOMING CORRESPONDENCE

Nil

OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE

Nil

GENERAL BUSINESS**11.1 ANIMAL MANAGEMENT REPORT**

97/2019 RESOLVED (Judy MacFARLANE/Ken MUGGERIDGE)

CARRIED

- (a) That the Hodgson Downs Local Authority receives and notes the animal management report from May 2019.

11.2 YOUR VOICE, YOUR COMMUNITY CAMPAIGN

98/2019 RESOLVED (Ken MUGGERIDGE/Jonathon WALLA)

CARRIED

- (a) That the Hodgson Downs Local Authority receives and notes the feedback from the Your Voice, Your Community Campaign by the Department of Local Government, Housing and Community Development.

11.3 DRAFT LOCAL GOVERNMENT BILL

99/2019 RESOLVED (Ken MUGGERIDGE/Jonathon WALLA)

CARRIED

- (a) That the Hodgson Downs Local Authority receives and notes the Draft Local Government Bill presentation from the Department of Local Government,

Housing and Community Development.**11.4 CHAIRPERSON FOR THE LOCAL AUTHORITY**

100/2019 RESOLVED (Clive ROBERTS/Jonathon WALLA) *CARRIED*

- (a) That the Hodgson Downs Local Authority receives and notes the information regarding the appointment of a Chairperson of the Hodgson Downs Local Authority;
- (b) That the Hodgson Downs Local Authority appoints Samuel SWANSON as Chairperson for a period of 12 Month(s).

11.5 ELECTED MEMBER REPORT

101/2019 RESOLVED (Jonathon WALLA/Samuel SWANSON) *CARRIED*

- (a) That the Hodgson Downs Local Authority receives and notes the Elected Member Report.

11.6 ANNUAL CIVIC EVENTS AND FESTIVAL COMMITMENTS

102/2019 RESOLVED (Jonathon WALLA/Ken MUGGERIDGE) *CARRIED*

- (a) That the Hodgson Downs Local Authority reviews the relevant Council confirmed list of annual Civic Events and Festivals:
 - Australia Day
 - Clean Australia Day
 - ANZAC Day
 - NAIDOC Week
 - Barunga Festival
 - Yugul Mangi Festival
 - Borrooloola and District Show
 - Great Northern Clean Up
 - Never Never Festival
 - Walaman Festival
 - Citizenship Ceremonies
 - Numbulwar Numbirindi Festival

**11.7 COUNCIL FINANCIAL REPORT - MONTH JUNE 2019
EXPENDITURE REPORT**

103/2019 RESOLVED (James NUGGET/Samuel SWANSON) *CARRIED*

- (a) That the Hodgson Downs Local Authority receives and notes the Financial (Expenditure) Report for the 2018-19 financial year.

**11.8 GOVERNANCE REPORT - LOCAL AUTHORITY
PROJECT REGISTER UPDATE**

104/2019 RESOLVED (James NUGGET/Samuel SWANSON) *CARRIED*

- (a) That the Hodgson Downs Local Authority receives and notes the updated report on Local Authority Project Funding as at 21 July 2019.

OTHER BUSINESS

Nil

CLOSE OF MEETING

The meeting terminated at 12.10pm.

THIS PAGE AND THE PRECEEDING PAGES ARE THE MINUTES OF THE
Hodgson Downs Local Authority Meeting HELD ON Monday, 16 September 2019
AND CONFIRMED Monday, 21 October 2019.

Chairperson

BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES**ITEM NUMBER** 8.1**TITLE** Action List**REFERENCE** 857394**AUTHOR** Cristian COMAN, Manager - Governance and Corporate Planning**RECOMMENDATION:****(a) That Hodgson Downs Local Authority receives and notes the Action List.**

Date	Agenda Item #	Item Description	Responsible Person/ Team	Status	Comments
22.08.18	ALAWA Business Plan	CEO Ken Muggeridge to follow-up to provide an ALAWA Aboriginal Corporation Business Plan and amend MOU with Council.	DCS/ Ken Muggeridge	Ongoing	AAC developing strategic and business plans with assistance from Deloitte. Update to be provided by AAC. MOU now will be a formal service delivery contract for municipal services and CDP between Council and AAC.
11.10.18	Hodgson Downs Rubbish Collection Rates and Fees	DCS (Marc) to follow-up with RGRC's Finance Department regarding the collection of rubbish as part of the RGRC's rates notices and advise Ken Muggeridge (AAC) of amount collected and passing on income to AAC.	DCS/ Ken Muggeridge	Completed	List of properties provided to AAC to invoice separately. COMPLETED

Date	Agenda Item #	Item Description	Responsible Person/ Team	Status	Comments
11.10.18	Sport and Recreation	DCCS and RGRC Grants Coordinator to consider incorporating Minyerri Sport and Recreation needs as part of any Regional Sport and Recreation funding applications.	DCCS/ DCS/ Grants Coordinator	Completed	COMPLETED – Sport and Recreation Grants to include Minyerri in service provision. Council will keep a watching brief over this issue.
18.02.19	11.4 COMMUNITY LAND USE PLAN	Alawa and the Northern Territory Government to hold a Community Meeting to discuss the Community Land Use Plan in March in regards to potential locations of essential buildings, such as the clinic, morgue etc.	ALAWA Corporation /NTG	In Progress	Still in development. Update required from AAC/NTG

ATTACHMENTS:

There are no attachments for this report.

GENERAL BUSINESS

ITEM NUMBER	11.1
TITLE	Elected Member Report
REFERENCE	856385
AUTHOR	Ashleigh Anderson, Local Authority Coordinator

RECOMMENDATION

- (a) **That the Hodgson Downs Local Authority receives and notes the Elected Member Report.**

BACKGROUND

The Elected Member Report provides Local Authorities with a summary of the decisions made at Ordinary Meetings of Council and Committee meetings since the previous Local Authority Meeting. The aim of this report is to convey the information from those meetings to the Local Authority members, and then from the Local Authority to the wider community.

Complete details of all Council, Committee and Local Authority agendas and minutes, are publicly available at www.ropergulf.nt.gov.au and can be provided upon request and all the Roper Gulf Regional Council offices.

Decisions of the Roads Committee Meeting held in Katherine on Wednesday 28 August 2019:

- That the Roads Committee receives and notes the progress in relation to the Road Upgrades in Jilkminggan, Urapunga and Cemetery Upgrades in Mataranka.
 - Jilkminggan Main Road Upgrades (Lot 34 to Lot 81) proposed options include: Relocation of existing power poles from the island located in the center of the road, design storm water drainage to urban standards, design footpaths, provision for road signage and furniture, provision for traffic control devices.
 - Mataranka Cemetery Upgrade proposed development options include: provision for design and construction of Columbarium, provision for car park with parking facilities and loading bays, designated footpaths for pedestrian access, and provision for future burial plot lay out.

Decisions of the Finance Committee Meeting held in Katherine on Wednesday 28 August 2019:

- That the Finance Committee receives and notes the Action List; noting that Mulgan Camp does not have a completed playground;
- That the Finance Committee requests updates pertaining to toilet block projects to be provided to Local Authorities;

The Audit Committee Meeting was held in Katherine on Wednesday 18 September 2019 decisions are publicly available on the Roper Gulf Regional Council Website.

The Ordinary Meeting of Council was held in Numbulwar on Wednesday 25 September 2019 decisions included:

- That Council receives and notes the Never Never Ward Report;
- That Council approves the recommendations from the following Local Authority Meetings
 - Jilkminggan Local Authority held on 06 August 2019;
 - Mataranka Local Authority held on 06 August 2019;
- That Council accepts the resignation from Local Authority Member Antonella Martin from the Mataranka Local Authority;

- That Council approves the amendment of the 2019-20 Fees and Charges Schedule;
- That Council approves \$45,000 from the \$2M budget allocated for Roads to carry out the shoulder repairs required in Larrimah;
- That Council sends a letter to the Department of Local Government, Housing and Community Development to invite the Chief Executive or Delegate to meet with Council;
- That Council delegates the Mayor and Chief Executive Officer to negotiate with the Mayors and Chief Executive Officers of Katherine Town Council and Barkley Regional Council on a strategy to seek greater input into the requirement for:
 - i. A Social Impact Assessment of all stakeholders of the affected area; and
 - ii. Extension of the time to respond to the Strategic Regional Environmental and Baseline Assessment (SREBA) before it is accepted into legislation;
- That Council approves the letter of support for the Mayor of Katherine to take this matter to the next Local Government Association of the Northern Territory (LGANT) to lobby the Northern Territory Government on behalf of Councils;
- That Council sends a letter to the Northern Territory Police Fire and Emergency Services, inviting the Commissioner or Delegate to attend the next Ordinary Meeting of Council to brief and discuss:
 - i. Call Centre and emergency response; and
 - ii. Rotation of Members (Police Officers) in Community.
- That Council approves that a letter be sent to the Local Government Association of the Northern Territory seeking support to lobby for further action on subdivisions at Borroloola and Mataranka;
- That Council approves that a letter be sent to the Minister for Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics, and the Minister for Local Government, Housing and Community Development, requesting information on the timing and release of the subdivisions in Borroloola and Mataranka;

ATTACHMENTS:

GENERAL BUSINESS

ITEM NUMBER	11.2
TITLE	Council Financial Report - August 2019
REFERENCE	856599
AUTHOR	Munish Singla, Management Accountant

RECOMMENDATION

- (a) **That the Hodgson Downs Local Authority receives and note the Financial (Expenditure) Report for the year to date, to end of August 2019.**

BACKGROUND

As per the *Local Government Act 2008* and Guideline 8, the Council is to submit a current financial report of actual expenditure against the latest approved budgeted expenditure for the Local Authority area.

ISSUES/OPTIONS/SWOT

There are underspends in few activities as outlined in the attached expenditure report. The explanation for these underspends for each directorate is as follows:

Directorate of Corporate Governance

The total underspends under this directorate is \$109,699. There are two (2) major activities contributing to this underspend:

- Activity 106 - General Council Operations (\$60,941)

The reason for this underspend is due to invoices received late from the sub-contractor (Alawa Aboriginal Corporation).

- Activity 138 - Local Authority Project (\$47,773),

The local roads project is all completed and invoices from supplier are received. The actual payment of these invoices will be done once these invoices are approved for payment by authorised manager.

Once these invoices are paid, there will be no underspends.

Directorate of Commercial Services

The total of underspends under this directorate is \$289,984. The major activity contributing to this underspend is Activity 318 - Service Fee – CDP (\$289,567). The invoices for CDP services provided by sub-contractor for the months of July and August 2019 have not been received yet, resulting in underspend for the reporting period.

Directorate of Council and Community Services

The total underspend under this directorate is \$33,363. The major activity contributing to this underspend is Activity 401 – Night Patrol (\$33,011). The invoices for services provided by sub-contractor for the months of July and August 2019 haven't received at this stage. Once these invoices are received and paid, there won't be any underspends.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

Nil

ATTACHMENTS:

Expenditure Report

Roper Gulf Regional Council

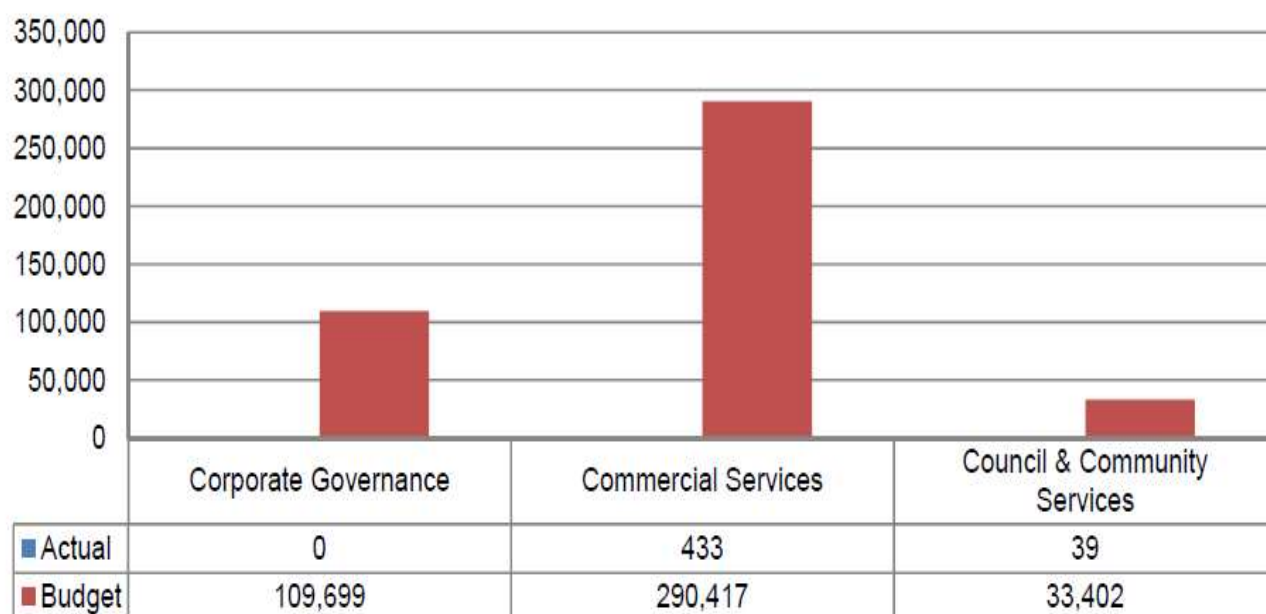
Hodgson Downs

Expenditure Report as at 31 August 2019



<i>Expenditure by Service</i>	<i>August 2019 Actual</i>	<i>August 2019 Budget</i>	<i>August 2019 Variance</i>	<i>Annual Budget</i>	<i>Percentage of Budget Spent</i>
Corporate Governance	0	109,699	109,699	658,196	0%
Commercial Services	433	290,417	289,984	1,742,500	0%
Council & Community Services	39	33,402	33,363	200,412	0%
Total Expenditure	472	433,518	433,046	2,601,108	0%

Expenditure by Service Group



GENERAL BUSINESS

ITEM NUMBER	11.3
TITLE	Governance Report - Local Authority Project Register Update
REFERENCE	856602
AUTHOR	Munish Singla, Management Accountant

RECOMMENDATION

- (a) **That the Hodgson Downs Local Authority receives and note the updated report on Local Authority Project Funding as at 30 September 2019**

BACKGROUND

Since 2014, the Hodgson Downs Local Authority has received a total of \$377,400 in Local Authority Project Funding from the Department of Local Government, Housing and Community Development.

All received project funding was allocated for the upgrade of local roads. The project is fully completed and funds are fully expended.

The funding \$86,640 for 2019-20 is yet to be received, therefore there are currently no funds available for allocation.

Please find the attached summary and status of the project/s that the Local Authority has allocated funds for.

ATTACHMENTS:**Hodgson Downs Local Authority Project Funding - As at 30.09.19**

Funds received from Department upto 30.06.2019	\$ 377,400.00
Funds allocated to projects by Local Authority Members	\$ 377,400.00
Surplus/(Deficit) from completed projects	\$ -
Funding for 2019-20 (Not yet received)	\$ 86,640.00
Remaining unallocated funds	\$ 86,640.00

Please note:- The funding for 2019-20 has not received yet and funds are not available for allocation.

Project ID	Projects	Prjct Budget	Actual Expendit	Project Status
1913801	Local Roads Upgrade	\$ 377,400.00	\$ 176,093.68	Project completed. Invoices from supplier received and in paymnet process, after payment of invoice, the variance will be nil.
	Total project budgets	\$ 377,400.00	\$ 176,093.68	

GENERAL BUSINESS

ITEM NUMBER	11.4
TITLE	2018-19 Local Authority Project Funding
REFERENCE	849239
AUTHOR	Josh CHEVALIER-BRINE, Grants Coordinator

RECOMMENDATION

- (a) **That the Hodgson Downs Local Authority receives and notes the signed Certification for 2018-19 Local Authority Project Funding.**

BACKGROUND

Under the 2018-19 Local Authority Project Funding (LAPF) Guidelines, Council is required to table LAPF financial reports for each Local Authority (LA) at the relevant Local Authority Meeting (Attachment 1). Income and expenditure for the period is itemised in the table below.

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACQUITTAL FOR THE PERIOD ENDING 30 JUNE 2019

LAPF Grant	\$86,640.00
Other income/carried forward balance from 2016-17	\$28,026.00
Other income/carried forward balance from 2017-18	\$86,640.00
Total income	\$201,306.00
Expenditure	\$-
Total Expenditure	\$-
Surplus/(Deficit)	\$201,306.00

ISSUES/OPTIONS/SWOT

Nil

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

Local Authorities are reminded that LAPF grants must be fully expended within two years of receipt. Failure to do so may result in the Department withholding further LAPF payments or requesting unspent funds to be returned.

Requests to carry-over unspent funds remaining after two consecutive years is to be submitted to the Department and will be considered on a case by case basis.

Hodgson Downs LAPF for 2019-20 is \$86,640 (GST Exclusive).

ATTACHMENTS:

1 [↓](#) 138_Certification_Form_2018-19_Minyerri



DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT
HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Roper Gulf Regional Council

CERTIFICATION OF 2018-19 LOCAL AUTHORITY PROJECT FUNDING

Local Authority: Minyerri
File number: NA

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACQUITTAL FOR THE PERIOD ENDING 30 JUNE 2019

LAPF Grant	\$86,640.00
Other income/carried forward balance from 2016-17	\$28,026.00
Other income/carried forward balance from 2017-18	\$86,640.00
Total income	\$201,306.00
Expenditure	\$-
Total Expenditure	\$-
Surplus/(Deficit)	\$201,306.00

CERTIFICATION

We certify that the LAPF was spent in accordance with:

- the projects submitted by the Local Authority Yes No
- the LAPF funding guidelines Yes No
- the Local Government Act and the Local Government (Accounting) Regulation Yes No
- the Northern Territory Government's Buy Local Policy Yes No

Certification report prepared by Joshua Chevalier-Brine 26/08/2019

Acquittals laid before Council at OCM held on (copy of minutes attached) 28/08/2019

Acquittals laid before Local Authority held on (minutes to be provided at a later date) 21/10/2019

Signed, Phillip Luck – Chief Executive Officer:  27/08/2019

DEPARTMENTAL USE ONLY

Grant amount correct Yes No

Balance of funds to be spent \$

Date next certification due/...../2019

CERTIFICATION ACCEPTED Yes No

Comments:

Signed, Omor Sharif – Grants Officer:/...../2019

Signed, Donna Hadfield – Manager Grants Program:/...../2019

GENERAL BUSINESS

ITEM NUMBER	11.5
TITLE	Minyerri Animal Management Report
REFERENCE	857308
AUTHOR	Rebecca BURRIE, Veterinarian

RECOMMENDATION

- (a) That the Hodgson Downs Local Authority receives and notes the animal management report from September 2019.

BACKGROUND

**Roper Gulf Animal Management
Minyerri LA Report
September 2019**

Vet visit date: 23rd – 26th September

Education: 7th – 9th August

An education session was run with the school and preschool in August. The visit was run by Courtney Falls, the education officer from Animal Management in Rural and Remote Indigenous Communities (AMRRIC).

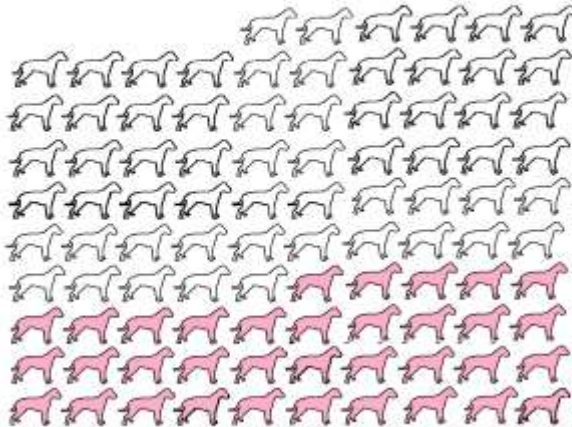
The kids painted fridge magnets, made face masks, made a felt dog and learnt how to put desexing tattoos in fake dog ears, germ theory (washing hands and how to dress up like a surgeon).

**Statistics:**

Total dogs	Total Cats	Dogs worm & tick medicine	Seen by vet	Animals desexed	Other surgeries	Animals put down
193	38	115	2	26	2	0

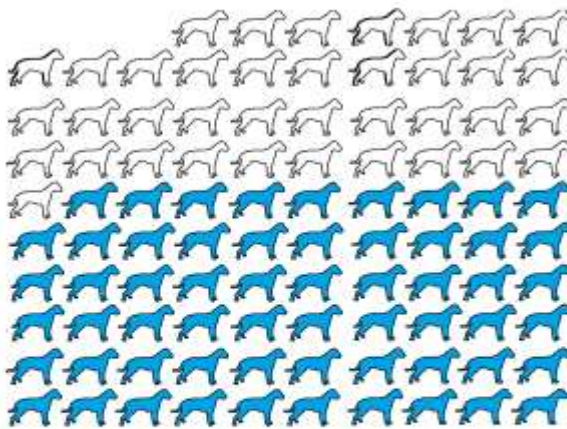
NUMBER OF DOGS DESEXED IN MINYERRI

Girl Dogs



63% of girl dogs are desexed

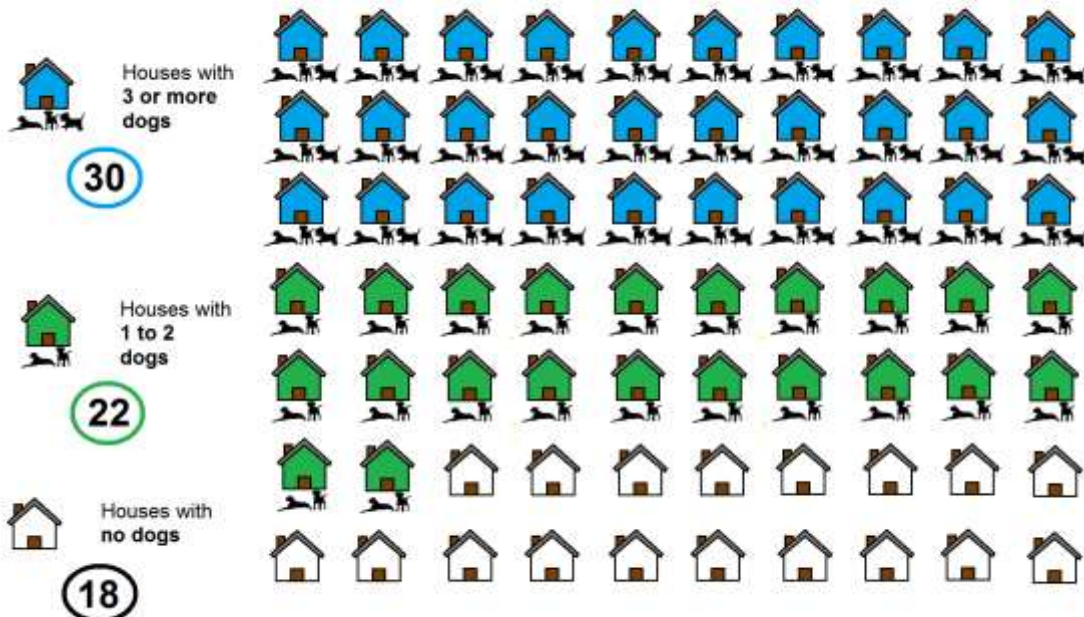
Boy Dogs



39% of boy dogs are desexed

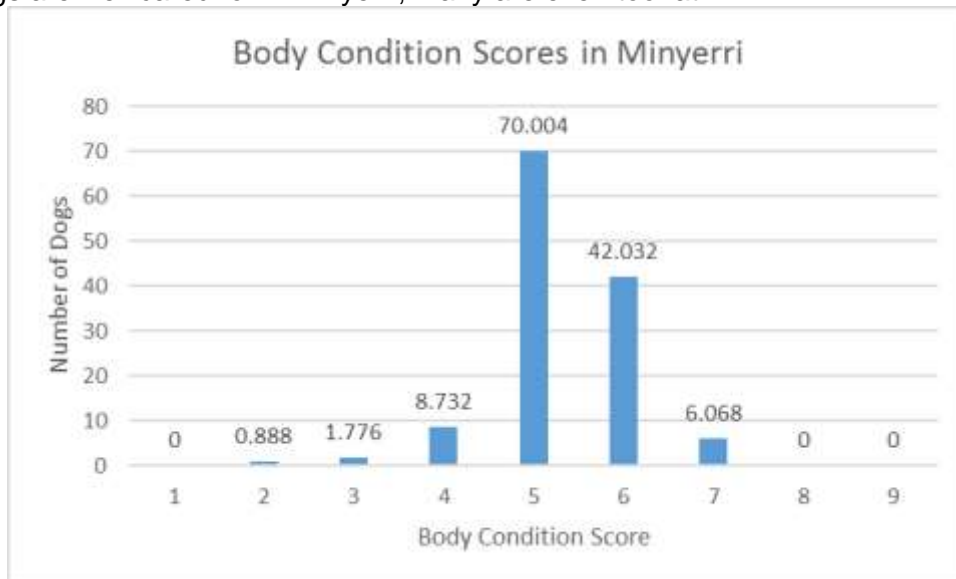


Number of Dogs in Each House in Minyerri



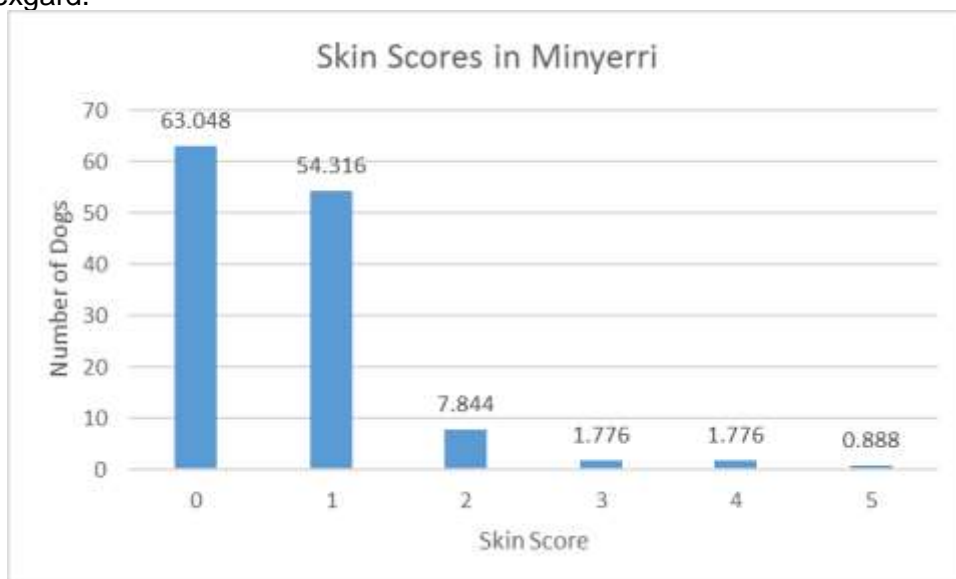
1. Are the dogs fat or thin?

Most dogs are well cared for in Minyerri, many are even too fat!



4. Do the dogs have mange?

Most of the dogs in Minyerri have good skin. Some dogs have lots of fleas, making half their body itchy and hairless. Flea medicine can be bought from the shop. The best one to buy is called Nexgard.



ISSUES/OPTIONS/SWOT

Things for Minyerri LA to consider:

Cheeky Dogs:

There are a lot of cheeky dogs in Minyerri. Some dogs are only cheeky to the vets, but a lot of dogs are too cheeky for their owners to hold them.

When dogs are puppies, they learn things they will remember forever. It is a really important time to play with a puppy, be kind to it and teach it to listen to its owner.

This will stop them from being too cheeky when they are grown up. Desexing your dog will also make it less cheeky. This is very true when it comes to male dogs.

It would be good if the LA could take this message to the community.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

ATTACHMENTS:

There are no attachments for this report.

GENERAL BUSINESS



ITEM NUMBER	11.6
TITLE	Animal Management By-Laws
REFERENCE	857310
AUTHOR	Rebecca BURRIE, Veterinarian

RECOMMENDATION

- (a) **That the Hodgson Downs Local Authority receives and notes the Animal Management By-Laws Workshop.**

BACKGROUND

On the 22nd of July, Council decided that By-Laws should be considered for all regions in Roper Gulf.

Animal Management is a big part of By-Laws.

The council has begun the consultation process, which involves: running an introductory workshop to all Local Authorities (LA), and running a community meeting if desired by the LA.

Information about what By-Laws are best for community, and which By-Laws people want, is being collected and assessed.

Draft By-Laws are then to be prepared.

[Delivery of the By-Law Workshop]

Select the By-Laws that you want for your community:

ANIMAL MANAGEMENT BY-LAWS

Firstly, do you want By-Laws?

- YES**
- NO** (If no, leave the rest of the page blank)

If yes, what is important to you?

- Dangerous animals
- Livestock in community
- Abandoned animals
- Animal numbers per house (if yes, how many dogs, how many cats?)
- Breeding licence for male and female dogs and cats
- Nuisance animals
- No go zones- shops, clinic, school, football field etc...
- Seizing animals

ISSUES/OPTIONS/SWOT

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

Not applicable for this initial consultation/

ATTACHMENTS:

There are no attachments for this report.

GENERAL BUSINESS



ITEM NUMBER	11.7
TITLE	Roper River Water Resource Assessment
REFERENCE	850197
AUTHOR	Ashleigh Anderson, Local Authority Coordinator

RECOMMENDATION

- (a) **That the Hodgson Downs Local Authority receives and notes the presentation from CSIRO Land and Water pertaining to the Roper River Water Resource Assessment and the indigenous water values, rights, interests and development goals.**

BACKGROUND

The Roper River Water Resource assessment is a research project being led by the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO) in partnership with the Australian Government. Scientists from the CSIRO are investigating opportunities for water, agricultural, and other related development in the catchment. The work includes research focused on Indigenous people – the water values they have, the rights they hold, and the development goals that are important to them.

Pethie Lyons will be leading the research that will gather these vital indigenous views, values, interests and ideas. The team is interested in talking to Indigenous people with cultural connections to the Roper catchment who are living in and around towns and communities like Mataranka, Jilkminggan, Ngukurr, Beswick and Barunga. The main research will happen from late 2019 and in 2020, with results shared in early 2021.

Additional information can be found in the attached factsheets.

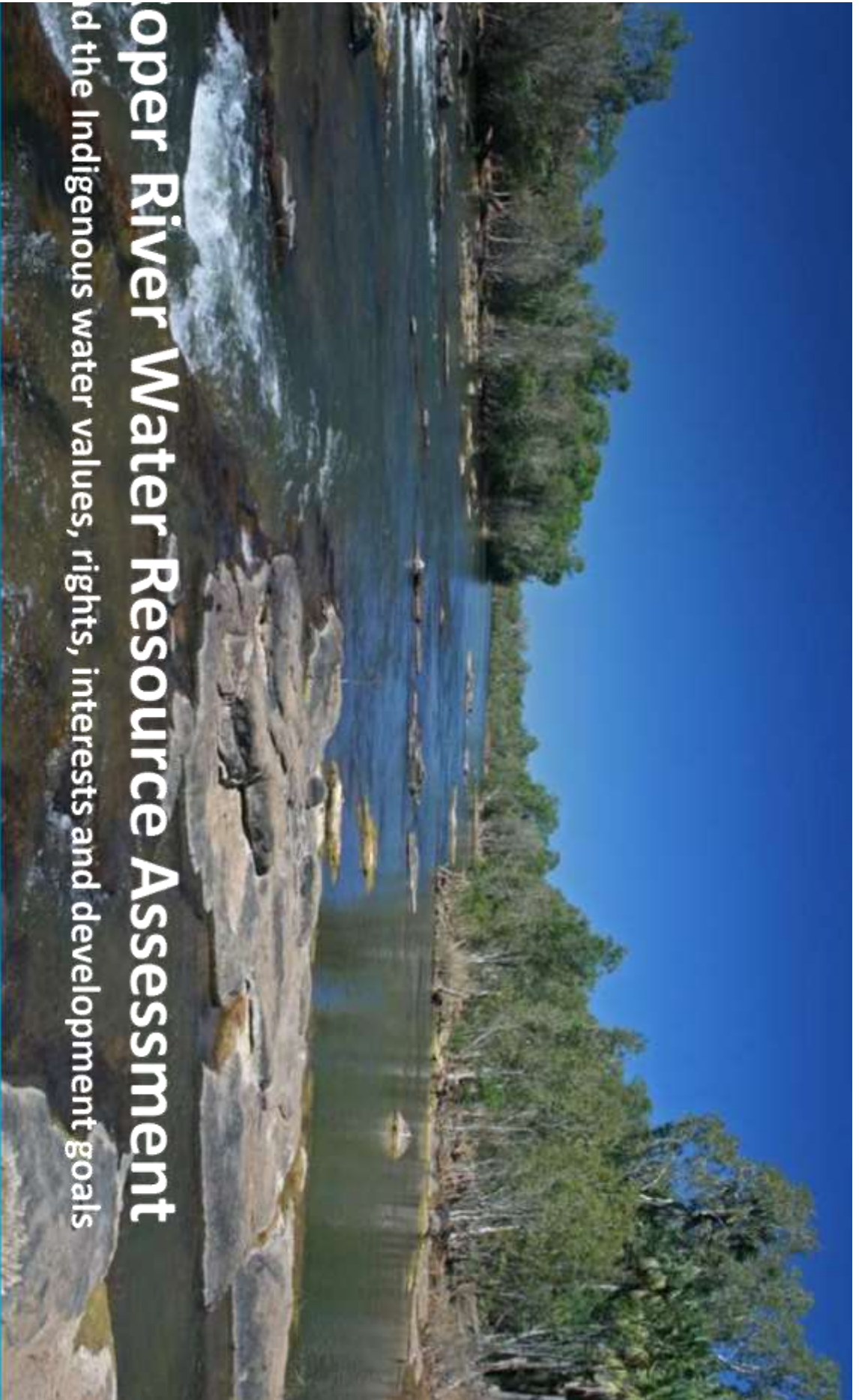
Presenter: Pethie LYONS from CSIRO will conduct a presentation and answer any questions or concerns the Local Authority may have.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

Nil determined.

ATTACHMENTS:

- 1 [Community Meetings 20191021.pptx](#)
- 2 [Indigenous_sub-project_factsheet .docx](#)
- 3 [RoWRA_factsheet_overview.pdf](#)
- 4 [RoWRA_land_suitability_factsheet_v4.pdf](#)

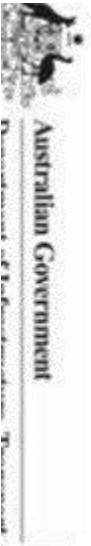


Upper River Water Resource Assessment

and the Indigenous water values, rights, interests and development goals

CSIRO
www.csiro.au

Pethie Lyons



Pethie Lyons



Roper River Water Resources Assessment

- CSIRO research project funded by the Federal Government
- Responds to the Commonwealth White Papers
 - Agricultural Competitiveness
 - Northern Australia
- Focused on understanding water resources and development options in the Roper catchment
- Not a development proposal



Roper Water Resource Assessment: Aims

- What soil and water resources are available?
- What is the scale and type of opportunity for irrigated and dryland agriculture:
 - physically suitable
 - commercially viable
 - socially and culturally acceptable
 - openings for other water-dependent development (e.g. tourism)
- What are the risks and trade-offs?



Roper Water Resource Assessment: Aims

To assist government, investors, and communities with information to make decisions about future development – costs, benefits, impacts



ROWKA COORAINATION

- State department projects
- Development ideas and initiatives
- Scoping water needs and water planning

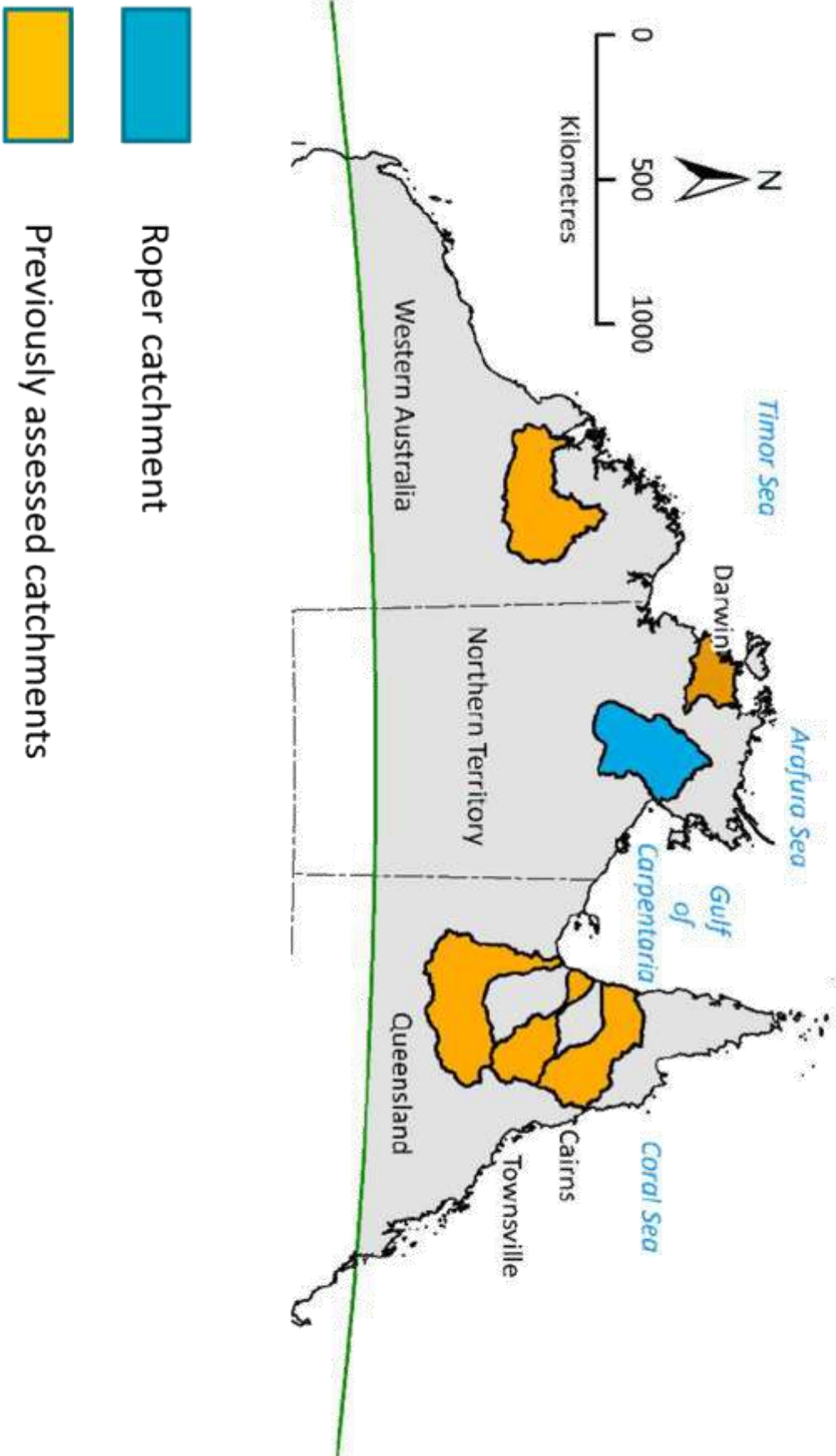


PARTS OF ROWRKA

- NAWRA has different parts or subprojects that focus on different areas of science:
- Soil
- Surface water and climate
- Agriculture and crops
- Groundwater
- Ecology
- Social and economic issues
- Indigenous values, rights and development goals



Water Resource Assessments in Northern Australia



ROWRA Indigenous sub-project

- Give an overview of key Indigenous water:
 - values
 - rights
 - interests
 - development goals
- This project wants to work with Indigenous people, regional governance bodies and local corporations



Roper River Water Resource Assessment - Indigenous subproject

- Indigenous water values, rights, and development goals
- Not a development proposal
- Don't need agreed position within or across TO groups
- Show the spread of values, ideas, and goals found across TOs and long-term Indigenous residents
- Information to assist planning for future development by TOs, government, and developers



Project Timeframe

- Find the best models for participation
- Information meetings from October 2019
- Complete work in 2021
- Information to be shared in 2022 – ‘two way flow’ and a report



Project Plan

- Preliminary scoping and preparatory work this year
 - Methods Report
 - Ethics Approval
 - Work with NLC regional boards and the permit system



Project Process:

- Consultations guided by:
 - CSIRO ethics
 - Free, prior and informed consent
 - NLC regional governance and research permit system



Project Process:

- Intellectual property to remain owned by Indigenous participants
- It is a public process - no need to provide restricted information
- Participants have the final say about what information is made public



Roper River Water Resource Assessment - Indigenous subproject

- RowRA helps understand what might be possible in the landscape, and what might limit or stop it
- All RowRA information is made public
- Opportunity for TOs to share with public
 - What is important about the country and its people
 - Indigenous developments goals
 - Perspectives about water resource development by others
- Any major future development would require more discussion, funding, research work and agreements by landowners, communities and governments




Thank you

Pethie Lyons
Research scientist

t +61 7 4059 5017
e Pethie.Lyons@csiro.au
w www.csiro.au

www.csiro.au

Australian Government



Indigenous water values, rights and development goals in the Roper catchment

An activity within the Roper Water Resource Assessment

The Roper River Water Resource Assessment is a research project being led by the CSIRO in partnership with the Australian Government. Scientists from the CSIRO are investigating opportunities for water, agricultural, and other related development in the catchment. The work includes research focused on Indigenous people – the water values they have, the rights they hold, and the development goals that are important to them.

Indigenous people have lived on the country for many thousands of years. Throughout that time they have developed knowledge of the landscape and strong connections with it. Ongoing economic development can provide jobs and income opportunities for people. However, it can also put new pressure on the country as the number of people and businesses grow and water use increases.

The CSIRO is looking at development possibilities, but the CSIRO is not a developer and it is not proposing or promoting water development. Its role is to provide better information for the government and communities when considering future water, agricultural and other related water-dependent development options such as tourism and bush foods. One part of this role is listening to interested Indigenous people about what water issues exist and what kind of future development path they want for themselves and their communities.

Indigenous views might include the need to protect important or sacred places and to keep enough water in the rivers for Indigenous hunting and fishing.

It might also include goals and ideas for Indigenous economic development. This could be an Indigenous-run business that needs a secure water supply or Indigenous employment in businesses run by others that also need water. This valuable information will provide foundations for better future communication between Indigenous people, government planners, and private developers in the future.

Pethie Lyons will be leading the research that will gather these vital Indigenous



views, values interests, and ideas. She is supported by Marcus Barber, who has worked in the catchment in the past and on water rights and interests elsewhere in the Northern Territory. The team is interested in talking to Indigenous people with cultural connections to the Roper catchment or who are living in and around towns and communities like Mataranka, Jilkminggan, Ngukurr, Beswick, and Barunga. The main research will happen from late 2019 and in 2020, with results shared in early 2021.

As part of their work, the CSIRO team will consult with local Indigenous leaders, organisations, pastoral stations, and land councils about the best way for local people to communicate with them. The team will follow free, prior and informed consent processes at all times during their work. They can meet with interested people in formal meetings, smaller groups, or as individuals. Visits with Indigenous people to important places are also valuable as they will assist in better understanding the country and its people.

Near the end of the project, the Indigenous research project team will write a report about the Roper catchment and hold community workshops to share the information and invite feedback. They will also share what other CSIRO staff have learnt through their studies of soil, water, and agriculture. If you are interested in participating or have any questions about this research, you can contact Pethie using the contact details at the bottom of this factsheet.

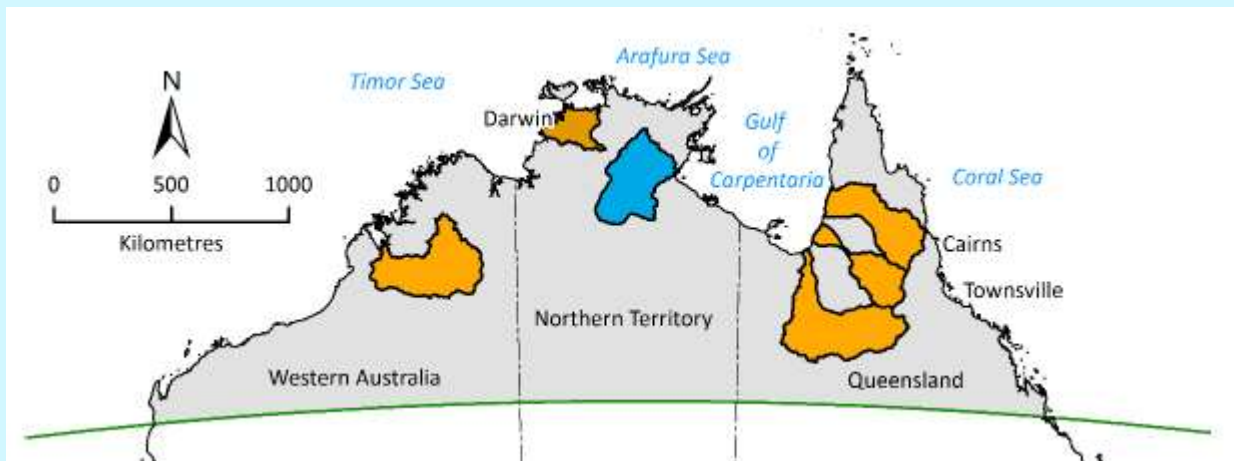


Marcus Barber



Pethie Lyons

The CSIRO team has conducted similar work in other priority areas. These are the Mitchell, Flinders and Gilbert catchments in Queensland, catchments surrounding Darwin in the Northern Territory (the Adelaide, Finniss, Mary and Wildman catchments), and the Fitzroy catchment in Western Australia.



In each area, the CSIRO investigated soil and water resources, water capture and storage options, agriculture, aquaculture, and other possibilities, and the risks and impacts of development. The Assessment will not assume any particular development pathway or recommend one form of development over another. It does not seek to replace any planning processes, and will not recommend changes to existing plans or planning processes. The results, however, can be used to inform planning decisions by citizens, communities, councils, investors and state and federal governments.

The Roper River Water Resource Assessment is an initiative of the Australian Government.

CONTACT

CSIRO

Land and Water

Pethie Lyons

Phone: 07 4059 5017

Mobile: 0477 755 076

E-mail: Pethie.Lyons@csiro.au

Roper River Water Resource Assessment

The Australian Government and CSIRO are partnering to investigate opportunities for water and agricultural development in the Roper River catchment, Northern Territory.

Northern Australia makes a substantial contribution to the Australian economy, particularly through agriculture, mining and tourism.

There are opportunities to unlock significant new investment in the north. This will require confidence about the scale and nature of the opportunities and understanding of the risks involved.

Millions of hectares of soil are potentially suitable for irrigated agriculture across northern Australia but access to water is one of several constraints to development.

Following the successful Flinders and Gilbert Agricultural Resource Assessment and the Northern Australia Water Resource Assessment, CSIRO has been engaged by the Australian Government to assess the opportunities for water and agricultural development in the Roper River catchment in the Northern Territory.

We will work with the Northern Territory government, research partners and communities to complete this assessment by June 2022.

About the Assessment

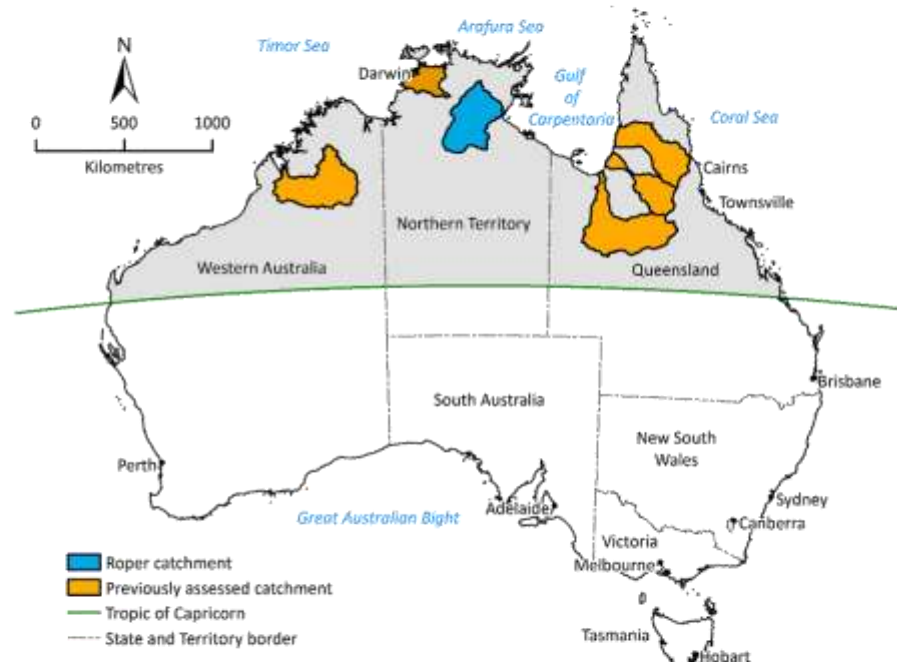
The Roper River Water Resource Assessment will provide a comprehensive and integrated evaluation of the feasibility, economic viability and sustainability of water and agricultural development in the Roper River catchment.

Assessment goals

The Assessment seeks to:

- evaluate the soil and water resources
- identify and evaluate water capture and storage options
- identify and test the commercial viability of irrigated agricultural and aquaculture opportunities
- assess potential environmental, social and economic impacts and risks of water resource and irrigation development.

While agricultural developments may be the most likely to proceed in the foreseeable future, the Assessment will also consider opportunities for and intersections between different types of potential water-dependent development. For



example, the Assessment will explore the nature, scale, location and impacts of developments relating to tourism and agriculture development in relevant locations.

Supporting regional decision making and investment

The Assessment aims to support decision making about sustainable regional development by clarifying the scale and nature of the opportunities for agriculture, reducing the uncertainty of investors and regulators, reducing enterprise start-up costs and enhancing the capacity for investors to attract capital.

Where previous assessments have focused on single development activities or assets – without analysing the interactions between them – this Assessment will consider the opportunities presented by the simultaneous pursuit of multiple development activities and assets. By this means, the Assessment will use a whole-of-region (rather than an asset-by-asset) approach to considering development.

Importantly, the Assessment seeks to lower the barriers to investment in regional development by:

- explicitly addressing local needs and aspirations
- meeting the needs of governments as they regulate the sustainable and equitable management of public resources with due consideration of environmental and cultural issues
- meeting the due diligence requirements of private investors by addressing questions of resource reliability and profitability at a broad scale.

The Assessment will not recommend one development over another nor assume any particular development pathway. It will provide a range of possibilities and the information required to interpret them, consistent with regional values and aspirations. The Assessment does not seek to replace any planning processes, and will not recommend changes to existing plans or planning processes. The results, however, can be used to inform planning decisions by citizens, councils, investors and state and federal governments. Please contact the relevant government department to discuss matters such as water allocation, clearing, change of land use including diversification permits, and land development approval processes.

Assessment activities

This is a complex project, drawing on the capabilities of scientists across Australia. Key activities include:

- Surface water modelling to assess the volume and reliability of river flow
- Topographic mapping and automated terrain analysis to identify and evaluate water storage and development options
- Mapping land and soil suitability and production risks across agricultural, horticultural, bush foods and pastoral systems and for aquaculture developments
- Assessing cropping and crop-forage-livestock systems with potential to generate attractive investment returns
- Cost-benefit analysis for multiple uses and users of water
- Identifying logistical and value chain assets, opportunities and bottlenecks
- Understanding the trade-offs between water resource development and freshwater environments
- Identifying Indigenous aspirations and water values
- Examining the potential for co-benefits to other industries (i.e. tourism) arising from irrigated agriculture
- Information and data distribution through Web-based information products, reports and regular community-based information sessions.

The Roper River Water Resource Assessment is an initiative of the Australian Government.

CONTACT US

t 1300 363 400
+61 3 9545 2176
e csiroenquiries@csiro.au
w www.csiro.au

AT CSIRO, WE DO THE EXTRAORDINARY EVERY DAY

We innovate for tomorrow and help improve today – for our customers, all Australians and the world.
We imagine. We collaborate. We innovate.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

CSIRO Land and Water
Chris Chilcott
t +61 8 8944 8422
t +61 478 301 197
e chris.chilcott@csiro.au
w www.csiro.au/nawra

LAND AND WATER

www.csiro.au



Assessing the suitability of land for irrigation

Part of the Roper River Water Resource Assessment

The Roper River Water Resource Assessment involves different activities that will provide a comprehensive overview and integrated evaluation of the feasibility, ecological, social, cultural, economic viability and sustainability of water, aquaculture and agricultural development across the Roper River catchment. Our researchers will be working with the Northern Territory Government, industry, primary producers and traditional owners to deliver on this project.

This factsheet explains one of these activities – the land suitability assessment.

There are potentially thousands of hectares of soil suitable for irrigated agriculture across northern Australia.

However, access to sufficient water is a constraint for development in this vast region that stretches from the Pilbara to Rockhampton and comprises 40 per cent of Australia's land mass.

In recognition of some of the challenges and opportunities facing northern communities and primary producers, the Australian Government initiated the Roper River Water Resource Assessment.

We will produce maps of soil attributes that help manage the land resources and understand development potential such as erosion, soil water holding capacity, permeability, infiltration. Examples of these data can be found at this website presenting work completed to date in other parts of northern Australia <https://nawra-explorer.csiro.au/>

Land suitability assessment activity

Assessing the suitability of land is critical to the development and sustainability of productive and economically viable irrigated agriculture. This activity will collect information on soil attributes such as type, structure, pH, carbon and salt content, water holding properties and erodibility. This knowledge of soil types and their attributes will make it possible to evaluate how different soils and parts of the landscape could be economically and sustainability developed for irrigated agriculture.



While some soil and land use assessments have been carried out in the past, key recommendations stated that further soils data were needed before detailed suitability assessments could be conducted, particularly for irrigated agriculture.

What does the activity involve?

The soil survey component of this activity will include the collection of new field observations and samples to complement the relatively small amount of existing soils data. This will result in the production of new maps indicating the type and extent of soils and their attributes across the region.

A statistical method will be used to identify the best locations to sample soil for the purpose of assessing the scale of the opportunity for irrigation across the area. To interpolate between soil sampling locations requires an understanding of how the broader landscape formed. This requires soil to be assessed not just in the valleys, but also mid-slopes and ridge tops.

Following field collection, the samples will be sent to government scientific laboratories for a range of chemical and infrared analyses of soil properties. The existing and new soils data will then be used, in combination with remotely sensed data collected from satellites, to:

- Develop digital soils and soil attribute maps for the region; and
- Inform the land suitability assessment on a range of irrigated and dryland agricultural production opportunities. This will use land resource information gathered during soil surveys, the results of soil laboratory analysis, and information on flood inundation to assess the suitability options.

Land suitability assessment is based on the underlying assumption that the most limiting factor for each crop and irrigation type is used to determine the overall land suitability rating. The activity will evaluate the land suitability for specific agriculture uses (including aquaculture) within broad enterprise types such as irrigated annual crops, perennial crops and improved pasture. These broad enterprise types were selected because they cover a range of establishment, management and harvest practices.

Investigation of the suitability of specific crop types will also be undertaken. Specific crops are likely to include enterprises such as mangoes, cotton, maize, sugar, peanuts, rice, trees, wheat and sorghum as well as improved pasture and standing fodder.

Outcomes

One of the goals of the Assessment is to lower barriers to investment in the area by addressing many of the questions that potential investors would have about production systems and methods, yield expectations and benchmarks, and potential profitability and reliability.

However, the Assessment does not seek to replace any planning processes, and will not recommend changes to existing plans or planning processes. The results, however, can be used to inform planning decisions by citizens, councils, investors and state and federal governments.

Please contact the relevant government department to discuss matters such as water allocation, clearing, change of land use, including diversification permits, and land development approval processes.

The land suitability assessment will build on knowledge of soil and land suitability to provide all levels of government and current and potential farmers with an understanding of the irrigation potential of the soils in the catchment. The key products from this activity will be publically available:

- Soils and soil attribute maps. The uncertainty associated with the mapping will also be produced and vary between locations in a particular region according to sampling density
- Land use suitability maps for different crops and irrigation types (again with variable uncertainty).



The Northern Australia Water Resource Assessment is part of the Australian Government's Agricultural Competitiveness White Paper, the government's plan for stronger farmers and a stronger economy.

CONTACT US

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w www.csiro.au

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w www.csiro.au/hawra