

# MINUTES

## Executive Meeting 5/2008 Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> July 2008



**Time/Venue:** 10.00am – 12.30pm  
(Followed by lunch @ 12.30pm)  
Room 1, DSE,  
Main Street Bairnsdale

**Present:** Keith Hamilton (Chair), Chris Barry (Executive Officer), Steve Dickson (Wellington Shire Council), Duncan Malcolm (Gippsland Coastal Board), Kate Morton (AAV), Martin Kent (Southern Rural Water), Graeme Dear (EGCMA), Mike Timpano (DSE)

**Apologies:** Sam Adeloju (GRCG, Monash University), Debbie Saliba (Baw Baw Shire Council), Geoff Hocking (WGCMA), Angus Hume (DPI), Steve Kozlowski (East Gippsland Shire Council), David Mawer (Gippsland Water), Chris Rose (Parks Victoria), Carol Jeffs (Latrobe City) and Liz Radcliffe (EPA).

### 1. Welcome and Introductions

Keith Hamilton opened the meeting welcomed all attendees. He also provided a summary of the range of activities and interest in relation to climate change in the Gippsland region.

### 2. Actions from last meeting

The meeting discussed the Action items and noted their progress or completion.

### 3. Presentations

#### 3.1 Climate Change & Implications for Gippsland Coastal Areas - Peter Wheeler & Duncan Malcolm

Peter presented his modelled simulation of flooding for the township of Lakes Entrance. It was noted that this was a very useful tool for community engagement and for agency usage.

Duncan provided an over view of the Gippsland Coastal Board's recent work on the impacts of sea-level rise on the Gippsland coast.

#### 3.2 Opportunities for Improving Community Engagement

Graeme Dear discussed the following aspects of community engagement:

1. **Regional Catchments Strategy Review** – Graeme advised that East Gippsland CMA were keen to ensure the community 'face' of the RCS was very accessible to the public and that there would be ~8 'Headline Statements' (clear actions/objectives) for each of the programs.
2. **Assessing Community Engagement** – Graeme advised of the system that EGCMA used to document all information received from the community and that they had over 3,000 entries so far.

3. **GINRF Report Card** – Graeme advised that following discussions with Steve Koslowski (EGSC) it was proposed that the Report Card should also consider an economic and social rating for Gippsland.

Following discussions on the Report Card it was agreed that:

- GINRF would maintain a NRM report Card, that extending this to include social and economic reporting could dilute its value and that it would continue with its own review of the Report Card;
- Keith would be prepared to present a paper to the Regional Managers Forum raising the options of having a Report Card for social and economic health and stewardship for Gippsland.

#### 4. **Key Strategic Issues/Events**

##### 4.1 **Gippsland Sustainable Water Strategy**

No response had been received following Keith Hamilton's letter on the Gippsland SWS to the Minister.

##### 4.2 **Land and Biodiversity at a Time of Climate Change – Green Paper**

The GINRF response had been prepared and submitted. The response has been posted on the GINRF website.

##### 4.3 **Recycled Water Business Cases**

Following the presentation at the last meeting, GINRF received an request from Liz Potter (Special Projects, DSE) to provide a response from GINRF Executive to the Latrobe Valley option.

It was agreed that the GINRF response would be:

- The final outcome of the process should amount to no net loss of water for the Gippsland region.
- The preferential use of any additional water in the Gippsland region as a result of this process would be for improving environmental flows.
- The usage of any additional water for agricultural purposes resulting from this process will be very dependent on competitiveness with existing water costs

#### 5. **Other Business**

No other business was discussed.

#### 6. **Next Meeting**

It was confirmed that the meeting will be held on 4<sup>th</sup> September 2008 in Wonthaggi

### Action List Summary

	Action	Responsible	Status
<b>Meeting 3 Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2008</b>			
1	Discuss opportunities with Marjorie Thorpe for Indigenous Forum.	C. Barry	Incomplete See Action 8
<b>Meeting 4 Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2008</b>			
3	Request contribution for GINRF operating budget from Executive membership	C. Barry	Incomplete
<b>Meeting 5 Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> July 2008</b>			
	Keith Hamilton to present a paper to the Regional Managers Forum raising the options of having a Report Card for social and economic health and stewardship for Gippsland.	Chair and EO	Incomplete
<b>Outstanding/Ongoing Actions</b>			
8	Investigate how best to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encourage a peer network of relevant staff in NRM agencies</li> <li>• Encourage a representative network of Indigenous groups to engage with NRM agencies</li> </ul>	Mike Timpano, Kate Morton & Chris Barry	To be followed up with Marjorie Thorpe.

### Future Meeting dates 2007

<b>GINRF Executive:</b>
<b>All meetings Thursday 10am – 12.30pm unless otherwise stated</b>
4 <sup>th</sup> September – Wonthaggi
16 <sup>th</sup> October - Warragul
27 <sup>th</sup> November - Traralgon