

Attendees: Chair - Richard Pamplin (GTCC), Tanya Cross (GTCC), Bob McDonnell (GTCC), Brian Hughes (LLS), Mitch Tulau (OEH), John Hogg,

	ITEM	ACTION
1.	Apologies: Clare Manning (NPWS), John Harris, Stephen Griffith	<i>Accepted</i>
2.	Minutes from the previous meeting held 7 April 2016	<i>Accepted</i>
	<i>Status of Actions from Previous Minutes</i>	
	Convert Big Swamp prospectus into an educational tool.	<i>July 2016</i>
	Investigate funding opportunities for Big Swamp: Nothing new to report.	<i>Ongoing</i>
	Prepare Fire Management Plan for Big Swamp/Cattai in consultation with NPWS/RFS.	<i>July 2016</i>
	Review option of formalising the Right-of-Way at Big Swamp: To be discussed with landowner in conjunction with land purchase negotiations.	<i>July 2016</i>
	Continue negotiations with Big Swamp landowners to purchase priority land: Land valuation under review.	<i>Ongoing</i>
	Pursue funding to purchase low lying land to the south of Cattai: No external funding opportunities currently available however funding may be available through the environmental levy next financial year.	<i>July 2016</i>
	Prepare design & specifications for the bird hide: Feedback on Concept Plan received from bird observers groups – support for bird hide to be at ground level & not elevated – TC to advise designers to revert back to previous design.	<i>June 2016</i>
	Seek advice from Terry Inkson regarding the use of the Shark herbicide to control water lilies: It was agreed that further investigation was required to determine the actual impact of the water lily on the wetland before intervening. Indicators to monitor include dissolved oxygen (DO) levels, bird numbers & diversity, and the extent of weed growth. Need to source DO meter from Environmental Health or purchase one.	<i>June 2016</i>
	Speak to RMS about installing additional signs to Cattai on the highway: TC advised that the only signage that RMS will permit on the highway are the brown tourism signs. Given the potential impact these signs would have on increasing traffic on Spring Hill Road it was decided not to pursue the signs at this stage.	<i>Noted</i>
3.	Draft Lower Manning River Drainage Remediation Action Plan	
	General discussion took place on the content of the plan particularly the presentation of data and the practicalities of implementing priority actions. The benefits of preparing an implementation plan was discussed to take advantage of funding opportunities. TC advised that \$60,000 of the grant needs to be spent on implementing priority on-ground works – it was suggested this money be spent at Big Swamp. The committee requested an additional 2 weeks to review & provide comment on the plan.	<i>June 2016</i>

	ITEM	ACTION
4.	General Business	
a.	<p>David West</p> <p>RP advised that due to the merger the councillors had been dismissed and an administrator appointed in their place. As a result David West will no longer be chairing the committee on behalf of Council. It was agreed that David West be invited to sit on the committee as an observer and that RP send a letter on behalf of the committee to thank him for his long-term commitment to the committee and his support and passion for the environment.</p>	<i>May 2016</i>
5.	Next Meeting	
	TBA	

	Current Actions	Who	Due
1.	Convert Big Swamp prospectus into an educational tool.	TC	July 2016
2.	Investigate funding opportunities for Big Swamp.	TC	Ongoing
3.	Prepare Fire Management Plans for Big Swamp/Cattai Wetlands in consultation with NPWS/RFS.	TC	July 2016
4.	Review option of formalising the Right-of-Way at Big Swamp & repair culverts/upgrade bridge.	BM	July 2016
5.	Continue negotiations with Big Swamp landowners to purchase priority land.	TC	Ongoing
6.	Pursue funding to purchase low lying land to the south of Cattai.	TC	July 2016
7.	Prepare design & specifications for the bird hide.	TC	June 2016
8.	Monitor impacts of water lily on water quality & bird habitation – source/purchase DO meter	TC	July 2016
9.	Commence trial of extended opening times for Cattai for 6 months & update signage.	TC/BM	July 2016
10.	Investigate costs of constructing new access/car park near shelter & walking track to former wharf site	BM	July 2016
11.	Contact NPWS about including Cattai on signage at North Brother	BM	June 2016
12.	Send letter of appreciation to David West	TC	May 2016
13.	Review draft Drainage Remediation Action Plan & provide comment to Tanya	All	June 2016