

Attendees: Cr David West (Chair), Richard Pamplin (GTCC), Daniel Love (GTCC), Tanya Cross (GTCC), Graeme Stone (GTCC), Bob McDonnell (GTCC), Kirsty Hughes (MCW), Mitch Tulau (OEH), Brian Hughes (LLS), John Hogg, John Harris, Stephen Griffith, Sean Thompson (NPWS)

	ITEM	ACTION
1.	Apologies: Nil	<i>Accepted</i>
2.	Minutes from the previous meeting held 23 October 2014	<i>Accepted</i>
	<i>Status of Actions from Previous Minutes</i>	
	Convert Big Swamp prospectus into an educational tool: This action is still to be progressed & is to be incorporated within an environmental resource kit for students visiting Cattai Wetlands.	<i>TC – early 2015</i>
	Investigate funding opportunities for Big Swamp: Tanya advised that Council had received over \$550,000 in grants through the NSW Estuary Management Program including \$150,000 for further acquisition & ASS remediation at Big Swamp. This funding will be matched dollar for dollar with the environmental levy. It was agreed to pursue the acquisition of priority land in line with the recommendations of the Hydrological Study.	<i>TC - commence negotiations with Big Swamp landowners to purchase priority land</i>
	Prepare Fire Management Plans for Big Swamp/Cattai Wetlands: NPWS have provided feedback on the Cattai FMP – now needs input from RFS. Big Swamp FMP still to be prepared in consultation with NPWS.	<i>TC – early 2015</i>
	Undertake 2nd Fish Survey at Cattai: Delayed due to persistent dry conditions.	<i>JH – when it rains!</i>
	Investigate opportunities for local Aboriginal community to develop Aboriginal cultural heritage interpretive resources for Cattai Wetlands: Staff recently met with TIDE who have agreed take the lead on this project in consultation with relevant Aboriginal stakeholders. It was suggested that TIDE be invited to an upcoming meeting to present their ideas.	<i>TC – invite TIDE to meeting in early 2015</i>
	Invite Terry Evans to an upcoming meeting to continue his presentation on the geology of Cattai on site.	<i>TC – early 2015</i>
3.	General Business	
a.	Richard advised that Graeme Stone would be finishing up his fixed term employment with GTCC at the end of the year. DW proposed a letter of thanks be drafted to thank Graeme for his passion and contribution to wetland conservation. Graeme was encouraged to stay on as a member of the committee as a community representative.	<i>TC – draft letter for DW to sign on behalf of the committee</i>
b.	Tanya advised that Council received a Highly Commended at the Local Government Excellence in the Environment Awards in the 'Natural Environment Protection & Enhancement: On-ground Works' Category for the Big Swamp Project.	<i>Noted</i>

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c.	Tanya sought feedback on next year's plans to celebrate World Wetlands Day on Sunday 1 February. It was agreed to hold Breakfast with the Birds again and run a couple of workshops on wetland plants and bird identification. Anyone interested in helping coordinate any of the activities should contact Tanya.	<i>All invited to attend WWD celebrations on 1 Feb 2015 at Cattai</i>
d.	Tanya advised that \$44,000 in matching funding had been received through the NSW Estuary Management Program to undertake a strategic ASS assessment for the Manning River floodplain to help prioritise areas for remediation. LLS funding of \$10,000 for this project to be confirmed.	<i>Noted</i>
e.	Tanya suggested that a focus of the committee for next year should be on progressing the actions of the Future Directions Strategy for Cattai Wetlands. Members were asked to review the plan and to come back to the next meeting with their priorities for action.	<i>All to discuss their priorities for Cattai at next meeting</i>
f.	Dan advised that recent water quality monitoring undertaken by WRL revealed that pH levels within the canal have improved, which may be a result of a combination of increased tidal flushing and low rainfall.	<i>Noted</i>
g.	John Hogg raised his concerns about the poor condition of the Right-of-Way over Buttsworth's land and the need to formalise this access in the near future for security.	<i>RoW to be reviewed in 2015</i>
h.	John Harris sought member's feedback on the Green Paper on Agricultural Competitiveness particularly in regard to the management of water resources: https://agriculturalcompetitiveness.dpmc.gov.au/	<i>All to provide feedback at next meeting</i>
i.	Kirsty advised that MCW is currently reviewing its Sustainable Water Cycle Management Strategy and that there would be opportunities for community engagement in Feb-March next year.	<i>Noted</i>
4.	Next Meeting	
	26 February 2015 at 9:30am in the Manning Room.	<i>Noted.</i>

	Current Actions	Who	Due
1.	Convert Big Swamp prospectus into an educational tool.	TC	Early 2015
2.	Invite Terry Evans to an upcoming meeting to continue his presentation on the geology of Cattai - to be held on site.	TC	Early 2015
3.	Prepare Fire Management Plans for Big Swamp/Cattai Wetlands in consultation with NPWS/RFS.	TC	Early 2015
4.	Undertake 2 nd Fish Survey at Cattai	JH	TBA
5.	TIDE to discuss proposal to develop Aboriginal cultural heritage interpretive resources for Cattai Wetlands at a future meeting.	TC	Early 2015
6.	Review actions of Future Directions Strategy for discussion at next meeting	All	Feb 2015
7.	Provide feedback on Agricultural Competitiveness Green Paper	All	Feb 2015

8.	Investigate funding opportunities for Big Swamp	TC	Ongoing
9.	Review option of formalising the Right-of-Way at Big Swamp	TC	Early 2015
10.	Commence negotiations with Big Swamp landowners to purchase priority land	TC	Jan 2015
11.	Draft letter of thanks to Graeme Stone for Clr West to sign on behalf of the committee	TC	February 2015