

# NSW Wildlife Council, Inc.

## General Meeting Number 19

Tuesday 22 February 2011 at 9.30am

DECCW

Bridge Street, Hurstville, Sydney

### MINUTES

#### 1. Meeting open and Welcome

**1.1 Present:** Audrey Koosmen (Chair) NATF; Stan Wood (Vice Chair) WIRES; Shirley Lack (Media Officer and Insurance Officer) NARG, Julia McConnell (Treasurer) IGL, Brian Chetwynd (Secretary) NTWC, Marny Bonner ASR (Alt.), Philip Machin NARG (Alt.), Ian Gowanloch SONA, Georgie Whaley NRWC, Coralie Tarlinton Wildcare Qbn, Greg Tarlinton, Wildcare Qbn (Alt.), Shona Lorigan ORRCA, Alison Cooper, ORRCA (Alt.), Andrew Burton Wildlife Aid, Ilona Roberts TVWC, Lorraine Vass (Minute Secretary) FOK, and Rochelle Ferris (ASR) from 9.40am.

**1.2 Apologies:** Jill Taylor HKPS; Paul McLeod KIC; Mandy Penhall KIC (Alt.); Caroline Enfield WIRES (Alt.), Gwen Parry-Jones Wildlife ARC, Jan Brazel, Wildlife ARC (Alt.); John Gorham FAWNA; Greg Patterson Sydney Wildlife; Helen Kennedy Sydney Wildlife (Alt); and guests Maria Dowsing and Tom McLoughlin, Outer Metropolitan Multi Purpose Correctional Centre, Windsor;

#### 2. Register of Proxies: None

#### Presentations:

**Dr Daniel Van Dyk, Policy Officer, Reserve & Wildlife Policy Section, DECCW**

Following the introduction of Amanda Lawrence, Policy Unit Manager and Danielle Lautrec, Principal Policy Officer, Daniel advised that he expected the draft code on koala care to be circulated within the next couple of weeks.

Twenty-five rehabilitators have registered for the workshop to inform development of a similar code for Flying Foxes. It is planned to follow with codes for Wombats, Macropods and Raptors.

In relation to the final *Code of Practice for Injured, Sick and Orphaned Protected Fauna*, Daniel drew attention to the removal of all reference to OH&S. This is because DECCW does not have any legislative power to enforce human health standards. As a side project he is developing, in conjunction with NSW Health, and others a set of guidelines which will be available in due course.

Following on from the Council's discussion with Sally Barnes last August Daniel is also investigating the shared database concept. He has held discussions with WIRES regarding their database. While it is early days he expects to have a clearer idea within the next six months as to whether a project will proceed.

Daniel then invited questions and discussion:

Audrey asserted that Reptile husbandry is of considerable concern because they are sold in pet shops and being kept as pets. She suggested the need for a Code of Conduct for them may be more pressing than for other species because they are so prone to mistreatment and neglect.

Andrew reiterated the urgent need for a Reptile Code, drawing attention to the Hunter's annual "Reptile Expo". Audrey invited the RSPCA's attendance at this year's Expo because of inappropriate sale practices (baby reptiles sold in take-away containers and carried around all day).

Lorraine pointed out that there had been agreement to developing codes for Monotremes and Marine Reptiles back in 2008.

Audrey advised there was already a policy in place for Marine Turtles. It was suggested that Marine Co-ordinator, Geoff Ross, to be invited to the Council's May meeting to discuss marine reptile rescue and related matters.

Amanda Lawrence, Policy Unit Manager suggested the Council should decide on any change it wants to the planned program (i.e. codes for the three aforementioned species) and make its recommendations known quickly as the Unit is undergoing restructure and priorities will be firmed up in coming months.

**Actions:** Marine Co-ordinator, Geoff Ross, to be invited to the Council's May meeting.  
**Executive** to consider whether codes for species other than Wombats, Macropods and Raptors are required and to advise Amanda accordingly.

Phil noted that compliance requirements for rehabilitators had been increased and raised the point of enforcement. He congratulated Daniel and his team on finalizing the Code and expressed disappointment it does not address personnel issues, nor allow individuals to have more than one authority. He asked whether DECCW would be standardizing and monitoring the MoU proposal.

Daniel responded that Ron Haering, Manager of the WLMU will be overseeing the MoUs and he would speak to Ron to this effect.

In regard to the exchange about Reptiles he sought reassurance that requirements for keepers would be no less than those of rehabilitators. Daniel responded that they cannot be the same because one group operates on permanent holding facilities and the other does not.

Coralie raised the issue of Wildcare's situation with flying foxes (<1,000) occupying Canberra's Commonwealth Park. Wildcare's licence surrounds Canberra. They are called to rescue and relocate the flying foxes which raises the issues of import/export between NSW

and ACT.

It was suggested that DECCW establish a MoU with the ACT.

**Actions:** The Secretary writes to Daniel outlining circumstances and formally requesting negotiation of a MoU.

Andrew Burton (Wildlife Aid) to send a copy of the MoU between them and NATF to the Policy Unit.

Audrey enquired about inspection checklist sheets being used by Rangers and Andrew asked about the information package/training material to be provided to Rangers. Daniel clarified that the material was a Powerpoint presentation and that he would distribute the sheets which are based on the Code through the Chair. He also confirmed that all regional managers had been informed about the new Code and revised Policy and of their compliance responsibilities.

Limited numbers of printed copies of both documents will be distributed to rehab groups. It was suggested that the NWC write justifying the need for and requesting multiple copies.

In response to a question from Lorraine about progress with the Koala code, Daniel advised that he expects the draft will be sent out for review, with comments to be received by the end of March and finalization by mid-year.

Julia expressed her grave concern for increased reptile intervention once they are sold in pet shops. She also noted her disappointment that despite making two submissions Council members had not been advised of the Code and Policy's release on DECCW's website.

Daniel responded that Ron Haering, Manager of the WLMU, will be writing to all groups.

Stan congratulated Daniel on the Code and Policy's finalisation, reminding members that the Code was the Council's first and highest priority. He sought clarification on the issue of feeding native animals live vertebrate prey (9.1.2.3 plus note, p.13).

Daniel responded that the matter is fixed in legislation (the *Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act*); thus the need for referencing and advice.

In response to a question from Coralie on timing of enforcement, Daniel responded that time for dissemination and building into training can be assumed, after which inspections will be at Rangers' discretion.

Julia asked for an explanation of general location in 12.2.1.3, to which Daniel responded that both rescue and release locations must be carefully defined.

Audrey thanked both Ron and Daniel for successful completion of a long and exacting process. She noted the progress achieved in developing a positive relation between the Council and DECCW. She also thanked Danielle for her attendance, welcoming her to future meetings.

**Mr Pepe Clark, CEO, Nature Conservation Council of NSW (NCC)**

NCC is a representative body, with a membership of approximately 100 wildlife and

conservation organisations throughout the state. They range in size from small resident action groups to regional umbrella groups or state-wide organisations.

Its role is principally advocacy and representation between member organisations and State Government, working across a range of issues, including wildlife and habitat at policy level. The other main activity is community engagement. In recent years that has been mainly focused on sustainability issues and climate change. The third major function is communicating and collaborating with members and supporting what they do.

NCC has 12 staff and an Executive elected from the membership which is actively involved. It also has several recommending committees. Members sit on a wide range of external advisory committees, including statutory committees, e.g. fisheries, bush fire management, the National Parks Association – some 150 committees across the state. Positions are voluntary and enhance NCC's ability to get across all issues.

A regular on-line newsletter provides updates on the projects in which they are involved.

The welfare and health of ecosystems and native fauna and flora are a high priority. Increasingly the role that healthy ecosystems play in protecting human habitation (e.g. protection of catchment areas to mitigate potential flooding) is being promoted. Large scale connectivity between climate change and long term survival of ecosystems is a primary focus.

NCC engages in a range of policy processes as well as responding to threatening proposals, e.g. the Bill put forward by the Shooters & Fishers Party to allow hunting in National Parks. NCC together with the NPA mobilized a widespread public response which influenced government to withdraw its support..

The issue of biodiversity offsets has also been an area of major activity and significant Challenge; whether biodiversity certification can effectively protect or maintain biodiversity values.

It is also active in native forest protection including unlawful and unsustainable logging practices: e.g. not only the issue of DECCW allowing logging in prime koala habitat but also the conduct of the contractors in those areas, especially logging of old growth forests. Compliance regulation is a significant issue. In this regard NCC has commissioned a report from the Environmental Defender's Office which will be used in the closing stages of the NSW election campaign.

In regard to native vegetation, a proposal before the Minister seeks to abbreviate the process for clearing smaller clumps of vegetation and paddock trees. NCC is making the point that these too represent substantial and important habitat.

Planning and development (residential expansion etc.), particularly in coastal and urban fringe areas are key drivers in habitat loss. NCC has been actively involved in campaigning against Part 3a of the EPA Act which enables the state government to override local government controls, to ensure that conservation roles are better incorporated in the planning systems.

NCC is campaigning strongly for marine conservation with a strong focus on marine parks and fisheries management including seeking to minimise by-catch in fisheries.

In regard to mining and gas the key concerns are groundwater as well as loss of natural areas.

The government is considering opening up Crown Lands and stock routes to enable the establishment of pipelines, as well as open cut coal mines.

Whilst NCC is spread fairly thin, it does cover a lot of issues that has relevance for native wildlife. To date they have focused primarily on large scale protection of habitat and native fauna and flora.

Pepe acknowledged that NCC's election platform ("Natural Advantage") is extremely broad with very limited reference to protection of native fauna. He apologized for the omission and made the point that fauna protection is addressed indirectly with regard to forest protection and control of urban expansion.

"Natural Advantage" will be used as a starting point for a mid-term review of the elected government's performance.

Pepe then provided a progress report on the NWC's four motions put to the 2010 Annual Conference:

- 1) *Cessation of licences to cull FFs*: The response received from Minister Sartor's office said nothing new – an education brochure has been prepared! NCC is very concerned about the Maclean situation; the fate of the colony as well as the dangerous precedent that it sets. Ilona noted that the Maclean "relocation" has already started. NCC plans to further highlight the situation following the election.

**Action:** NWC to provide information/case studies of population loss of grey headed flying foxes

- 2) *Coastal koala populations*: NCC has been highlighting the koala with respect to logging reforms but has not yet established a list of policy reforms. The need for habitat protection has been highlighted to all Parties. NCC is keen to work with NWC to arrange a meeting with the in-coming Minister.

**Action:** Lorraine to continue liaising with NCC regarding a meeting with the new Minister.

- 3) *NSW Companion Animals Act*: Letters were sent to Ministers Sartor (Environment) and Perry (Local Government). A generic response has been received from Sartor; no response from Perry.
- 4) *Sale of native reptiles in pet shops*: Minister Sartor's response referred to his sharing of our concerns and to the draft Code for Private Reptile Keepers which seeks to educate new keepers to the basic requirements of reptiles.

In regard to the impact of extreme weather events on native fauna, NCC has sought to make the links in public advocacy and media between climate change and wildlife on the basis that we can expect more of these events in the future. In terms of the relationship between fire management and wildlife, NCC's bushfire programs work from two key areas:

- (i) direct and active involvement in bush fire management (they have representatives on the relevant committees), seeking to ensure that hazard reduction is done in a way that protects key conservation values and improves biodiversity outcomes (i.e. active mosaic management rather than high intensity burns).

- (ii) "Hotspots Fire Project" works with landowners as well as NPWS regarding fire management to get best possible outcomes for native flora and fauna, with special regard for threatened species populations.

In closing, Pepe encouraged NWC representatives to attend the pre-election forums that are being organised regionally as well as the State level forum in Sydney on March 15<sup>th</sup> (RSVP and prepared questions required). Quentin Dempster will be hosting the Sydney forum.

Last year NCC trialled "Celebrate Nature", encouraging local groups to organize local events to celebrate the International Year of Biodiversity. Although the lead time was short and budget was \$0, about 60 events occurred and this was an excellent opportunity for everyone to work together collectively to raise awareness. September is Biodiversity month and NCC is looking forward to repeating the project with the advantage of a longer lead time.

Audrey thanked Pepe for his address, reiterating the benefits to our native wildlife from a closer working relationship between the NWC and NCC.

### **The meeting re-commenced at 11.30am:**

- 3. Confirmation of Minutes of General Meeting no. 18 held 28 August 2010** (circulated by email)

**Shona Lorigan** moved and **Coralie Tarlinton** seconded that the draft minutes be accepted as read and confirmed. Carried.

#### **3.1. Business arising** – the Chair reviewed the circulated Action List **General Meeting No. 18**

- 3.1.1. Minister Sartor meeting – held over
- 3.1.2. DPII meeting – Suzanne Robinson (Orange) contacted - no further progress.
- 3.1.3. MoUs – still waiting on response from DECCW
- 3.1.4. National Parks Foundation's request re logo – actioned
- 3.1.5. Review of NWC position descriptions; delegations, communicating responsibilities and member group responsibilities - not done.
- 3.1.6. Reptile issues - held over post-election.
- 3.1.7. Control of feral animals in National Parks - held over post-election.
- 3.1.8. Insurance: Incident Report Form – the Insurance Officer reiterated the requirement for all incidents to be reported (whether or not they become the subject of a claim) and forwarded promptly.
- 3.1.9. Reimbursements – actioned
- 3.1.10. NCC Report – actioned
- 3.1.11. Commercial kangaroo harvesting – actions contingent on NWC's failure to get on to the Advisory Panel - not done
- 3.1.12. Letter re National Body – actioned
- 3.1.13. Letter to Sally Barnes - actioned
- 3.1.14. 2010 NSW Community Wildlife Survey Link – actioned
- 3.1.15. Sale of squirrels – no information received

#### **5th Annual General Meeting**

All actions completed

**Matter arising:** Audrey reported Gwen Parry Jones' illness.

**Action:** Secretary to send a 'get well' card on behalf of Council members.

## **4. Reports**

#### **4.1. Treasurer's Report** (financials circulated by email)

##### **4.1.1** Statement of Accounts

**Lorraine Vass** moved and **Rochelle Ferris** seconded that the Statement of Accounts be received and noted.

##### **4.1.2** Approval for Expenses Reimbursements

**Coralie Tarlinton** moved and **Ilona Roberts** seconded that claims for reimbursements to be lodged by Georgie Whaley, Coralie Tarlinton, Brian Chetwynd, Rochelle Ferris, Stan Wood, Ilona Roberts, Julia McConnell, Narwee Hotel and Lorraine Vass be approved for payment. **Carried**

#### **4.2. Insurance Officer's Report**

WIRES notified an incident involving a member falling off a ladder but as yet no claim has been lodged. Renewal of all policies is due on 1 May 2011. Shirley will follow up and distribute Certificates of Currency when renewal is affected.

#### **4.3. Membership Officer's Report**

Several groups have yet to officially (i.e. on letterhead) notify the Council of their 2011 representation. Shirley will post those she is still waiting for on the discussion list.

#### **4.4 Media Officer's Report**

Nothing to report.

#### **4.5 Nature Conservation Council of NSW (NCC) Report**

Nothing more to report since the Conference and follow-up emails on actioning the Council's four motions.

#### **4.6 Secretary's Report (including significant correspondence)**

Brian summarised **in-coming correspondence**:

- (a) RTA: confirming sponsorship of \$25,000pa for next triennium.
- (b) Landcare Australia: requesting they link the Council to their website.
- (c) Federal Minister for Sustainable Population, Communities, Water and Environment, Hon. Tony Burke: outlining the decision to proceed with relocation of the grey headed flying fox colony in the Royal Botanical Gardens.
- (d) State Minister for Local Government, Barbara Perry: advising that regulations associated with pet ownership reside with local councils.
- (e) Department of Industry and Investment: NSW Kangaroo Management Advisory Panel: advising of the new membership which does not include NWC.
- (f) Various emails regarding the proposed steering committee to form a national wildlife rehabilitation body, the incorporation of the Australian Wildlife Rehabilitation Conference and a letter of clarification from Elena Guarracino.

##### **Actions:**

- (b) **Stan Wood** moved and **Georgie Whaley** seconded that Landcare's request for a link to their website, proceed. **Carried**
- (c) **Ilona Roberts** drafts a response to the Minister expressing the Council's disappointment with the decision.
- (e) **The Secretary** writes to WPSA and RSPCA expressing the Council's interest and inviting dialogue with our nomination, John Gorham, enclosing a copy of his CV.

##### **Outgoing correspondence**

- (a) Letter of thanks to Dep. D-G, DECCW Sally Barnes drafted by Phil Machin

- (b) Letter to State and Territory Colleagues seeking clarification of the purpose, aims and advantages of a national wildlife rehabilitation body and aspects of the reporting of the meeting held at the Adelaide Conference (6 September 2010)
- (c) Letter to State and Territory Colleagues nominating Lorraine Vass as NWC delegate to the proposed steering committee to form a national wildlife rehabilitation body (28 October 2010).
- (d) Letter to Dep. D-G, DECCW Sally Barnes drafted by Phil Machin requesting cessation of wombat culling licences in southern NSW due to loss of animals in floods (18 February 2011)

**Actions:**

(b&c) **Audrey Koosmen** moved and **Ilona Roberts** seconded that Lorraine email Greg Gordon to ascertain membership of the Steering Committee and any action. **Carried**

Brian clarified process regarding notice of meetings, attendance and agenda items. It was agreed that three notices of meeting would be posted three weeks out from the meeting date.

His suggestion to compile and post a monthly summary of issues to the list, summarizing correspondence etc. was agreed to.

**Actions:** Secretary to compile and post a summary of issues arising from correspondence and to post three notices of meeting to the discussion list.

## 5. General Business

### 5.2 Executive's Report of the NSW Roadside Environment Committee held Monday 21 February 2011

The Committee is instrumental in the development of the regional roadside environmental strategies. Membership includes representatives from RTA, DECCW, Country Energy, Rural Fire Service, Rural Lands Protection, Local Government Engineers, Shires Association of NSW, and Greening Australia (NSW).

Audrey's address outlined the NWC's formation, membership and current work, our interest in the role of roadside vegetation as wildlife habitat and the toll of vehicular traffic on native wildlife.

### 5.1 State Disaster Donations - Wildlife Rehabilitation Sector Co-ordination

(Audrey Koosmen, NATF)

In light of the Queensland floods and the Victorian wildfires and the large number of donations from the public for wildlife rehabilitation, Audrey speculated that a similar situation in NSW would see WIRES as the major recipient simply because it is the recognized wildlife rescue organization. Constitutionally WIRES would have difficulty in distributing funds to other groups.

NWC needs to establish a framework for a state-wide fund which would enable equitable distribution of public donations.

Stan Wood agreed that this was a good idea pointing out the huge administrative task involved in receiving and receipting donations.

Audrey pointed out the \$3m in donations was raised from the Victorian wildfires but only \$0.5m has been distributed because of the requirement to spend the money on wildfire-



related damage and loss.

**Audrey Koosmen** moved and **Coralie Tarlinton** seconded that a working group comprising Audrey Koosmen, Coralie Tarlinton, Georgie Whaley, Shirley Lack, Julia McConnell, Andrew Burton and Rochelle Ferris is established to investigate and report back on a fund model that would take account of the legal responsibilities and ethical challenges including donations made directly to other agencies such as IFAW.

**Action:** Chair to convene State Disaster Donations Working Group

## **5.2 DECCW Funding and Sponsorships for Wildlife Groups and IGLs**

(Phil Machin, NARG)

Phil posited that DECCW's funding to community organisations as reflected by their Annual Report indicates significant inconsistencies. The list in the 2009/10 Report included grants made to eleven licensed wildlife rehabilitation groups. He also pointed out that much larger grants (up to \$140,000) are being distributed for other purposes, e.g. climate change, etc. The Council should be encouraging DECCW to fund costs associated with wildlife rescue and release by meeting with Sally Barnes to seek her support.

**Phil Machin** moved and **Julia McConnell** seconded that the NWC initiates discussions with DECCW to arrange increased financial support across NSW for all licensed wildlife rehabilitation groups, WIRES branches and IGLs by the Executive meeting with the Manager of the WLMU, Ron Haering.

**Action:** Chair to arrange a meeting with Ron Haering to discuss this and any other matters of mutual interest.

## **5.4 Section 91 Licences (*Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995*)**

(Audrey Koosmen, NATF)

Audrey outlined NATF's practice of proactive spraying of bats in Blackbutt Reserve during hot weather. Wildlife Aid also sprays bats in Singleton. Advice has been received from the Threatened Species Unit that a general rehabilitation licence does not cover proactive intervention and that a S91 Licence is required to undertake spraying of heat-stressed bats.

It was agreed that evidence of casualties should be gathered to substantiate a case for reforming the status quo and that scientists need to be informed about the impact of extreme weather events on bats to feed in to the policy review scheduled in the next 12 months or so.

**Action:** Audrey and Andrew will continue to work for reform by discussing the on-ground issues with DECCW.

## **5.5 Treatment of Native Animals in the field and Rehabilitation Licences**

(see letter from the Wombat Protection Society of Australia Ltd)

DECCW has met with the Wombat Protection Society to discuss the Society's desire to treat mange in wombats in the field. The Society has been advised that general rehabilitation licences already provide for this. The Society is not a licensed group and has been encouraged to write to the Council seeking its assistance.

**Coralie Tarlinton** moved and **Stan Wood** seconded that a response be written to the Society noting the following:

NWC is not against controlled treatment of wombats in the wild and supports the Wombat Society's pursuit of a scientific licence.

NWC acknowledges there may be members of the public who wish to treat wombats on their property who are reluctant to join a licensed rehabilitation group.

NWC encourages groups operating in areas where there are mange-infected wombats to consider encouraging membership of such people by offering training and nominal membership conditions including fee reduction.

NWC encourages the Wombat Protection Society to meet with WIRES and offers to facilitate such a meeting if required.

The Council is bound by DECCW's *Rehabilitation of Protected Fauna Policy* and cannot support unlicensed members of the public treating wombats on their property.

The Council invites the Society to present at its May meeting. **Carried.**

**Action:** Secretary to write letter. [**Note:** this action has since changed to inviting the Society to present at the August meeting]

#### **5.6 Public Perceptions of Wildlife Groups** (Audrey Koosmen, NATF)

Audrey referred to reports in the media of internal dissension within groups/branches which are potentially damaging to the repute in which the wider wildlife rehabilitation sector is held. She encouraged all groups to reflect on the personnel management practices and to take the necessary steps where they are found to be wanting.

#### **5.7 NWC Promotional Brochure** (Lorraine Vass, FOK)

The need for a brochure was supported. Lorraine, Shona and Greg will work on design and draft content with recommendations for print-run, budget, etc.

**Action:** Lorraine, Shona and Greg to draft promotional brochure.

#### **5.8 Flying Fox 'Standards' Meeting: 23 February 2011** (Audrey Koosmen, NATF)

Audrey advised that she had received expressions of surprise from some invitees that four delegates from WIRES had been invited by DECCW when other groups had been limited to two. Council members agreed that two representative from each group was quite sufficient.

**Action:** Audrey to point out to Daniel Van Dyk that within the Council WIRES is equal to all other groups and that his special invitation had not been well-received. If necessary, follow up with written reiteration.

#### **5.9 Distribution of DECCW Documentation** (Lorraine Vass, FOK)

DECCW's short print run of the Code and Policy had been noted in Daniel's presentation. It was agreed that NWC write justifying the need for distribution of hard copies of both documents to authorized rehabilitators and requesting 5000 copies of each.

**Action:** Secretary to write to Ron Haering, Manager, Wildlife Licensing and Management Unit.

#### **5.10 Request for feedback from Wildlife Preservation Society of Australia (WPSA)**

(Lorraine Vass, FOK – see forwarded posting of 8 February 2011: *Members – we need your opinion*)

It was generally agreed that WPSA's logo, the echidna, is well established and should be retained. The Society may benefit from professional advice on design impact and current tastes.

**Action:** The Secretary to advise WPSA's President Medway.

### **6. Other Business**

## 6.1 Strategic Plan Review

It was agreed to invite DECCW's Dr Lynn Webber, Manager, Conservation Partnerships, to assist the Council in its review of the existing Plan and preparation of a future Plan during the Council's meeting in May.

**Action:** Audrey and Julia to liaise with Dr Webber.

## 6.2 Shared Database

Following discussion on the need for Council members to manage statistics effectively and the remarks made by Daniel during his presentation regarding investigation of the WIRES database it was decided that the Council should form a Working Group to work with DECCW and other stakeholders (e.g. RTA?) on developing a shared database.

The group will comprise Brian Chetwyn, Andrew Burton, Rochelle Ferris, Stan Wood and Patrick Connors who has developed WIRES database and Web 2.0 online *CarerHQ*.

**Actions:** Stan to invite Patrick to be a member of the Working Group.

Brian to contact Daniel offering the Working Group's assistance.

**Matter arising:** Audrey Koosmen moved and Shona Lorigan seconded that a letter of thanks from the Council be written to Daniel for his work on revising the Rehabilitation Policy, developing the Code of Practice and the continuing work in developing species-specific Codes.

**Carried.**

## 7. Future Meeting Dates

General Meeting No. 20: 24 May 2011[since changed to 27/28 May – The Centre, Randwick]

General Meeting No 21 & 6<sup>th</sup> AGM: 27/28 August 2011 - The Centre, Randwick

## 8. Close of Meeting: 4.20pm