

## **ANGLERS ALLIANCE TASMANIA**

### **MINUTES FOR GENERAL MEETING**

**Sunday 29 May 2011, Zeps Campbell Town**

#### **Present**

Mike Stevens AFTA(Chair), Terry Byard STLAA(Vice Chair), Malcolm Crosse (Exec.committee)

Gary France TGALT(Exec. Committee), John Diggle IFS, John Broomby Northern Forum, Michael Caminada Independent Nth, Allan Ekert Corralinn Fly Fishers, Alan Taylor Corralinn Fly Fishers, Mathew Ling NWFA, Sheryl Thompson NWFA, Charles Thompson NWFA, Alan Gordon Break O'Day, Phil Williams Northern Forum, Denis Edwards Exec assistant

#### **Apologies**

Stephen Bax AFTA, Norm Cribben STLAA, Leroy Tirant Indep NW, Peter Murphy TFFA

#### **Minutes of last meeting**

Motion: "to accept the Minutes of the meeting held 27 Feb 2011"

Moved: Terry Byard    Seconded: Gary France    Carried

#### **Financials**

The ATDP account has minimal balance and will be kept open to handle any future grants. The AAT general trading account had a balance of \$14,212.37 on 18<sup>th</sup> May with no outstanding liabilities other than day to day running costs. Any monies left at the end of the year will be allocated to an agreed project.

Spirit of Tasmania has one more funding payment for bream tournaments and no more funding will be pursued.

#### **Southern Independent Member**

Advertising for this position elicited four responses which were tabled. They were -

Keith Symons  
Mike Dimond  
Greg Peart  
Bob Buell

The subsequent discussion favoured Greg Peart as the candidate with the most to offer.

#### **Northern Forum**

John Broomby explained that the NTFA ceased to function when the AAT started and many clubs are no longer active in the Northern Forum. It was

suggested that a list of existing clubs be updated and emailed to invite them to be on the AAT emailing list.

Communication was thought to be crucial in bringing the lost lambs back to the flock .

Suggestions were a regular AAT bulletin, better use of the website and that the Chairman approach the editor of Tasmanian Fishing and Boating News for some space in that august publication.

### **Grant submissions**

The results of the AAT submission to the Tasmanian Community Fund for \$66,000 to continue the excellent IFS Anglers Access program on the Mersey River should be known by mid June.

A second application was done by the Mersey NRM for willow removal on the Mersey

that will complement the Anglers Access. The AAT will contribute \$2,000 to this project if the application is successful.

### **Anglers Access**

Neil Morrow is still after clubs that will adopt/caretake completed Angler Access projects.

Ideally he would like contact numbers he can call on to assess any problems that may arise

eg flood damage, stock problems, rubbish problems etc. This will free up his limited time and budget to continue the excellent access programs.

Neil's contact no.at the IFS is 6261 8059.

Clubs that are onboard already are -

Ulverstone Anglers Club with Central Coast Council , the Leven.

Westbury Fishing Club, the Meander.

Longford Fishing Club, the Macquarie.

### **Brumbys**

#### **Willow removal**

An email was tabled from Daniel Hackett reporting involvement with Hydro and IFS in a five day willow ,blackberry and gorse removal project on Brumbys top weir. This may become an annual or bi-annual program. Daniel suggested a letter of thanks to be sent to Hydro.

Included in this email were the results of a recent CSIRO study on the water loss to streamside willows - losses of up to five and a half megalitres/ hectare/annum! Go to [www.csiro.au/news/Water-savings-from-willow-removal.html](http://www.csiro.au/news/Water-savings-from-willow-removal.html). This should have implications for water rights, willow removal funding etc. and will be followed up by AAT with Daniel.

#### **Hydro issues**

Gary France is following up a number of matters of concern including flows, temperatures and turbidity with Greg Carson, Hydros Water Operations Team Leader. Water level information is available at Hydros website [www.hydro.com.au](http://www.hydro.com.au). The revised Anglers Access brochure will list the updated telephone no. Terry Byard will notify Neil Morrow.

### **Irrigation**

Midlands – Terry Byard tabled a reply to Corey Harris of Fly Fishers Club of Tas. request for AAT’s position on this scheme. It outlined AAT’s history of involvement and the current situation of the scheme, which is that the Irrigation Development Board is calling for water take up commitments from midland farmers. MOU of Water Level Management between Hydro and IFS was tabled.

Macquarie – a phone report from Roger Butler indicated no more meetings had taken place.

South Esk – still awaiting release of the draft WMP. Letter to be written to inquire on progress.

Ringarooma and Ingles/Flowerdale – draft WMP’s in progress. Letter to be written to inquire on progress.

### **Ministers meeting**

Mike Stevens, Malcolm Crosse and John Diggle met with Bryan Green on 29 April to discuss a number of possible projects

> John Diggle spoke about developing a ‘Four Springs’ type of water within an hour of

Hobart and received a positive response from the Minister.

>The reluctance of Hydro to be involved in raising the level of Shannon Lagoon was discussed and the Minister undertook to take the matter up with Hydro.

>Hydro is re-habilitating Lagoon of Islands to its original condition – to a swamp – in an attempt to solve the chronic water quality problems. The dam wall will be removed and no attempt will be made to reproduce the fishery that was produced by the damming of the swamp.

>Spirit of Tasmania price review for boat trailers could be a more difficult task

>Improved access to Talbots Lagoon has been discussed by the Minister with Greg L’Estrange of Gunns and he indicated that there should be no problems.

Charles Thompson reported that Burnie Fly Fishing Club have approached Gunns to take over administration of access, he will report on the current state of play.

## **IFS report**

John Diggle reported recent IFS activities including –

- > IFS/MAST ramp/access upgrades to Penstock, Little Pine, Swan and Cramps Bay on Great Lake, and Four Springs.
- > Anglers Access. Three more properties at Gunns Plains have joined the Leven project.

The Macquarie access has been extended and now covers some 12 kms on the west bank from Woolmers to Cressy.

- > Proposed stockings to Tooms and Bradys Lakes.

- > Triploiding. Survival rate has been increased from 10% to 60% resulting in 90,000 browns ready for stocking.

- > Previously tabled regulation changes are now being legislated. Other changes being considered include Huntsman being open in winter; Brumbys change of opening hours; farm dam changes; review of extended/open seasons on some waters and waters to be stocked with triploids.

- > Carp program is still being government funded and a “Caring for our Country” grant has been applied for as a contingency.

- > A draft paper “Tasmanian Whitebait Fishery Regulatory Management Plan 2011 – 2015” was tabled.

John Broomby expressed appreciation of the IFS Liawenee open day and commended the professional way it is run.

## **Troubled waters**

Talbots Lagoon. Letter to Gunns regarding access tabled and awaiting a reply. Refer “Ministers meeting” also.

Penstock Lagoon. Discussion on outboard motors on small waters (see also J.Diggles letter in IFS report) and the serious effects on insect life of motor pollution, especially two strokes.

Malcolm Crosse pointed out that outboards are not used in the UK and that the technology for electric motors has vastly improved. Mike Stevens said there are many mainland waters that don’t allow outboards; two strokes are gross polluters and

he will do a paper based on research he has read.

Charging stations could be commercially run offsite, for example at Bronte, Mienna etc.

Lake Paloona. Letter to Hydro seeking better access tabled and awaiting a reply. Charles Thompson thought there may be safety issues involved.

Lake Barrington. It has been reported that during some rowing events the entry gate has been closed and anglers are being charged entry – could anyone knowing of such incidents please let AAT know – need date/time etc . Sheryl Thompson said there have been some skier/angler problems as well.

Break O'Day. Letters to EPA and Break O'Day Council tabled and awaiting replies.

### **Christies Creek**

Mike Stevens reported that Parks think the application for helicopter access will not proceed, however a letter will be written to Parks to elicit their position on helicopter access and if it is negative will that be incorporated into the WHA review.

### **Red Jelly**

Terry Byard reported the background of the Red Jelly advertising company's association with AAT and why it is "minding " funds for future projects. Mike Stevens while establishing exactly what funds are available for webcams, website upgrades etc was told that much of the funds have been committed to a yearly magazine publication that Red Jelly assured the Exec.Committee at a previous meeting had been fully funded and had no call on these funds.

Red Jelly have been instructed to stop any production of the magazine that will incur any use of or exposure of AAT funds. A meeting is to be arranged at the earliest possible time.

### **Weather stations**

Mike Stevens and Malcolm Crosse met with Coastview the hosts of Arthurs Lake webcams. Costings were discussed and Coastview will forward proposals to get this operative again.

Locations for other cameras were discussed and Terry Byard suggested that each camera should cover a certain geographical area. Suggestions were Little Pine, Lake Burbury, Bronte, Four Springs, Augusta and possibly a better location for the Arthurs camera.

A three year program was suggested with the possibility of a contribution from MAST.

### **General business**

- Alan Taylor reported illegal fishing at Huntsman. It was suggested that some additional signage be put in place.
- John Broomby suggested a ramp at the southern end of Mackintosh. JB to forward proposal to AAT for submission to MAST.
- John Broomby said the ramp at Huntsmans needs a cable to tie boats to. AAT to write to MAST.
- Terry Byard called for suggestions for infrastructure other than jetties eg anchor points, toilets(especially in the highlands) etc.
- Terry Byard reported that "My Kitchen Rules" want two anglers for an angling themed show. Details available on [www.mykitchenrules.com](http://www.mykitchenrules.com)

- Alan Gordon advised that the regulatory minimum distance to waterways for agricultural spraying is to be decreased from 10M to 2M. AAT to write a letter voicing anglers disagreement.
- Malcolm Crosse (Chairman of the organising committee) gave a rundown on the Commonwealth Fly Fishing Championships to be held in Tasmania from the 14 to 19 Feb 2012. There will be 18 teams competing from 14 countries and they need approx. 80 volunteers. Emails will be sent to all clubs on the AAT contact list.
- Sheryl Thompson inquired if the Habitat Fund money still exists; John Diggle said it did and that IFS had put a number of options to the board for its use but had not received a positive response.  
John Diggle said further funds may be available from Commonwealth Fisheries Advisory Group.

**NEXT MEETING will be AGM and GM  
10 am Sunday 21 August 2011. Zeps Campbell Town.**

#### **ACTION LIST**

- MS** Notify Indep.Southern Rep. candidates  
Paper on outboard pollution  
Group user problems on Lake Barrington  
Red Jelly meeting  
Letter to Parks on Christies Ck
- DE** Update on progress of all WMP's  
Letter of thanks to Hydro  
Letter to MAST re cable at Huntsman  
Letter regarding ag.spraying changes
- JB** Update Northern Clubs contact list and invite them to be on AAT mailing list.  
Proposal for southern ramp at Mackintosh
- MC** Webcam feasibility
- TB** Notify Neil Morrow of new Brumbys tel. no.  
Additional signage at Huntsman
- CT** Review of local action on Talbots Lagoon

