



# Lake User Group (LUG)

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Trim 175223

**Wednesday 12 March 2014**

**9:00 am**

**Treasury Building, National Capital Authority**

## Summary Record of Meeting

### Welcome and Introductions

The Chair (Matt Owen) opened the meeting at 9:00am and welcomed all attending.

Mr Malcolm Snow, new Chief Executive, was welcomed to the Lake User Group (LUG).

Mr Snow thanked LUG for the continued support, knowledge and commitment the members brought to the LUG and recognised the good working relationship LUG had with the NCA for the betterment of Lake Burley Griffin and the various recreational users of the Lake.

### Participant List

Organisation	Organisation
NCA	Canberra Ice Dragons Paddle Club
NCA	Lake Burley Griffin Cruises
NCA	Molonglo Catchment Group
NCA	Canberra Yacht Club
Rowing ACT	NMA (Paddle Steamer Enterprise)
ADFA Boatshed	Rowing Australia
AFP - Maritime	Rowing ACT
Dragon Boat ACT	Scouts ACT
PS Enterprise	Southern Cross Cruises
Burley Griffin Canoe Club	AIS
Traditional Boat Squadron	

### Apologies

- None received

## **Handover of Chair**

Matt Owen (Canberra Yacht Club) has held the position of LUG chair for a term of 1 year. Prior to the meeting, James Hammond (Rowing ACT) was approached by Matt to consider the Chair position for 2014. James has accepted the position.

The position of LUG Chair was formally handed over to James Hammond for 2014.

## **Previous Minutes**

Minutes of the last meeting of the Lake User Group (LUG) held on 4 December 2013 were accepted without amendment.

### **Discussion of actions arising from previous meeting: 4 December 2013**

#### ***'NCA to notify LUG of the release of the Black Mountain Peninsula Slipway consultation report'***

Completed – Notification sent 22 January 2014.

#### ***'NCA to notify major lake event groups of the request from AFP and provide contact details'***

Completed – It is a requirement that the ACT Water Police inspect power boats one week prior to major lake events. In unusual circumstances the ACT Water Police will liaise to find another inspection opportunity.

ACT Water Police attended the Traditional Boat Squadron event to inspect the power boats attending the event. This was arranged prior to the event so that the interstate power boats could be inspected with minimum of inconvenience.

#### ***'LUG members to notify broader lake users to send boat permit requests to NCA with the prescribed notice period'***

This was an ongoing action item.

#### ***'NCA to convene final Sub-committee meeting with Rowing ACT and the Burley Griffin Canoe Club to finalise the Traffic Flow Guide.'***

Completed – Traffic Flow Guide posters were now available from NCA Reception.

## **Presentation by Michael Ross (Water Policy, ESDD) – 'ACT Priority Project – Commonwealth Funding for Water Quality Improvement'**

Michael Ross discussed the Commonwealth funding allocation of up to \$85 million to the ACT Environment and Sustainable Development Directorate (ESDD) to help improve water quality in Canberra's waterways.

Initially, two years of monitoring and research of six sub-catchments will be undertaken. These sub-catchments have been selected to be representative of different catchment conditions affecting across the ACT. These six sub-catchments include:

- Riverview Development which is the new proposed sub-division in West Belconnen (Green-fill site);
- Fyshwick (industrial estate site);
- Lower Molonglo (developing residential site);
- Upper Molonglo (established residential site);
- Tuggeranong (large urban catchment); and

- Yarralumla (aged residential catchment).

The aim of the monitoring is to provide data to inform and support business cases for water quality improvement capital infrastructure.

## Items for Discussion

### a) NCA Update – Peter Beutel

#### Slipway (information provided by LDA)

- NCA Works Approval granted 23 December 2013
- Design being finalised to comply with approval conditions
- Manteena appointed as the project manager
- Tender for trades and services expected April/May 2014
- Construction programmed from June to December 2014

#### Kingston Harbour (information provided by LDA)

- Block 59/Section 50 purchased by Doma Group who will complete the next stage of the working harbour including toilets, storage, car parking, waste management and workshops within two years
- Driveway access for boat operators and refueling trucks will be completed after the above works
- Commercial boats will need to access the Acton West Jetty during this time

#### Grevillea Park (information provided by LDA)

- The expansion of lake recreation facilities in this area were identified in the National Capital Plan and the Lake Burley Griffin Recreational Facilities Review (ACT Sport and Recreation)
- Master Plan is to be released for public consultation April/May 2014 showing up to four development sites along the lake edge
- Proposed works include a shed to accommodate Capital Lakes Rowing Club and other possible rowing and dragon boat facilities
- Servicing works to be completed by mid 2015

**Action Item: NCA to invite a spokesperson from LDA to present at the next LUG meeting (11 June).**

#### Skyfire 2014

Peter Beutel advised LUG members that exclusion zones for Central Basin would be in place during the practice times of the Navy Squirrels and the Hornet Jets for the event on Saturday 15 March. Commercial boat operators were permitted during the exclusion times, subject to the advice from the event organisers.

Peter Cartwright confirmed the practice and exclusion times:

- Friday 14 March 12:30pm for 1 hour (Navy Squirrels)
- Friday 14 March 6.55pm for ½ hour (Hornets)
- Saturday 15 March, Central Basin to be an exclusion zone from 11am until the conclusion of the event.

#### Royal Visit

The planned royal visit during April 2013 is expected to require an exclusion zone in the vicinity of the Governor General's Residence, Yarralumla. It is expected that the exclusion zone would encompass the end of the rowing lanes around to the dam. ACT Water Police to patrol this area 24/7 during the visit. The exclusion zone would be in place from on, or around 20 April for 4-5 days.

## **b) General Lake Update – Peter Beutel**

The NCA Lake Works Program was distributed to LUG members prior to the meeting.

Peter Beutel highlighted the following future works:

- Repair to the Lake edge at Yarralumla Bay (West)

This area has been degraded with some sections of lake edge and path falling away. Work in this area would cause the two nearby pontoons to be unavailable for use for approximately 3-4 days. Works completion planned for April 2014.

- Spraying of Alligator Weed

A number of infestation sites of Alligator Weed have been identified on the shores of Lake Burley Griffin. This weed was notifiable and was listed as a Weed of National Significance. A map of these sites is attached. A boom has been placed at Acacia Inlet in an attempt to minimize the spread of this weed. The NCA has engaged a contractor who has completed the first spray with follow up sprays to be done twice a year. It is expected to take many years to contain or eradicate the weed from the Lake as it is notorious for being difficult to eliminate entirely. Peter Beutel has requested that Lake users refrain from disturbing the weed as it is easy spread by pieces breaking off, allowing these pieces to reestablish down stream.

### **AFP Update: SGT Paul Cartwright, AFP, SRG Maritime**

Sergeant Cartwright gave a brief outline of Water Police operations since the last LUG meeting. Assistance was given to a number of Lake users experiencing difficulties whilst on the water including a capsized yacht, a group of swimmers getting tired while swimming to Springbank Island, and assisting a number of kayakers.

Sergeant Cartwright mentioned that the ACT Water Police are operable from 7am – 5pm daily and are on call all other times. ACT Water Police are also on call for other ACT Lakes and dams as well as assisting in NSW local operations where required.

Sergeant Cartwright had noticed an increased rate of roadside parking against the direction of traffic and driving on the wrong side of Alexandrina Drive, Yarralumla Bay. Infringement notices would be issued if the driving behaviours failed to improve.

### **Other Business:**

#### **Regatta Point Jetty**

Jim Paterson (Lake Burley Griffin Cruises) raised concerns regarding the height of the pylons of the Regatta Point Jetty, citing incidences of damage to vessels as a result. Other structural issues were raised and it was deemed appropriate for the NCA to meet with concerned boat operators at the jetty to inspect and discuss the issues raised.

**Action Item: NCA will meet with Brian Marriot (Southern Cross Cruises), Keryn de Majnik (P.S. Enterprise) and Jim Patterson (Lake Burley Griffin Cruises) at the Regatta Point Jetty on Monday 17 March 2014 to discuss further.**

## LUG

James Hammond raised the issue that LUG currently does not have a Terms of Reference or a formal process for selecting office bearers.

It was proposed that a working group be formed to discuss and make recommendations on how LUG should self manage these issues. The NCA will still make available a secretariat, venue and other facilities. James suggested that the working group will have suggestions and recommendations to present at the next LUG meeting.

**Action Item: Representatives from LUG groups to be nominated to assist in the working group. Those wishing to participate are to contact Michelle Jeffrey.**

## Dragon Boat Pontoon

Jim Paterson enquired about the possibility of the Dragon Boat pontoon being positioned in East Basin with a concern that it would become a navigation hazard at night if it was not to have lights installed. It was confirmed that any navigational obstacle would be subject to the National Guidelines and that the pontoon, if installed in the East Basin would have to comply and have the required navigational lights.

## AFP and Kingston Foreshore

Sergeant Cartwright explained that the ACT Water Police are available to attend incidents which might occur at Kingston Foreshore. This would require the mooring of the police boat and access to the foreshore via the locked gates. It was discussed that the AFP would be able to obtain the required swipe access passes from LDA, similar to those in place for the commercial boat operators.

## Hazard reduction burns

Peter Beutel informed LUG of four hazard reduction burns which were planned in the coming months; Guilfoyle Street grasslands, Yarralumla, the hill opposite the Governor General's residence (near the zoo), Springbank Island, and Stirling Park.

**Meeting Closed: 10:05am**

## SUMMARY OF ACTIONS ARISING – 12 March 2014

ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY
<p>NCA to invite a spokesperson from LDA to present at the next LUG meeting (11 June). Subjects to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Slipway</li><li>• Kingston Harbour</li><li>• Grevillea Park</li></ul>	Peter Beutel
<p>Peter Beutel to meet at the Regatta Point Jetty on Monday 17 March with concerned boat operators to discuss the height of the pylons and other infrastructure issues</p>	Peter Beutel
<p>Representatives from LUG groups to be nominated to assist in the working group for the development of LUG Terms of Reference and a process for selecting office bearers. Those wishing to participate are to contact Michelle Jeffrey.</p>	LUG members and Michelle Jeffrey

### Alligator Weed Infestations

