

AQUAPLAN 2014-2019 Development Workshop

16-17 September 2013

Mantra Hotel, Tullamarine, Melbourne



Outcomes Report

Executive Summary

AQUAPLAN is Australia's national strategic plan for aquatic animal health. It outlines priorities for enhancing Australia's management of aquatic animal health, and is jointly developed by aquatic animal industries and Commonwealth and state and territory governments. The review of Australia's second national strategic plan for aquatic animal health, AQUAPLAN 2005-2010, found a strong ongoing need for a nationally coordinated approach to aquatic animal health in Australia. Based on the findings of this review, industry and governments agreed to the development of a successor strategy.

The AQUAPLAN 2014-2019 Development Working Group, a joint industry-government working group, was established under the auspices of the Sub-Committee on Aquatic Animal Health (SCAAH) to guide development of Australia's third national strategic plan for aquatic animal health – AQUAPLAN 2014-2019. The working group organised this workshop to consult industry and governments on priority issues to be included in AQUAPLAN 2014-2019. Workshop participants included representatives from industry (including wild catch, aquaculture and ornamental fish sectors), Commonwealth and state and territory governments.

Presentations at the workshop outlined Australia's aquatic animal health management systems, drivers and threats to Australia's aquatic animal industries, and the need for a new national strategic plan for aquatic animal health. Workshop activities encouraged discussion on priority issues and activities for inclusion in AQUAPLAN 2014-2019.

Workshop participants agreed that the following list of priority issues should form the basis of AQUAPLAN 2014-2019:

- Enhancing surveillance and diagnostic services
- Strengthening emergency preparedness and response arrangements
- Improving regional and enterprise level biosecurity
- Improving availability of appropriate veterinary medicines
- Improved education, training and awareness

Participants also discussed specific project activities that could address the priority issues. The AQUAPLAN 2014-2019 Development Working Group will use the outcomes of this workshop to draft AQUAPLAN 2014-2019. Once drafted, workshop participants will be provided with an opportunity to consider the draft AQUAPLAN 2014-2019, before it is progressed through a formal industry and government committee endorsement process.

Acknowledgements

Funding for this workshop was provided by the Australian Government Department of Agriculture (formerly the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry; DAFF) through the Fisheries Research and Development Corporation. The funds were used to cover the cost of venue hire, travel and accommodation for participants.

The AQUAPLAN 2014-2019 Development Working Group would like to acknowledge the efforts of Joanne Slater (FRDC Aquatic Animal Health Subprogram Coordinator) in organising the workshop, and the time and expertise contributed by workshop participants.

This report has been prepared by Ingo Ernst, Mark Crane, Pheroze Jungalwalla and Katie McMahon on behalf of the AQUAPLAN 2014-2019 Development Working Group and workshop participants.

Background

There is a strong ongoing need for a nationally coordinated approach to aquatic animal health in Australia. A strategic approach involving industry and governments is essential to ensure national systems can protect industry and the environment from aquatic animal disease threats, and that the limited available resources are applied in the most efficient and effective manner.

Australia has had two national strategic plans for aquatic animal health: AQUAPLAN 1998-2003 and AQUAPLAN 2005-2010. Australia's second national strategic plan for aquatic animal health, AQUAPLAN 2005-2010 concluded in June 2010. A review of AQUAPLAN 2005-2010 found that:

- AQUAPLAN 2005-2010 made substantial progress in strengthening Australia's aquatic animal health systems.
- AQUAPLAN 2005-2010 was particularly successful in focussing and attracting available resources to agreed national strategic priorities.
- there is a strong ongoing need for a nationally coordinated approach to aquatic animal health in Australia.

In late 2012, industry sectors (through the National Aquatic Animal Health Industry Reference Group; NAAHIRG) indicated support for the AQUAPLAN 2005-2010 review and development of a successor plan. Governments (through the Primary Industries Standing Committee; PISC) endorsed the AQUAPLAN review and agreed to the development of a successor plan in May 2013.

The AQUAPLAN 2014-2019 Development Working Group was established to guide development of Australia's third national strategic plan for aquatic animal health – AQUAPLAN 2014-2019. The group comprises representatives from governments (through the Sub-Committee on Aquatic Animal Health; SCAAH) and industry (through NAAHIRG). This workshop was organised by the working group to provide a forum for consultation between industry sectors and governments on priority issues to be included in AQUAPLAN 2014-2019.

Objectives of the workshop were to:

- i. Provide workshop participants with information on Australia's previous national strategic plan and the need for a new national strategic plan.
- ii. Determine common aquatic animal health related risks (and opportunities) that may impact on industry sectors over the next five or more years.
- iii. Determine priority activities for inclusion in Australia's third national strategic plan for aquatic animal health, AQUAPLAN 2014-2019.

Methodology

A number of introductory presentations were made to inform participants of the history of AQUAPLAN, components of Australia's existing aquatic animal health management systems, future aquatic animal disease threats to Australia, and why a new national strategic plan for aquatic animal health should be developed. Representatives from industry sectors made presentations on production trends for their sector, drivers for these trends, and significant aquatic animal health issues facing their sectors.

For workshop activities, participants were divided into three groups. Each group comprised representatives from Commonwealth and state/territory governments, aquaculture sectors, and wild catch sectors.

In groups, participants completed two workshop activities. For workshop Activity 2, participants completed the task individually prior to the activity to allow a broad range of projects to be discussed by groups. Completed activity sheets were collected at the end of the workshop to allow

for further consideration by the AQUAPLAN 2014-2019 Development Working Group after the workshop.

Further information on workshop arrangements and methodology can be found in the following Appendices:

See Appendix 1 for a list of participants.

See Appendix 2 for the workshop agenda.

See Appendix 3 for a list of participants in each workshop activity group.

See Appendix 4 for reading material provided to participants before the workshop, including Appendices 4a and 4b for workshop activity instructions.

See Appendix 5 for presentations made at the workshop.

Outputs from workshop activities

Activity 1 - Priority issues for inclusion in AQUAPLAN 2014-2019

Groups identified a range of priority issues that could be addressed by the new AQUAPLAN.

Following presentations from each group on the outcomes of their discussion, workshop participants agreed that the following list of priority issues should form the basis of AQUAPLAN 2014-2019:

- Enhancing surveillance and diagnostic services
- Strengthening emergency preparedness and response arrangements
- Improving regional and enterprise level biosecurity
- Improving availability of appropriate veterinary medicines
- Improved education, training and awareness

The table below outlines a range of specific issues identified by the groups that could be considered under each priority issue.

ACTIVITY 1 OUTPUTS – Summary of all groups
<p><u>Enhancing surveillance and diagnostic services</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intelligence gathering/forecasting • Opportunistic surveillance while animals are being inspected • State and national level surveillance to support both export certification and import restrictions • Harmonisation of testing/translocation requirements (endemic diseases) between jurisdictions/institutions • Sensitivity of passive surveillance – sufficient for early detection? Market access? • Emerging and new diseases • Capability and capacity <p>(Diagnostics)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Timeliness – rapid tests • Test validation • Diagnostic support for the regions even though arrangements might be centralised • Diagnostic capacity – government and private; exotic/imported • AAH Centre of Excellence (build and consolidate) – area of highest value (action?) • Sample transport from regions to labs
<p><u>Strengthening emergency preparedness and response arrangements</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhance AQUAVETPLAN for on-farm preparedness

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Currency of response plans? • Coordination & communication – what happens next? • On-farm requirements • Linkage to EAD preparedness arrangements • Industry awareness and understanding (training) • Emergency response arrangements
<p><u>Improving regional and enterprise level biosecurity</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prevention better than cure • National border: On-farm level, documented, integrate into industry QA programs/greater awareness • Biosecurity plans – guidelines required • Transmission pathways (e.g. Biofouling and ballast water) – transmission pathways for pathogens • Translocation – risk of spreading endemic diseases • Stock movement documentation • Industry-wide – health accreditation
<p><u>Improving availability of appropriate veterinary medicines</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supply of chemicals • Low risk vs. high risk chemicals • Access (minor use permit or full registration): Regulatory burden/red-tape – better coordination required • Without them there is a loss of competitive advantage • Need effective therapies – animal welfare issue • Review registration process (use/recognition of overseas datasets) • How can AQUAPLAN contribute? • APVMA: need for facilitating process • Risks of inappropriate use of chemicals • Antimicrobial resistance
<p><u>Improving education, training and awareness</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awareness of what has gone in the past • For all beneficiaries • Recreational fishers – valuable resource for early detection • Do we know what our training needs are? • Public and private sector issue • On-going and future employment opportunities (limited job market?) • Monitoring effectiveness of current training • Relationship to productivity/profit • Epidemiology • Post-grad courses in aquatic animal health • Farm-level training in aquatic animal health.
<p>Other</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop AQUAPLAN strategies that become integrated into normal government/industry policy and business • Climate/environmental/production cycle change – influence on diseases

Activity 2 - What do we need to do to address priority issues identified through workshop activity 1?

Groups discussed specific projects that could be carried out over the next five years to address the priority issues identified through Activity 1. After the activity, each group presented a list of possible projects which are outlined in the table below.

ACTIVITY 2 OUTPUTS – Group 1
<p><u>Enhancing surveillance and diagnostic services</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Translocation: Development of accreditation programs (e.g. abalone program which is underway). • Reporting of events: facilitation by using modern technology e.g. remote reporting using mobile phone app.
<p><u>Improving regional and enterprise level biosecurity</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biosecurity plans: Need for on-farm plans. Underpin (inter-jurisdictional) translocation. Nationally endorsed template. Audit process as required. Farm accreditation. • Process to facilitate implementation on-farm. • Biosecurity awareness and resources for fishers and other users.
<p><u>Improving availability of appropriate veterinary medicines</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve awareness of inappropriate chemical use. • Develop guidelines for appropriate drug use. • Need process appropriate for lower impact chemicals. • Need for a new process specific for aquatic industries rather than making aquatics fit into existing procedures (transition period would be required). APVMA and state agencies need to be involved. Understanding of industry requirements important.
<p><u>Improving education, training and awareness</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awareness program for all stakeholders. Communication program for identification of risks, best practice, tools for reporting. What to report; how to report.
ACTIVITY 2 OUTPUTS - GROUP 2
<p><u>Enhancing surveillance and diagnostic services</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Benchmarking capability for what is normal (e.g. baseline health status, mortality, feed conversion, drug use); can be shared. Any variances provide early warning. Outcomes: Increased shared knowledge on what is normal. Confidentiality issues. Leader: Industry. • Development of template requires resourcing – possible PhD project.
<p><u>Strengthening emergency preparedness and response arrangements</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biosecurity “diving” squad: A skilled team that can respond rapidly (in the first few days) and then bring in required expertise/resources. Lead: DAFF. Funding may be available.
<p><u>Improving regional and enterprise level biosecurity</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of generic on-farm biosecurity templates integrated with industry QA, supporting market access and interstate movements. Lead: FRDC. DAFF has allocated funds to this activity. AHA.
<p><u>Improving availability of appropriate veterinary medicines</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MUP: Agree to a facilitated process to obtain permits from APVMA. Leads: SCAAH; Industry; APVMA; DAFF; NAC. Resources required for getting the relevant parties together.
<p><u>Improving education, training and awareness</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Audit and assessment of current AAH training – suitable for industry participants (not vets).

Leads: Industry and FRDC. Need for networking. Training specific for farm staff. Online courses.
ACTIVITY 2 OUTPUTS - GROUP 3
<u>Enhancing surveillance and diagnostic services</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Passive surveillance: Gaps and need for improvements. Early reporting. • Validation needs and priorities. Validation status of used tests providing info on expected sensitivity and specificity. Need a list of priority diseases/tests.
<u>Strengthening emergency preparedness and response arrangements</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Industry/govt response arrangements – underway. • National/sector-specific simulation exercises including field activities. • Risk management training and planning for industry to develop resilience.
<u>Improving regional and enterprise level biosecurity</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See examples provided in activity instruction sheet at Appendix 4c: Templates and on-farm implementation.
<u>Improving education, training and awareness</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communication strategy for AQUAPLAN. Promotion of AQUAPLAN to all stakeholders. • Audit and assessment of current aquatic animal health training opportunities in Australia. • Improved awareness of AQUAVETPLAN manuals.

Conclusions

Through this workshop, participants gained an improved understanding of Australia's aquatic animal health management systems, how Australia's previous national strategic plans have contributed to these systems, and the need for a new national strategic plan for aquatic animal health.

Participants agreed that the following list of priority issues should form the basis of AQUAPLAN 2014-2019:

- Enhancing surveillance and diagnostic services
- Strengthening emergency preparedness and response arrangements
- Improving regional and enterprise level biosecurity
- Improving availability of appropriate veterinary medicines
- Improved education, training and awareness

Participants also developed a list outlining specific activities to address these priority issues. The outcomes of this workshop will be considered by the AQUAPLAN 2014-2019 Development Working Group when drafting AQUAPLAN 2014-2019.

Workshop participants also noted that the following issues should be considered throughout the development and implementation of AQUAPLAN 2014-2019:

- Integration of issues that remain to be addressed from AQUAPLAN 2005-2010 to AQUAPLAN 2014-2019 (where relevant).
- Transition of AQUAPLAN activities to 'business as usual' practice upon completion.
- How to effectively communicate with stakeholders on the progress of AQUAPLAN activities.
- Opportunities to integrate aquatic animal health into terrestrial animal health management systems to capitalise on existing resources and expertise.
- Funding opportunities for projects under AQUAPLAN 2014-2019. While some activities under the plan already have committed funding, further funding will be required to ensure implementation and completion of projects under the plan.

Next steps

The AQUAPLAN 2014-2019 Development Working Group will use workshop outcomes to draft the AQUAPLAN document. Once drafted, AQUAPLAN 2014-2019 will be provided to workshop participants for consideration. Workshop participants are encouraged to consult their relevant sectors on AQUAPLAN 2014-2019. Prompt responses will be required to ensure momentum to develop the plan is maintained.

Following consultation with workshop participants, AQUAPLAN 2014-2019 will be progressed through a formal industry and government endorsement process. The AQUAPLAN 2014-2019 Development Working Group aims to have AQUAPLAN 2014-2019 endorsed by all parties and ready for formal commencement on 1 July 2014.

Appendices

1. Workshop participants
2. Workshop agenda
3. Workshop participants – activity groups
4. Pre-workshop background reading
 - a. AQUAPLAN Workshop overview
 - b. AQUAPLAN Workshop – Guide to Activity 1
 - c. AQUAPLAN Workshop – Guide to Activity 2
5. Workshop presentations
 - a. AQUAPLAN – What has it achieved? (Ingo Ernst)
 - b. Aquatic animal disease threats – what we might expect in the future (Ingo Ernst)
 - c. Components of Australia’s national aquatic animal health systems (Ingo Ernst)
 - d. Salmon industry presentation (Adam Main)
 - e. Edible oyster industry presentation (Jedd Routledge)
 - f. Tuna industry presentation (David Ellis)
 - g. Pearl oyster industry presentation (Alex Ogg)
 - h. Ornamental industry presentation (Rob Jones)

Appendix 1: Workshop participants

AQUAPLAN Workshop, 16-17 September 2013

**Mantra Tullamarine, Melbourne
List of participants**

#	Organisation	Participant
	National	
1.	FRDC Aquatic Animal Health Subprogram/CSIRO-AAHL	Mark Crane (co-chairman)
2.	National Aquaculture Council / National Aquatic Animal Health Industry Reference Group	Pheroze Jungalwalla (co-chairman)
3.	Animal Health Committee / Sub-Committee of Aquatic Animal Health	Rod Andrewartha
4.	Australian Chief Veterinary Officer—Dept Agriculture, Fisheries & Forestry	Mark Schipp
5.	Dept Agriculture, Fisheries & Forestry	Ingo Ernst
6.	Dept Agriculture, Fisheries & Forestry	Katie McMahon
7.	Sustainable Resource Management— Dept Agriculture, Fisheries & Forestry	Tim Karlov
8.	Animal Health Australia	Eva-Maria Bernoth
9.	Fisheries Research & Development Corporation (FRDC)	Crispian Ashby
10.	Aquaculture Committee	Ian Lyall
11.	Aquatic Animal Welfare Working Group, Australian Animal Welfare Strategy	Paul Hardy-Smith
	Wild sectors	
12.	Harvest Fishery	Neil Stump
13.	Recreational Fishery	Matt Barwick
14.	Ornamentals	Rob Jones
15.	Traditional Fishery	Apology
16.	Abalone wild catch	Apology
17.	Southern Rock Lobster Fishery	Ross Hodge
18.	Prawn Fishery	Apology
	Aquaculture Sectors	
19.	Salmonids	Adam Main
20.	Southern Bluefin Tuna/Yellowtail Kingfish	David Ellis
21.	Marine finfish and hatchery	Craig Foster
22.	Barramundi	Marty Phillips
23.	Freshwater fish	Apology
24.	Oysters	Jedd Routledge
25.	Abalone	Nick Savva Ben Diggles
26.	Prawns	Helen Jenkins
27.	Pearl oysters	Alex Ogg
	State Governments	
28.	Dept Fisheries – WA	Mike Snow
29.	Dept Primary Industry and Fisheries – NT	Kitman Dyrting
30.	Dept Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry – QLD	Tim Lucas
31.	Dept Primary Industries – NSW	Juliet Corish
32.	Dept of Environment and Primary Industries – VIC	Tracey Bradley
33.	Dept of Primary Industries and Regions – SA	Shane Roberts
34.	Dept Primary Industries, Parks, Water & Environ – TAS	Kevin Ellard

Appendix 2: Workshop agenda

AQUAPLAN Workshop, Melbourne, 16-17 September 2013

Mantra Tullamarine, Melbourne

Agenda

Day 1 Monday 16 September 2013

Time	Item	Leader
14.00	Welcome; introduction; purpose of the workshop	MC/PJ
14.15	Setting the scene: what did AQUAPLAN 1998-2003 and AQUAPLAN 2005-2010 achieve and why do we need another plan?	IE
14.35	Aquatic animal disease threats: Australia's past, present and what we might expect in the future	MC/IE
14.50	Status, drivers and emerging issues for selected industry sectors (5-10 mins each) <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Salmon- Edible oysters- Abalone fisheries- Pearl oysters- Tuna- Ornamentals	Industry reps; TBC
15.30	Tea/Coffee	
15.50	<u>Instructions for workshop activity 1</u> : Priority issues for inclusion in AQUAPLAN 2014–2019	MC/PJ
16.00	Activity 1 group discussions	groups
17.00	Reporting back and discussion	groups
17.30	Close Day 1	MC/PJ
19.00	Workshop dinner	

Day 2 Tuesday 17 September 2013

Time	Item	Leader
08.15	Review of Activity 1 outcomes	MC/PJ
08.30	Components of our national aquatic animal health systems—how it all fits together	IE
08.45	<u>Instructions for workshop activity 2</u> : What do we need to do to address the priority issues identified in workshop activity 1?	MC/PJ
08.55	Activity 2 breakout discussions	groups
10.15	Reporting back and discussion	groups
10.45	Tea/Coffee	
11.05	Agreement on AQUAPLAN objectives and supporting activities	MC/PJ
12.15	Next steps – finalising a plan and seeking agreement by industry and governments	IE
12.30	Workshop close and lunch	

Appendix 3: Workshop participants – activity groups

Group	Sector	Organisation	Participant
1	National	AHC / SCAAH	Rod Andrewartha (Lead)
1	National	DAFF - Resource Mgmt	Tim Karlov
1	National	DAFF	Katie McMahon
1	National	AAWS - AAWWG	Paul Hardy-Smith
1	Rec. Fishery	Recreational Fishery	Matt Barwick
1	Aquaculture	Salmonids	Adam Main
1	Aquaculture	Abalone	Nick Savva
1	State govts	DPI – NSW	Juliet Corish
1	State govts	DPIF – NT	Kitman Dyrting
2	National	Animal Health Australia	Eva-Maria Bernoth (Lead)
2	National	DAFF - Australian CVO	Mark Schipp
2	National	FRDC	Crispian Ashby
2	Wild harvest	Harvest Fishery	Neil Stump
2	Aquaculture	SBT & Yellowtail Kingfish	David Ellis
2	Aquaculture	Barramundi	Marty Phillips
2	Aquaculture	Pearl oysters	Alex Ogg
2	State govts	DEPI – VIC	Tracey Bradley
2	State govts	DPI & Regions – SA	Shane Roberts
3	National	DAFF – Aquatic Animal Health	Ingo Ernst (Lead)
3	National	AFMF - Aquaculture Committee	Ian Lyall
3	Wild harvest	Southern Rock Lobster Fishery	Ross Hodge
3	Ornamentals	Ornamentals	Rob Jones
3	Aquaculture	Marine finfish and hatchery	Craig Foster
3	Aquaculture	Oysters	Jedd Routledge
3	Aquaculture	Prawns	Helen Jenkins
3	State govts	Dept Fisheries – WA	Mike Snow
3	State govts	DAFF – QLD	Tim Lucas
3	State govts	DPIWE – TAS	Kevin Ellard
All	National	FRDC AAHSP/CSIRO-AAHL	Mark Crane (co-chair) (Float)
All	National	NAC / NAAHIRG	Pheroze Jungalwalla (co-chair) (Float)
	Wild harvest	Abalone wild catch	Apology
	Wild harvest	Prawn Fishery	Apology
	Aquaculture	Freshwater fish	Apology
	Traditional F.	Traditional Fishery	Apology

AQUAPLAN 2014-2019 Development Workshop

Mantra Tullamarine, Melbourne

16-17 September 2013

Background

AQUAPLAN is Australia's National Strategic Plan for Aquatic Animal Health. The plan outlines priorities for enhancing Australia's management of aquatic animal health. AQUAPLAN is developed jointly by aquatic animal industries and the Commonwealth and state and territory governments. National implementation of AQUAPLAN activities and projects is overseen by the Animal Health Committee (AHC) and its Sub-Committee on Aquatic Animal Health (SCAAH). Australia has had two five-year AQUAPLANs (AQUAPLAN 1998-2003; AQUAPLAN 2005-2010).

Australia's second national strategic plan for aquatic animal health, AQUAPLAN 2005-2010 concluded in June 2010. The plan was developed and implemented through the cooperation of aquatic animal industry sectors and governments. A review of the plan found that:

- AQUAPLAN 2005-2010 made substantial progress in strengthening Australia's aquatic animal health systems.
- AQUAPLAN 2005-2010 was particularly successful in focussing and attracting available resources to agreed national strategic priorities.
- there is a strong ongoing need for a nationally coordinated approach to aquatic animal health in Australia.

In late 2012, industry sectors (through the National Aquatic Animal Health Industry Reference Group; NAAHIRG) indicated support for the AQUAPLAN 2005-2010 review and development of a successor plan. Governments (through the Primary Industries Standing Committee; PISC) endorsed the AQUAPLAN review and agreed to the development of a successor plan in May 2013.

A working group with representatives from governments (SCAAH) and industry (NAAHIRG) has been established to guide development of Australia's third national strategic plan for aquatic animal health – AQUAPLAN 2014-2019. The group has planned this workshop as an important step to ensuring the next AQUAPLAN reflects the views of industry and governments. The priorities identified at this workshop will form the basis of AQUAPLAN 2014-2019.

Workshop Objectives

- iv. To provide workshop participants with information on Australia's previous national strategic plan and the need for a new national strategic plan.
- v. To determine common aquatic animal health related risks (and opportunities) that may impact on industry sectors over the next five or more years.
- vi. To determine priority activities for inclusion in Australia's third national strategic plan for aquatic animal health, AQUAPLAN 2014-2019.

Workshop organisation

Chairmen – Mark Crane (FRDC Aquatic Animal Health Subprogram; CSIRO-AAHL)
Pheroze Jungalwalla (NAC/NAAHIRG)

Secretariat support – DAFF (Katie McMahon; Katie.McMahon@daff.gov.au)

Travel, accommodation arrangements – FRDC Aquatic Animal Health Subprogram (Jo Slater Joanne.Slater@csiro.au)

Appendix 4a: AQUAPLAN Workshop overview

Workshop funding

Funds for this workshop, provided by DAFF, will be used to pay for venue costs, reimbursement of travel and accommodation expenses for participants, and the preparation of a workshop report.

Workshop timing and venue

The workshop will be held on 16-17 September 2013 starting at 2.00pm on 16 July and finishing at 12.30pm on 17 July. This timing allows participants to travel to the venue on the morning of 16 September, and organise travel home on the afternoon of 17 September.

The workshop will be held at:

Mantra Tullamarine Hotel,
Cnr Melrose Drive & Trade Park Drive,
Tullamarine Melbourne VIC 3043
Ph: (03) 9093 6504

Expected outcomes

Workshop outputs will be presentations made at the workshop, background/explanatory documents (as appropriate), and a report to be prepared after the workshop.

The principal outcome of the workshop is to be agreement on priority activities to be included in a new national strategic plan for aquatic animal health. The agreed priorities will be included in a draft plan that would be provided to industry and governments for consideration and endorsement following the workshop.

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Workshop activity 1—Priority issues for inclusion in AQUAPLAN 2014-2019

Monday 16 September, 15:50-17:30

A review of AQUAPLAN 2005-2010 made recommendations on the approach that should be taken in AQUAPLAN 2014-2019, including that the new plan should:

- address common national priorities, not specific sector needs
- target strategic issues that could provide lasting benefit to management of aquatic animal health in Australia—rather than address tactical issues
- be more focused than previous plans with stronger emphasis on defined achievable tasks
- be a framework of agreed national priorities, not a funding program. The new AQUAPLAN is expected to attract funding to its agreed priorities.

The review of AQUAPLAN 2005-2010 identified several areas that require further coordinated action to strengthen aquatic animal health management systems. It is anticipated that these will form the basis of objectives for AQUAPLAN 2014-2019. The identified priority issues, in no particular order, are:

- a) strengthening aquatic animal health surveillance systems and data management
- b) improving diagnostic services, including regional services
- c) developing joint industry and government emergency aquatic animal disease response arrangements
- d) strengthening emergency preparedness arrangements, including contingency planning, training, and system testing
- e) strengthening enterprise level biosecurity and awareness
- f) improving access to safe and appropriate veterinary medicines
- g) improving education and training in aquatic animal health.

Task

Within your group:

1. Discuss important aquatic animal health related risks (and opportunities) that may impact on industry over the next 5 or more years.
2. Consider whether the above priority issues (a-g) address the risks and opportunities you identified.
3. Consider whether there are any other priority issues that should be included in AQUAPLAN 2014-2019 to address the risks and opportunities you identified (i.e. that are not covered by a-g).

Activity Outcome

After the activity, each group will be asked to present a list of priority issues that should be included in AQUAPLAN 2014-2019. After each group has reported, a single list will be compiled.

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Workshop activity 2—What do we need to do to address the priority issues identified through workshop activity 1?

Tuesday 17 September, 8:45-10.45

The projects within AQUAPLAN 2014-2019 will aim to address the priority issues identified through workshop activity 1. Through these projects AQUAPLAN will strengthen Australia's arrangements for managing aquatic animal health.

Consistent with outcomes of the AQUAPLAN 2005-2010 review, projects proposed for inclusion in AQUAPLAN 2014-2019 should:

- be focussed, with an emphasis on defined achievable tasks
- address common national priorities, not specific sector needs
- target strategic issues that could provide lasting benefit to management of aquatic animal health in Australia—rather than address tactical issues.

Task

Within your group, discuss specific projects that could be carried out over the next 5 years to address the priority issues identified through workshop activity 1.

For each activity, make sure you outline the following:

- Type of activity
- Expected outcome – what will the activity achieve?
- Lead – who should drive the activity?
- Expected resource/financial implications

Some examples are provided over the page.

Activity Outcome

After the activity, each group will be asked to present a list of key activities to address the proposed priority issues under AQUAPLAN 2014-2019. Please present your list in the format shown on the next page. After each group has reported, a single list will be compiled and participants will determine the highest priority projects.

Appendix 4c: AQUAPLAN Workshop – Guide to Activity 2

Examples:

Priority issue: ‘Strengthening enterprise level biosecurity and awareness’

Activity	Expected outcome	Lead	Resource/financial implications
Development of sector-specific biosecurity plan templates and guidance documents	Access to best practice biosecurity planning guidance tailored to the needs of aquaculture (and fisheries?) sectors	SCAAH (to develop a generic template) Industry peak bodies (to develop sector specific guidance documents and templates)	Funding to support sectors to develop templates (DAFF has allocated funding to this activity)
A program to support farms to develop and implement enterprise-specific biosecurity plans	Enterprise level biosecurity practices that manage aquatic animal disease risks cost-effectively	Industry peak bodies	?? Funding for professional advice to implement biosecurity plans

Priority issue: ‘Developing joint industry and government emergency aquatic animal disease response arrangements’

Activity	Expected outcome	Lead	Resource/financial implications
Implement an agreed program of work to develop terms of industry–government emergency aquatic animal disease response arrangements, and engage industry in seeking solutions to some circumstances that are unique to aquatic industries	In-principle support of draft terms of arrangements as applied to multiple aquatic animal industry sectors	DAFF and AHA Engagement by industry, state and territory govts	Direct costs of an executive officer to drive implementation of the work plan over 4 years (funding has been committed by DAFF) In-kind costs for travel to meetings and workshops