

NRAR Extraordinary Board meeting Minutes

MEETING	NRAR Board meeting		
MEETING NO.	No.37	DATE	30 September 2020
LOCATION	VC	TIME	1:00 pm – 2:20 pm
BOARD INVITEES	Craig Knowles (Chair), Ilona Millar (member), Bruce Brown (member)		
NRAR INVITEES	Graeme White (A/Chief Regulatory Officer), Kirsty Ruddock(Director- Water Enforcement Taskforce), Sharon Ryan (Executive and Board Coordinator)Russell Johnston (Executive Officer)		
APOLOGIES	Grant Barnes(Chief Regulatory Officer)		

Agenda Item	Notes
Prosecution – Cranny <i>Invitee: Kirsty Ruddock (Director WET)</i>	- Ms Ruddock outlined the purpose of the paper - The Board resolved to adopt the recommendations as presented on the paper
NRAR Correspondence – Southern Riverina Irrigators	- The Board noted receipt of the letter - The Board provided advice to Russell Johnston, OCRO for incorporation into response.
NRAR Floodplain Harvesting Disallowance Response	- Mr White provided the Board with proposed options as per the paper provided - The Board commented that NRAR has been committed to a pathway for licensing and approvals for the take to flood plain harvesting to commence on 1 July 2021 for Floodplain harvesting in the 5 Northern valleys of NSW. We have been involved in the development of the monitoring policy and look forward to its implementation. We have been focussed on ensuring we are ready to enforce the rules at this time. - The current situation is a result of the actions of the Legislative Council of NSW Parliament. The disallowance of the exemption will mean that this activity is not exempt under the Water Management Act 2000. - NRAR will as an independent regulator continue to enforce the law. We will do this reasonably and this will be no different to any other matter that we deal with. - NRAR will respond to suspicious activity reports received using its current risk-based processes, and where a breach is confirmed, take proportionate compliance action in accordance with NRAR's published regulatory policy (i.e. take seriousness of the offence, impact on the environment and other water users, culpability, community interest and willingness to cooperate into account).