

	National Environmental Information Infrastructure	17 July 2017
		NEMSR WG Meeting #02
		Outcomes

MEETING #02 – OUTCOMES

Meeting	Meeting # 02 – National Environmental Monitoring Sites Register Working Group
Chair	Andre Zerger, Bureau of Meteorology
Meeting Date	17 July 2017
Time	2pm to 3.30pm
Location (Cba)	Bureau of Meteorology, Treasury Building, B Block Levels 1 & 2 Parkes Place West, Parkes ACT 2600, Level 1N – Bulyangan - East Wind
Location (Mel)	Bureau of Meteorology, Head Office, 700 Collins Street Docklands, Level 9 North West (9North meeting room)
WebEx	WebEx details in outlook calendar invitation

1. Welcome, introductions and actions (Andre Zerger)

Andre welcomed members to the second meeting of the NEMSR Working Group. Action items from meeting #01 were reviewed with 1.4 being the only item outstanding. Andre advised the shared space on the NEII website for storing the working group's meeting minutes and papers is still in progress.

2. NEMSR data coordination update (Mardi Albert)

Mardi provided an update on the status of data ingest and highlighted the tracker which showed 15 networks live, 12 networks being currently on-boarded and 2 networks under consideration. The 12 networks in progress include 8 state/territory based air pollution sites which together make up a national air pollution network. The other 4 networks include the Supersites Network (TERN), Automatic Weather Stations (BOM), Ozone Network (BOM) and the national pollen network.

Enhancements are being made to the CSV-JSON converter tool to include further automation to reduce conversion errors and inclusion of time-saving features. The plan is to make the tool available to data providers once testing is complete and this would be added to the shared space on the NEII website. Mardi demonstrated the tool's functionality through screenshots and explained how to use it.

The group agreed that the existing tracker should be updated to produce a public-release version that only has current networks and networks being onboarded (not those under consideration). Mardi will update the tracker prior to uploading to the shared space on the NEII website. Members were asked to complete a final review with edits provided by 28 July 2017.

3. Update – national air quality and pollen sites (Chacko Thomas)

Chacko advised on progress in collating data from the states and territories for the air pollution networks including discussions with representatives. These networks are being handled differently than other NEMSR networks where the Bureau is taking the lead on pulling together the data into the templates and coordinating the ingest process.

Likewise with the pollen monitoring sites Chacko is compiling the data and liaising with the AusPollen representatives (mostly university researchers). This work is expected to take a couple more months to complete and then upload into the NEMSR.

4. NEII programme update – vocabulary service (Chantelle Doan)

Chantelle provided a programme update including progress on the NEII Environmental Vocabulary Service project. The project commenced earlier this year to develop the IT infrastructure to make environmental vocabularies more accessible to other systems/users. NEII is working closely with ANDS (Australian National Data Services) to release an NEII Vocabulary Service with capabilities including an Editor (create and manage Vocabularies), repository (database to store the data), publisher (interface to publish and make Vocabularies discoverable), and Linked data API for programmatic access to the data. Current stakeholders contributing environmental vocabularies include ABARES, ACLUMP, BoM (Urban Water, Ground Water and Water Resources). The project is progressing well with the product currently in user acceptance testing phase with an aim to release to production by 30 August 2017.

5. Group discussion: NEMSR publically accessible data requirement

The criteria for NEMSR network inclusion around 'publically accessible data' was discussed with regard to whether this criteria was adequately defined. Its interpretation may have implications for inclusion of networks where data are provided on a cost recovery basis or data that can only be made available upon request (i.e. not automatically available to download). Andre provided background noting that when the NEMSR was developed, it was agreed that environmental sites would be considered for inclusion where monitoring meets these criteria (one of which is the publically-accessible requirement). The group explored the various interpretations of 'publically accessible' and their agency positions exploring whether the criteria needed further definition.

The group agreed that current NEMSR networks fit within this criteria and it should remain a relatively flexible definition to maximise participation in this early stage of product release.

6. Updates from members

Members provided an update on current activities relating to NEMSR and relevant issues occurring in their organisations. The Bureau noted their new organisational structure that contains a renewed emphasis on data with the establishment of a Data Program under the Data and Digital Group.

7. Other business and close

Andre took the opportunity to advise the group of the NEII team's forward plans for NEMSR. This includes focussing more on the promotion and benefits to enhance its uptake by people and systems. This will mean less on-boarding of new networks in 17-18 although the team expect to be on boarding at least one new network at any point. An agenda item will be included for meeting #03 to ask members for further guidance on possible uptake opportunities. Meeting #03 will also provide an opportunity to discuss network updates and maintenance workflows.

No other business was raised and Andre advised the next meeting would be scheduled for mid-September.

Summary of Actions

NEMSR WG01.4	Create a shared space on the NEII website for working group papers, minutes, resources and a decision register
NEMSR WG02.1	NEII team to send out the Bureau's new organisation chart after a recent restructure.
NEMSR WG02.2	Mardi to send out updated tracker document with minutes, for final member review prior to publication. Member feedback requested by 28 July 2017.
NEMSR WG02.3	Mardi to advise group of release of CSV-JSON converter tool.