



Rangelands WA Fire Forum TalkBook

*Held on 19 & 20 February 2014
At Keiran McNamara Conservation Science Centre
Department of Parks and Wildlife
Dick Perry Avenue, Kensington
Facilitated by Craig Salt*



*This document is designed
to be printed 'double-sided'*

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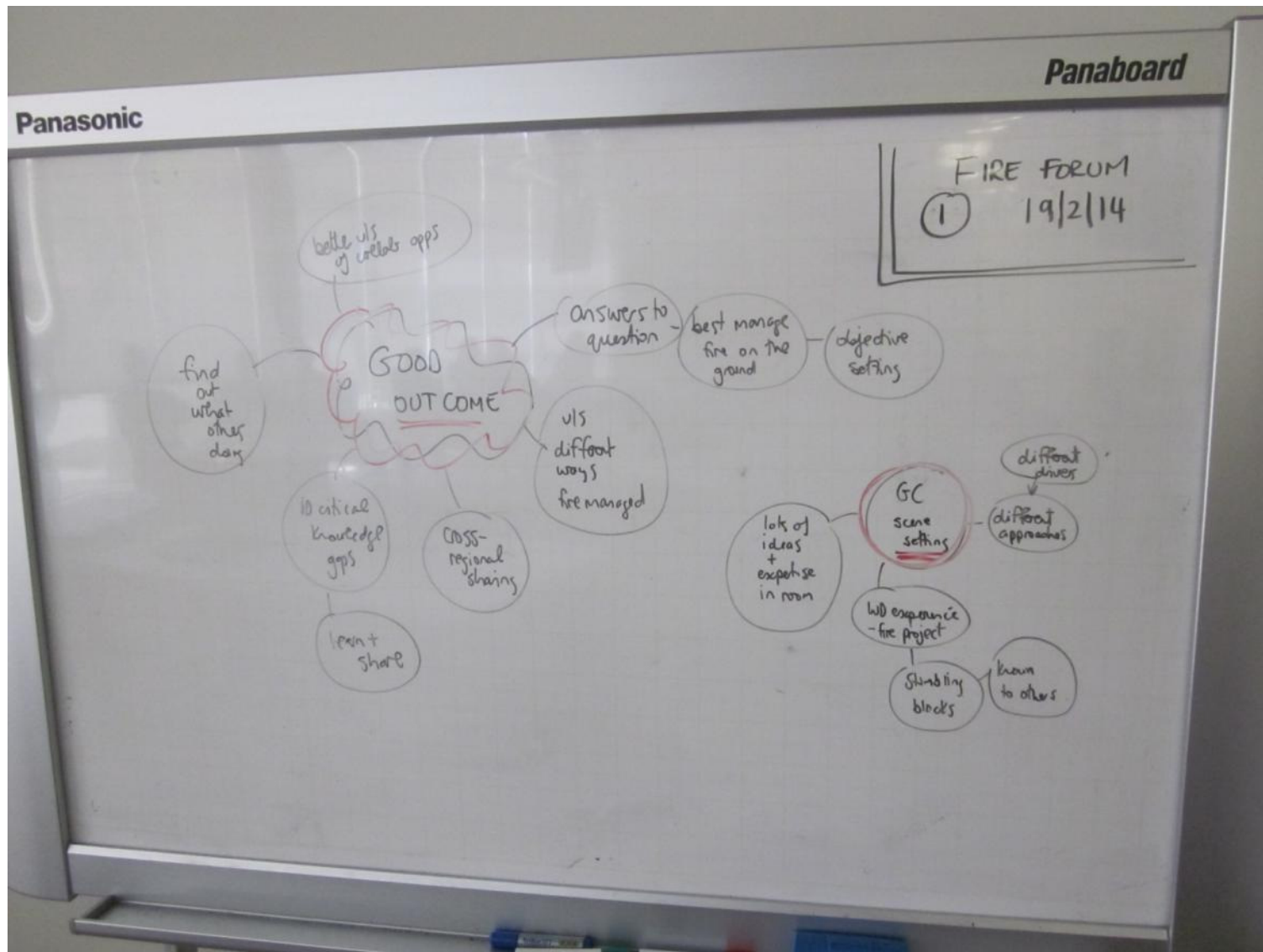
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Participants



Participants

Adrian Allen	Langgate
Alicia Whittington	DPaW Pilbara – Nature Conservation
Alison McGilvray	DPaW – Nature Conservation
Bart Huntley	DPaW – GIS
Ben Kaethner	Central Land Council
Bill Cotching	Rangelands NRM – Pilbara
Bill Currans	Rangelands NRM – Desert
Dave Whitelaw	Bush Heritage Australia
Gareth Catt	KI
Glen James	NAIISMA
Grey Mackay	Rangelands NRM – Kimberley
Hamish Morgan	Central Desert
Ian Hereford	DPaW
Jane Bradley	Rangelands NRM – Southern Rangelands
Jeremy Russell-Smith	CDU
John Silver	Rangelands NRM
Katherine Zdunic	DPaW – GIS
Keith Lowe	DPaW
Kira Andrews	Rangelands NRM – Kimberley
Leigh Sage	DPaW – Fire Operations
Lesley Miller	Rangelands NRM – Project Management Systems & Evaluation
Malcolm Cronstedt	Office of Bushfire Risk Management
Mary-Anne Clunies-Ross	Greening Australia / Pilbara Corridors
Mike Robinson	Nifty Mine
Mo Pawero	Central Desert (Wiluna Rangers)
Neil Burrows	DPaW
Neil Hamaguchi	Environs Kimberley
Nicki Everson	Rangelands NRM
Paul Lane	Lingiari Foundation
Ralph Smith	DFES – Environmental Protection Branch
Richard Boykett	DPaW – Pilbara
Ryan Butler	DPaW – Goldfields
Stephen van Leeuwen	DPaW
Teresa Belcher	Rangelands NRM – Communications
Tracy Carboon	KI
Trevor Howard	DPaW
Tristan Cole	KI
Vanessa Westcott	Central Desert / Bush Heritage Australia



Setting the scene

Day 1 - electronic whiteboard 01

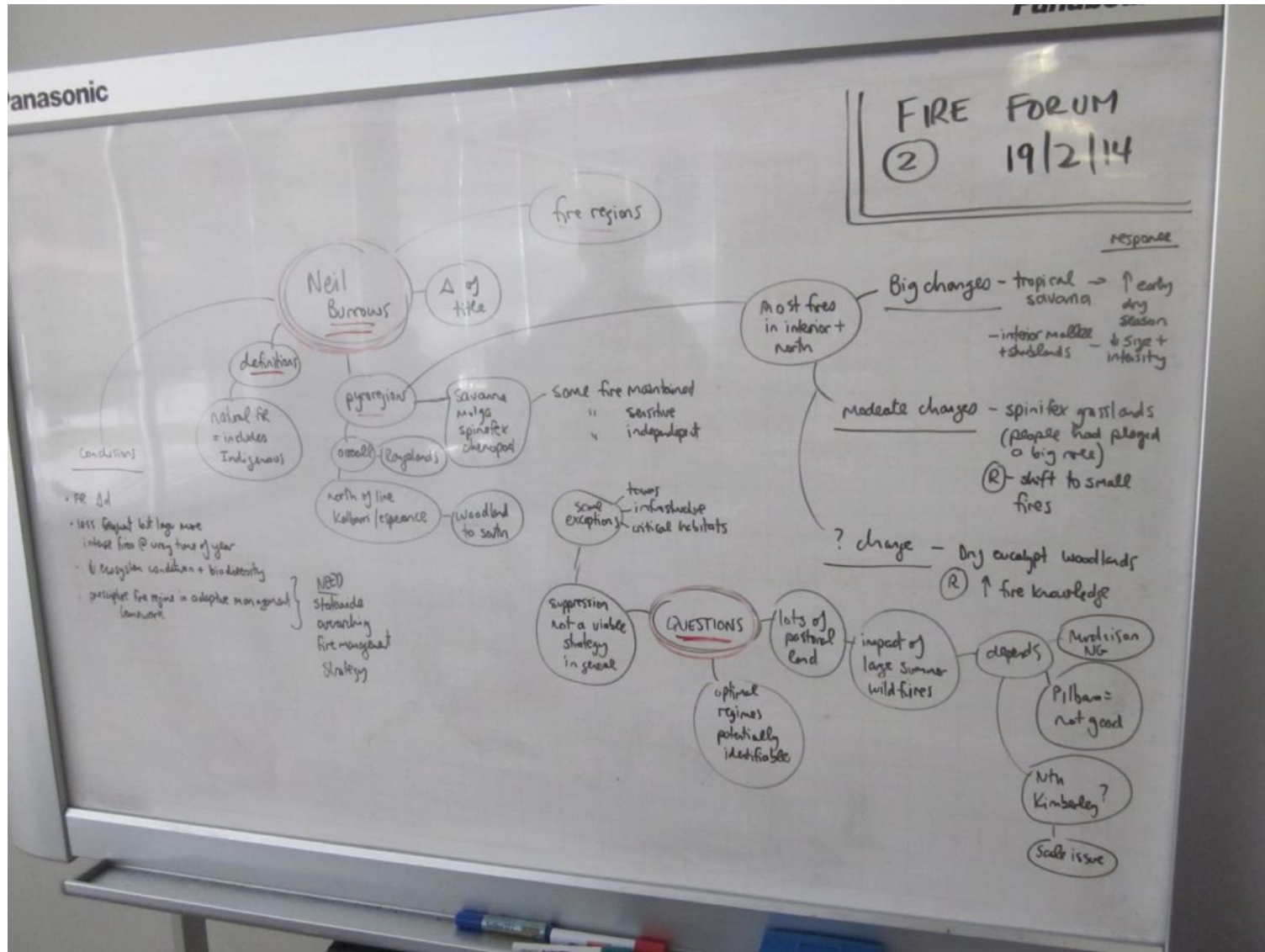
After Welcome-to-Country, participants introduced themselves on each table and identified what would constitute a good outcome from this workshop

- Agree how to best manage fire on the ground
 - Establish clear objectives
- Understand the different ways that fire is managed
- Encourage cross-regional sharing
- Identify critical knowledge gaps
 - Learn and share ways to close gaps
- Find out more about what others are doing
- Better understand opportunities to collaborate

We explored the tie-in between the above participant input and the stated workshop purpose 'to develop a shared understanding of, and commitment to implementing, an effective fire management regime in the WA Rangelands' and agreed there was good alignment between the two

Gareth Catt explained the background to this workshop

- He has direct experience working on the Western Desert fire project
 - A number of stumbling blocks were encountered
 - * With hindsight, some of those were probably known to others based on their earlier experiences
- There are many ideas and is much expertise in the room today
 - This is a valuable resource if we can unlock it
- People working in different locations and/or for different organisations have different drivers
 - This leads to different approaches

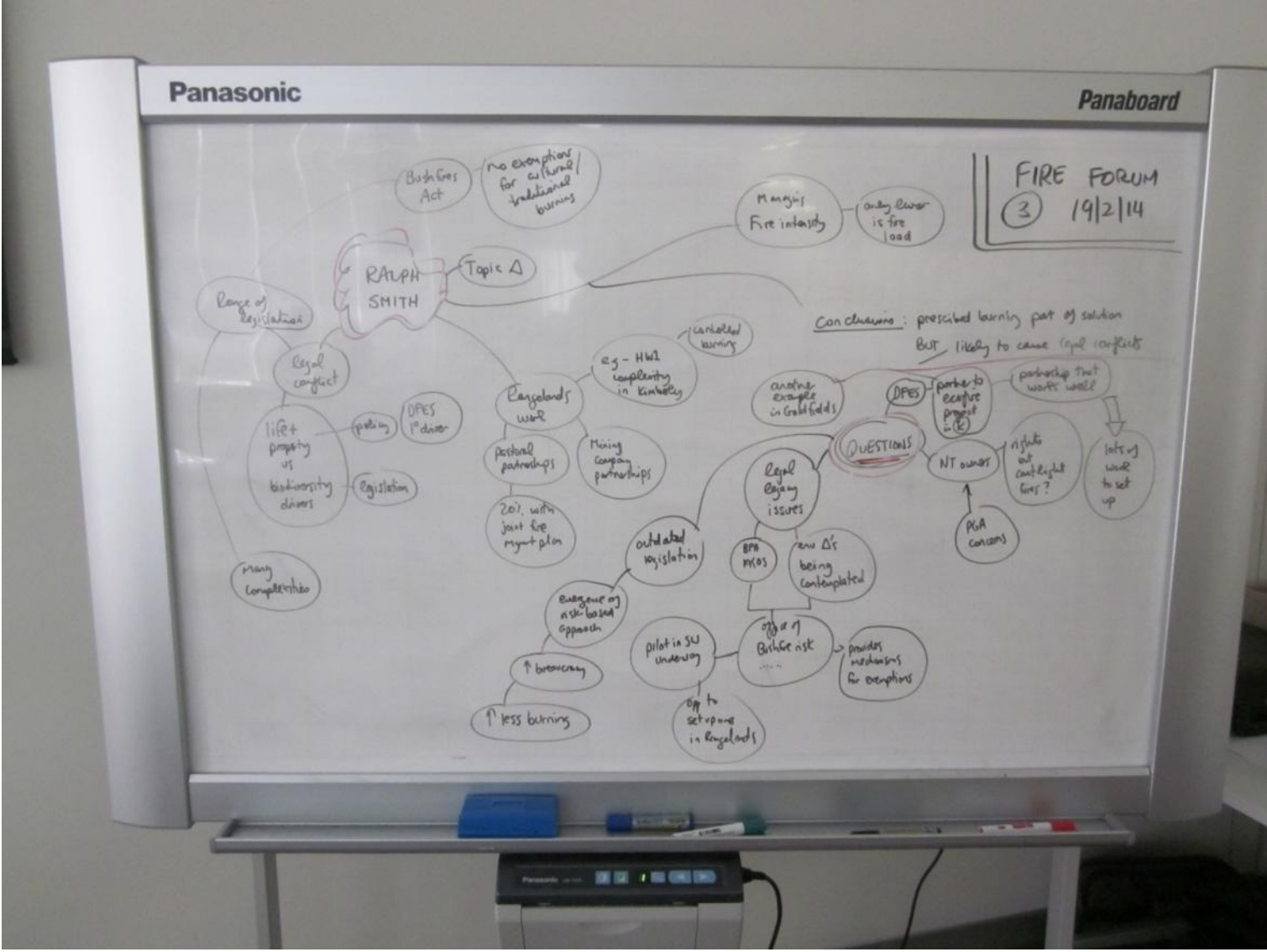


Neil Burrows provided an overview of fire management history in the WA Rangelands (Presentation 1 attached)

- It is important to clarify definitions
 - Neil considers that ‘natural fires’ include those started by Indigenous people
 - The WA Rangelands sits north and east of the line from Kalbarri to Esperance
 - * This region is dominated by savanna, mulga, spinifex and chenopod vegetation
 - ☐ The woodlands lie to the south and west of the same line
 - * It is possible to divide the region into ‘pyro-regions’
 - ☐ Most fires occur in the interior and north
 - * Some of the biggest changes have occurred in the tropical savanna, interior mallee and shrublands in relation to fire timing, size and intensity
 - * Indigenous people had historically played a big role in the spinifex grasslands
 - ☐ Reduced human presence has contributed to changed fire regimes
- Neil drew the following main conclusions
 - Fire regimes have changed
 - Fire are now less frequent but larger and more intense and occurring at the ‘wrong’ time of the year
 - Ecosystem condition and biodiversity have both declined as a consequence
 - We need a prescriptive fire regime within an adaptive management framework
 - * This needs to be informed by a statewide overarching fire management strategy

Neil’s presentation generated the following questions and comments:

- Suppression is not a viable fire management strategy in the WA Rangelands, other than for towns, infrastructure and critical habitats
- Optimal fire regimes are potentially identifiable for each pyro-region
- The impact of large summer wildfires tends to be variable
 - Adverse in the Murchison and Pilbara
 - Less so in the North Kimberley
 - Scale is the key factor

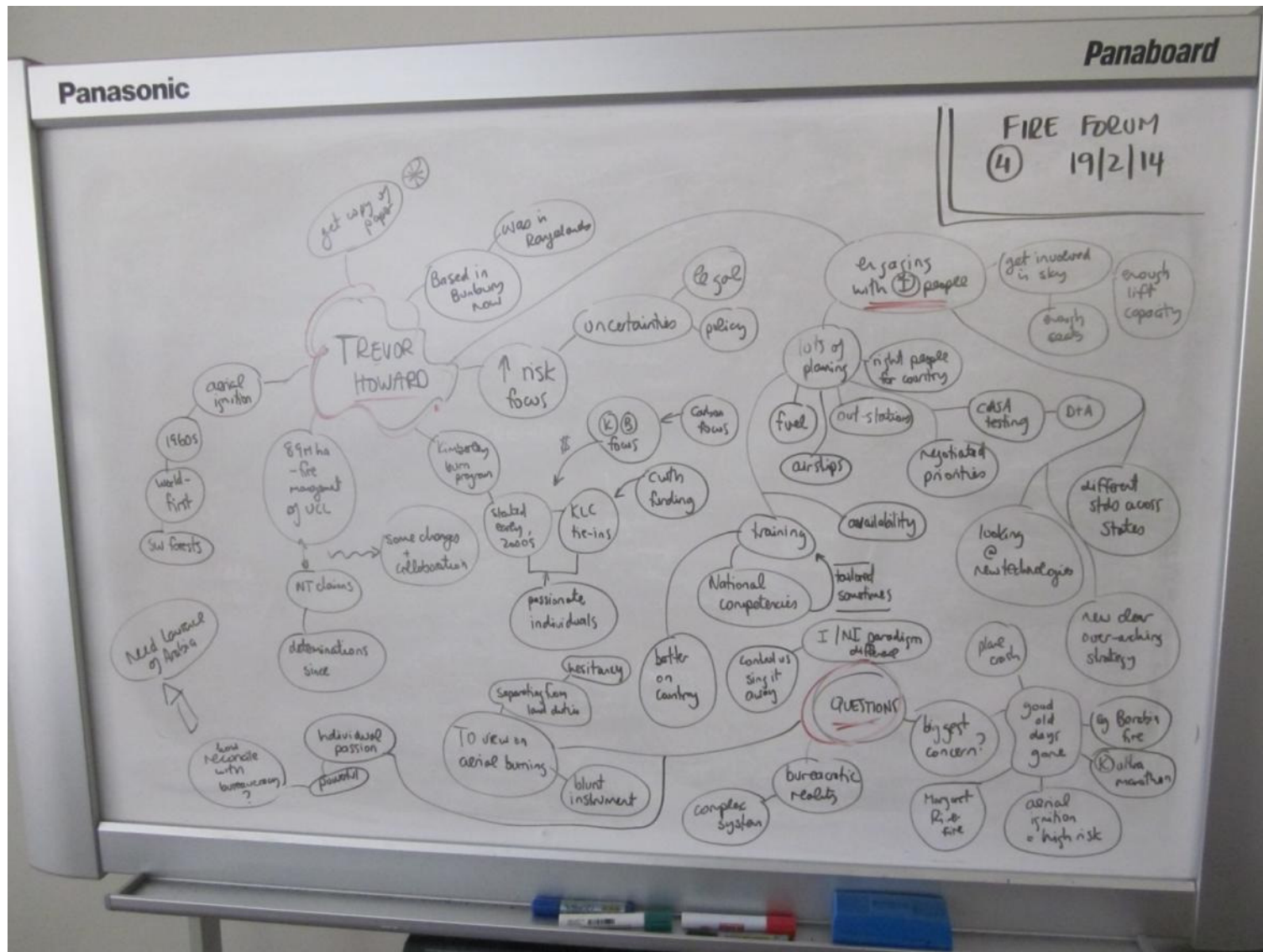


Ralph Smith provided an overview of the legal and policy framework for fire management in WA (Presentation 2 attached)

- In terms of managing fire intensity, the only lever available to authorities is fire load
- This is a legally-challenging area
 - There is a range of relevant legislation and there are many complexities
 - One such example is the trade-off between protecting life and property versus maintaining biodiversity
 - * At a policy level, the former is the primary driver for the Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES)
 - The Bushfires Act makes no exceptions for cultural or traditional burning
- DFES has been undertaking work in the WA Rangelands
 - Partnerships with pastoralists
 - * 20% of pastoral leases now have joint fire management plans
 - Partnerships with mining companies
 - Still some major challenges
 - * For example, the complexities associated with controlled burning along Highway 1 in the Kimberley
- Ralph shared the following conclusions
 - Prescribed burning is likely to be part of the solution in the WA Rangelands
 - * But it is also likely to create conflicts under current legal arrangements

Ralph's presentation generated the following questions and comments:

- There are some serious legal legacy issues
 - The Bushfire Act was last updated in 1954
 - Changes are being contemplated on the environmental front
- The Office of Bushfire Risk Management was recently established
 - This provides a mechanism for exemptions
 - A pilot program is underway in the south-west
 - * There may be an opportunity to establish a similar trial in the Rangelands
- DFES were partners in the Kimberley-based Ecofire Project which worked well
 - Lots of up-front work was required to establish this
- There are unresolved issues around Native Title holders and fire management
 - They have rights, but strictly speaking are not allowed to light fires
 - Some pastoralists have concerns about Indigenous fire practices

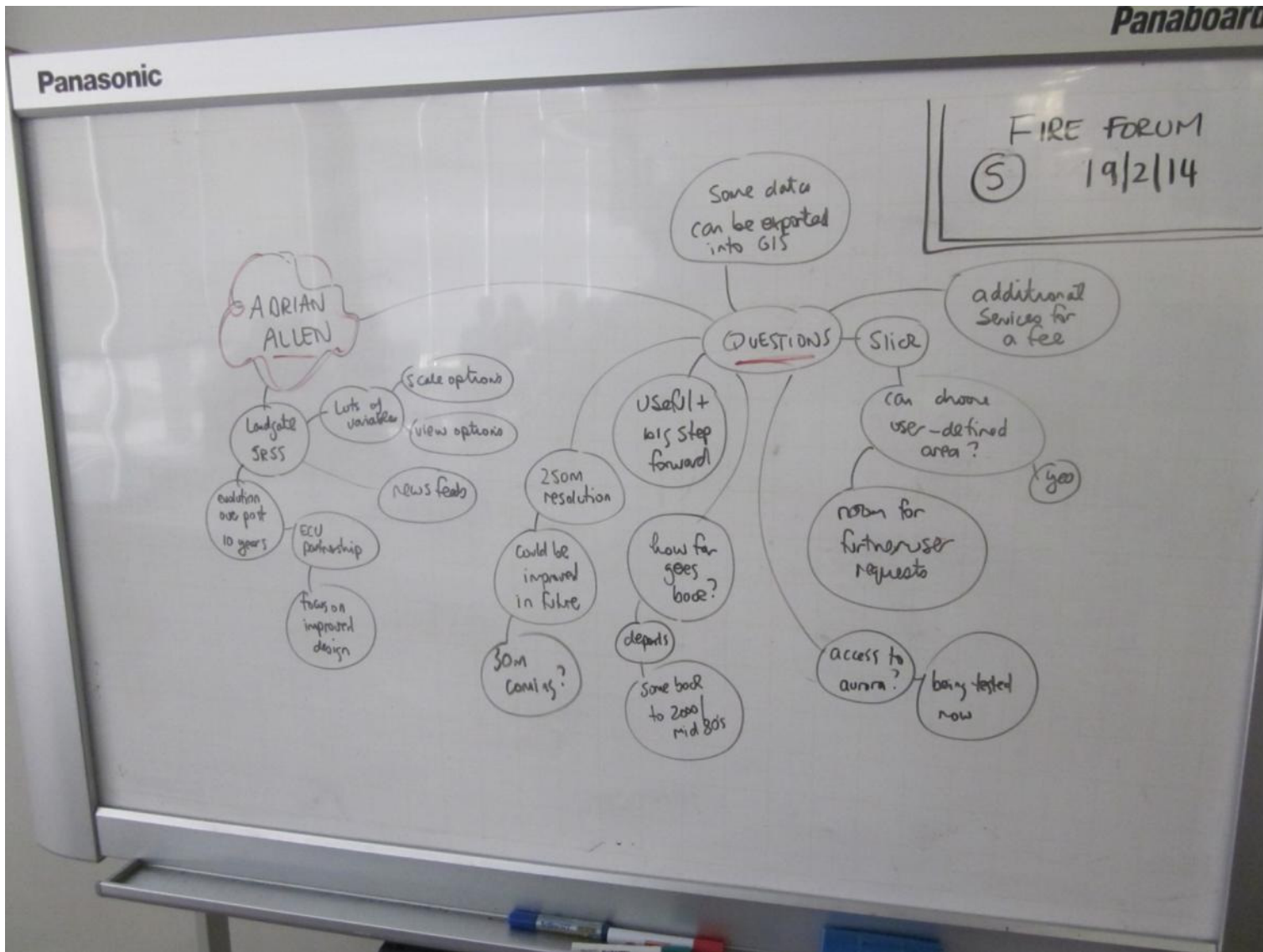


Trevor Howard provided an overview of prescribed burning by Traditional Owners (TOs) (no presentation used)

- Trevor has extensive experience working in the Rangelands, but is now based in Bunbury
- WA created a world-first when aerial ignition was used in the southwest forests in the 1960s
- There is now 89 million hectares of Vacant Crown Land requiring fire management in WA
 - Native Title determinations in recent years have added complexity in terms of responsibility for fire management
 - * This has led to increased collaboration and some changes in practice
- The Kimberley burn program started in the early 2000's
 - The Kimberley Land Council got involved in this
 - A number of passionate individuals led establishment of the program
 - Some Commonwealth funding was sourced
 - * This had some tie-in with protecting regional biodiversity and reducing carbon emissions
- There has been an increasing focus on risk in recent times
 - There are a number of legal and policy uncertainties
- Engaging Indigenous people has been an important part of the Kimberley burn program
 - Lots of planning is required (e.g. fuel, airstrips, CASA requirements, determining the right people to consult, negotiated priorities, outstations, Indigenous availability)
 - Appropriate training is essential
 - * National competencies (often using a tailored approach)
 - * Best done on-country
 - Get them involved in the sky as well as on the ground
 - * This can present seating and lift-capacity challenges
 - Standards vary from state to state
 - New technologies are being investigated
 - There is no clear overarching strategy

Trevor's presentation generated the following comments and questions:

- There are some significant cultural differences (e.g. controlling fires versus singing them away)
- The reality is that this sort of work operates within a complex and increasingly bureaucratic setting
 - This can work against the power of individual passion
- Indigenous people tend to see aerial burning as a blunt instrument
- We need to accept that the 'good old days' are gone
 - Recent high-profile 'failures' have ensured this (e.g. Kimberley ultra-marathon fire, Margaret River fire, Borabin fire, feral-animal-control related plane crash)

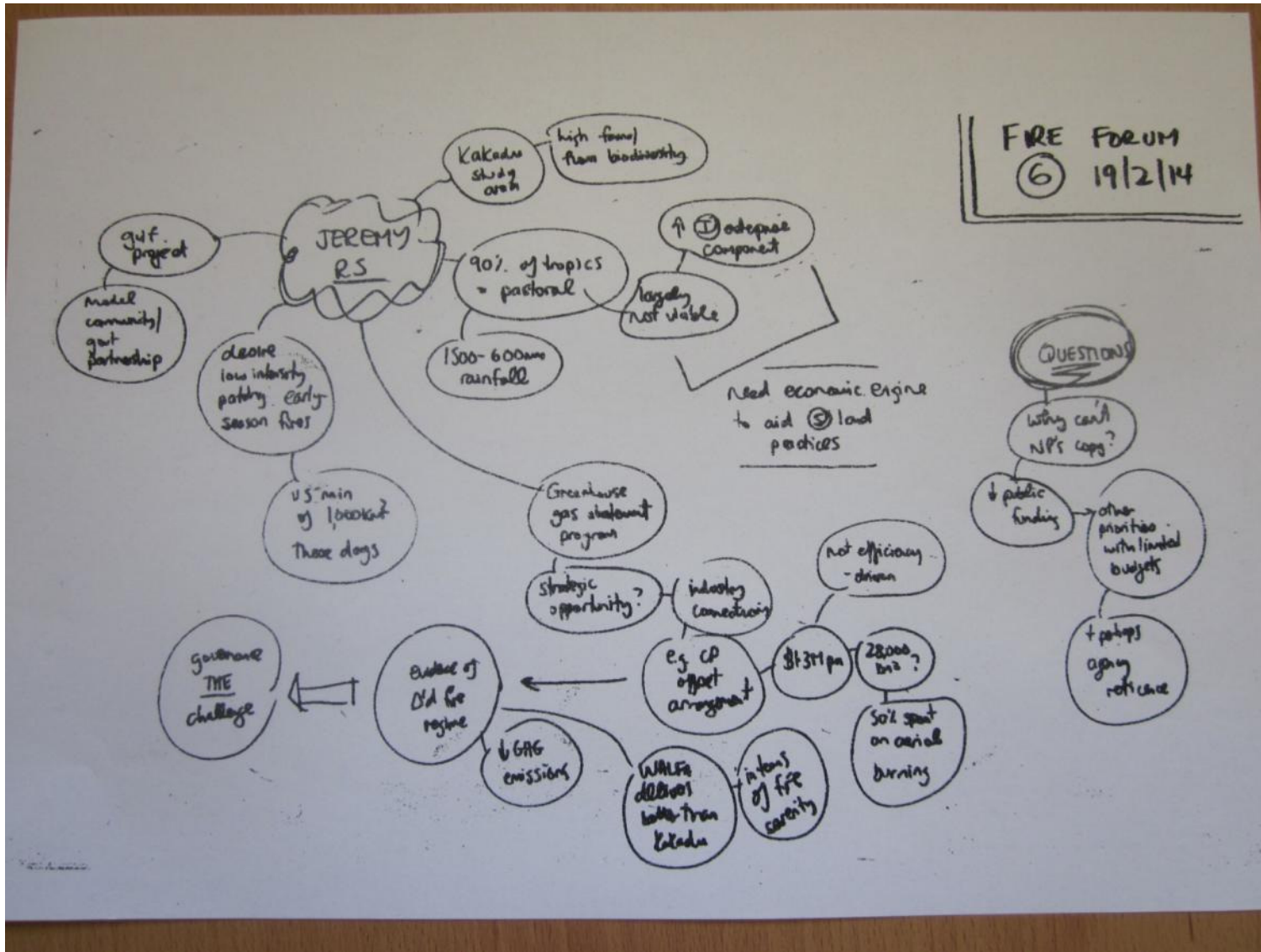


Adrian Allen provided an overview of various fire monitoring tools available from Landgate (Presentation 3 attached)

- The Landgate Satellite Remote Sensing Services (SRSS) have evolved over the past 10 years
 - A partnership was formed with ECU to help improve design of the system
 - Lots of different variables are included
 - There are a range of scale and view options
 - This link connects to the relevant website
 - * <http://www.landgate.wa.gov.au/corporate.nsf/web/Fire+Monitoring>

The following questions and comments arose from Adrian's presentation:

- Some of the data can be exported into external GIS systems
- Additional services can be provided on a fee-for-service basis
- The system is slick and useful and a big step forward
 - It currently has a 250m resolution
 - * This could be improved in the future
 - Some data sets go back as far as the 1980s
 - Users can define the area they want to look at
 - It is possible for further user requests to be included in future versions of the system
- Testing is underway to allow public access to Aurora

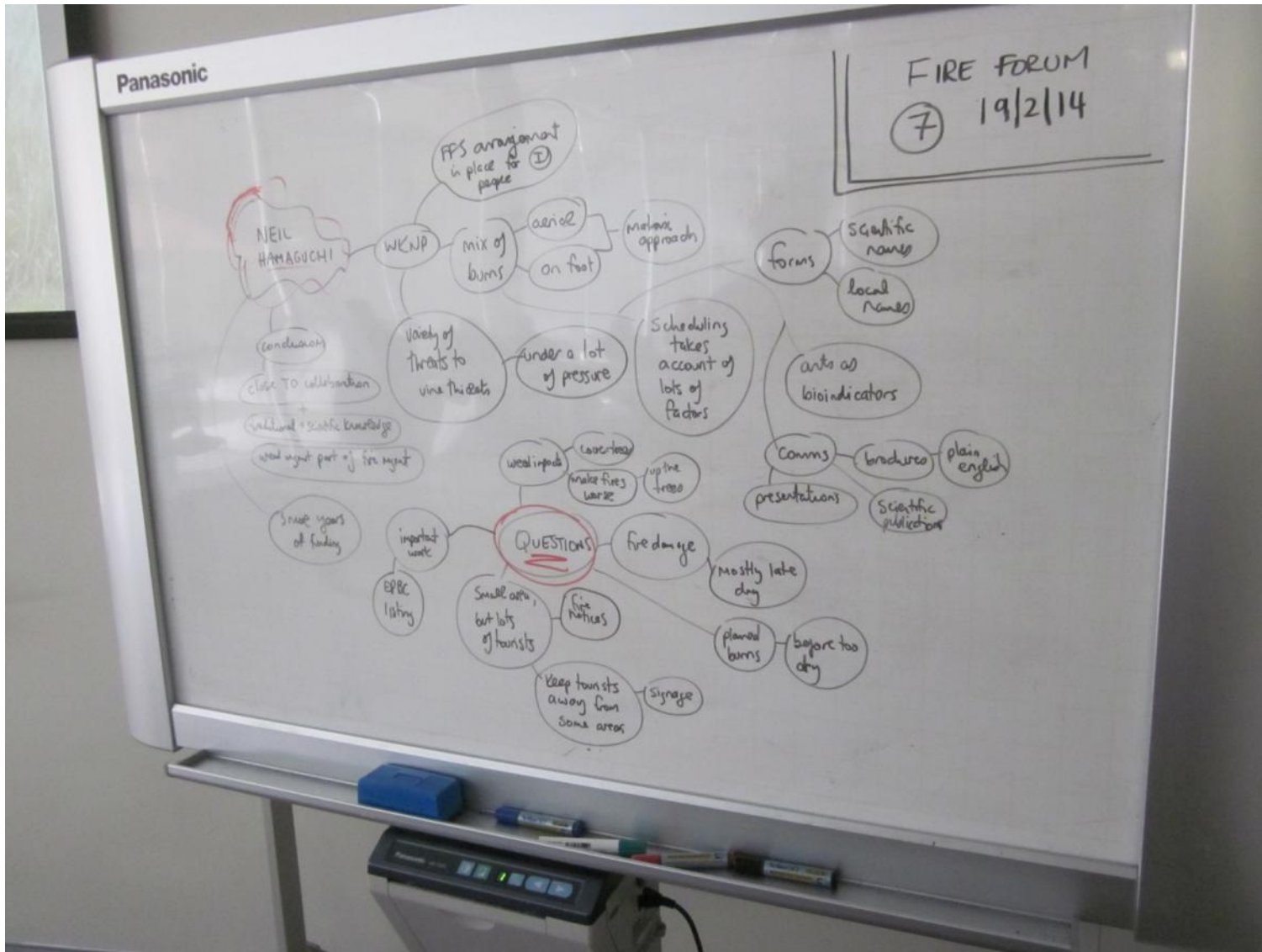


Jeremy Russell-Smith provided an overview of building sustainable fire management programs with Indigenous communities (Presentation 4 attached)

- Most of Jeremy's presentation focused on a model community / government partnership in the Gulf Country of the Northern Territory
 - The area has high plant and animal biodiversity
 - The overall desire in the area is for low-intensity, patchy early-season fires
 - * This contrasts with the now common >1,000 km² fires in northern Australia
 - The project was framed as a greenhouse gas abatement program
 - * This provided a strategic opportunity to partner with industry and secure significant funding from a non-government source
 - An annual budget of \$1.3M was secured
 - * This was not efficiency driven (i.e. there may have been cheaper options to undertake the aerial burns in isolation), but rather recognised the additional benefits associated with Indigenous employment and up-skilling
 - * An area of approximately 28,000 km² was targeted
 - * About half of the budget was spent on aerial burning
 - There are now signs of a changed fire regime in the area
 - * Greenhouse gas emissions have been reduced accordingly
 - * By most measures, this project has delivered better results than government-managed initiatives in neighbouring Kakadu
 - Governance remains the biggest challenge with these sorts of projects
- This project has significance to the broader region
 - 90% of tropical Australia is used for pastoralism
 - * Many of those enterprises are not economically viable
 - * There is a large Indigenous enterprise component in the region
 - Rainfall in the region varies from 600 to 1,500 mm pa
 - An economic engine is required to underpin sustainable land management practices

Jeremy's presentation generated the following questions and comments

- It is difficult for National Parks to copy this approach, as their funding is being constantly reduced
 - Other matters are being given a higher priority at a time of ongoing budget cuts
- There is also potentially some reticence from government agency staff to change from their existing paradigms and practices



Neil Hamaguchi provided an overview of protecting vine thickets on the Dampier Peninsula (Presentation 5 attached)

- There are a variety of threats to the vine thickets
 - They are under lots of pressure
- Neil's group adopts a matrix approach using a combination of aerial and on-ground burns
 - Aerial burning only occurs in collaboration with KLC and DFAS
 - This project mainly uses on-ground burning
 - * A structured arrangement is in place to involve Indigenous people
 - * Paperwork uses both scientific and Indigenous names
 - * Promotions use both scientific and plain-English materials
 - * Scheduling takes account of lots of factors
 - * Ants have been shown to be effective bio-indicators
 - * The project has three more years of funding
- Neil shared the following conclusions:
 - Close collaboration with Traditional Owners is important
 - It is important to use and respect both Traditional and scientific knowledge
 - Weed management needs to be treated as an important part of fire management

Neil's presentation generated the following questions and comments:

- Certain weeds can make the impact of fire far worse in the vine thickets
 - By providing a fuel and also taking the fire into the canopy
- Fire damage tends to be worst at the end of the dry season
- Planned burns are scheduled before the thickets fully dry out
- The vine thickets only cover a small area, but they are attractive tourist destinations
 - This necessitates careful planning and notification
- This is very important work, as the vine thickets are listed under the EPBC Act

Aerial burning in the Western Desert

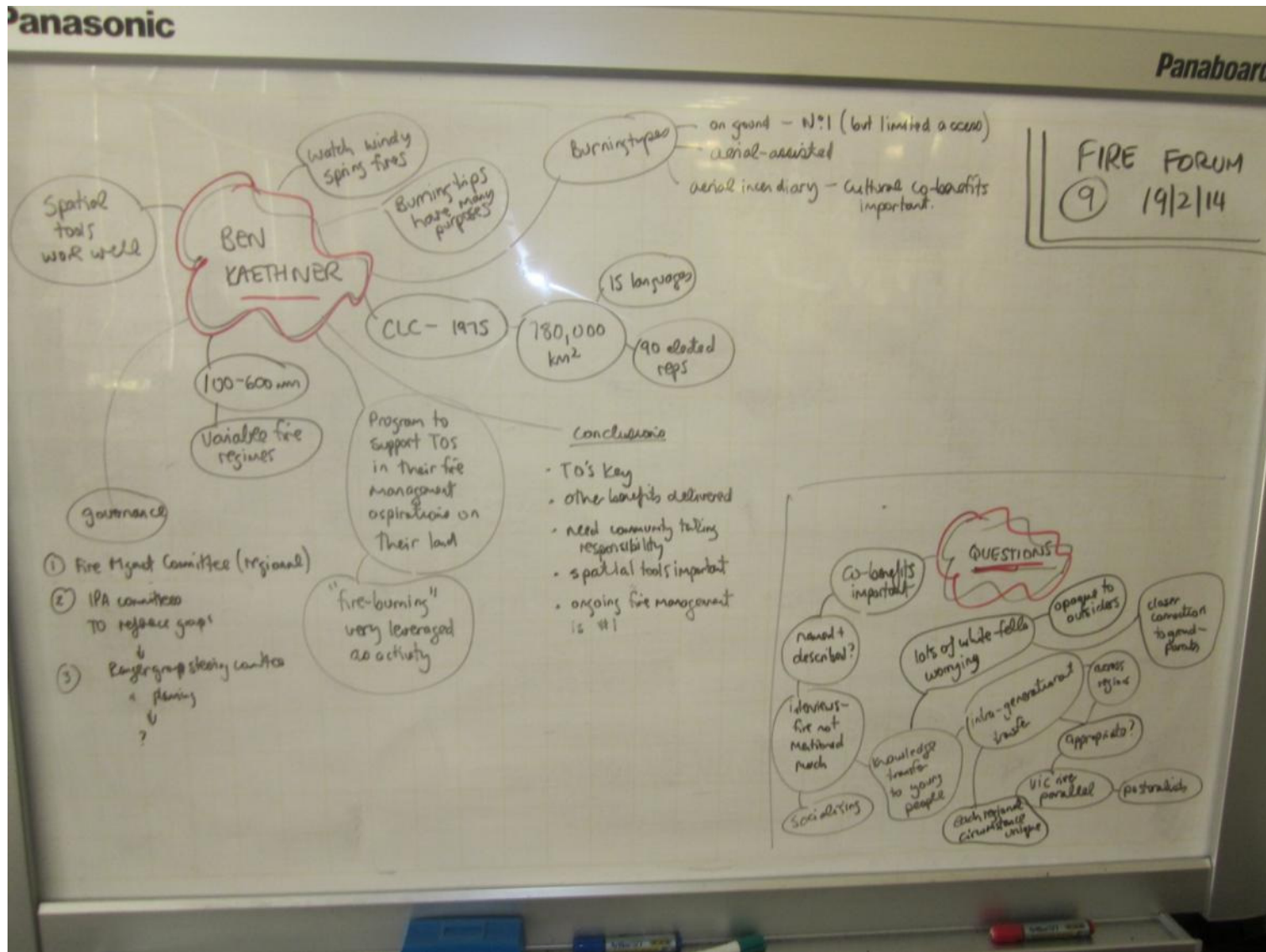
Day 1 - electronic whiteboard 08

Gareth Catt provided an overview of aerial burning in the Western Desert (Presentation 6 attached)

- The Western Desert Fire Project covers an area of 20 million hectares
 - The landscape in the area is diverse
 - Around 37,500 ha has been burned to date
 - * Various techniques have been tried
 - The project aims to build local capacity
 - A collaborative funding model involving a range of partners has been used
 - * The first phase has just ended
- The Martu people see fire as 'refreshing' rather than 'destroying' the landscape
 - They see five phases of recovery from fire
 - * Maintaining a diversity of phases is seen as being important
- Lots of up-front cross-functional planning is required
 - Much of this happens in the city
 - There is a parallel Martu process which takes place on country
- There is often a strong correlation between biodiversity value and cultural significance
- In the past, the area was subjected to patchy small fires
 - Many of these were associated with Indigenous hunting and signals
 - * There was probably not a conscious decision to develop a fire mosaic at the landscape level
 - In a 2012 night-time satellite photo, more light was generated in the Western Desert than in any Australian capital city
- There are different perspectives about what constitutes effective fire management
 - Indigenous versus non-Indigenous
 - One Indigenous generation versus the next
- Moving forward, the plan is to develop a zoned approach to fire management
- The Western Desert Fire Project has generated a number of positive outcomes
 - 15-year fire strategy
 - 15-year fire history
 - Local jobs

Gareth's presentation generated the following questions and comments:

- Caution needs to be exercised about introducing new 'white man's' ideas (e.g. carbon emissions)
- It is important to ensure that program are underpinned by appropriate drivers
- It is overly simplistic to assume that there is one unified 'royal we' position on many aspects of fire management
- While there are clearly inter-generational issues and differences, Gareth is optimistic that the younger folk will learn to manage fire effectively
- It would be fair to say that the Martu people are tenure-blind
- There seems to be an opportunity to share Martu fire knowledge with people from other areas



Ben Kaethner provided an overview of fire management in the NT Tanami (Presentation 7 attached)

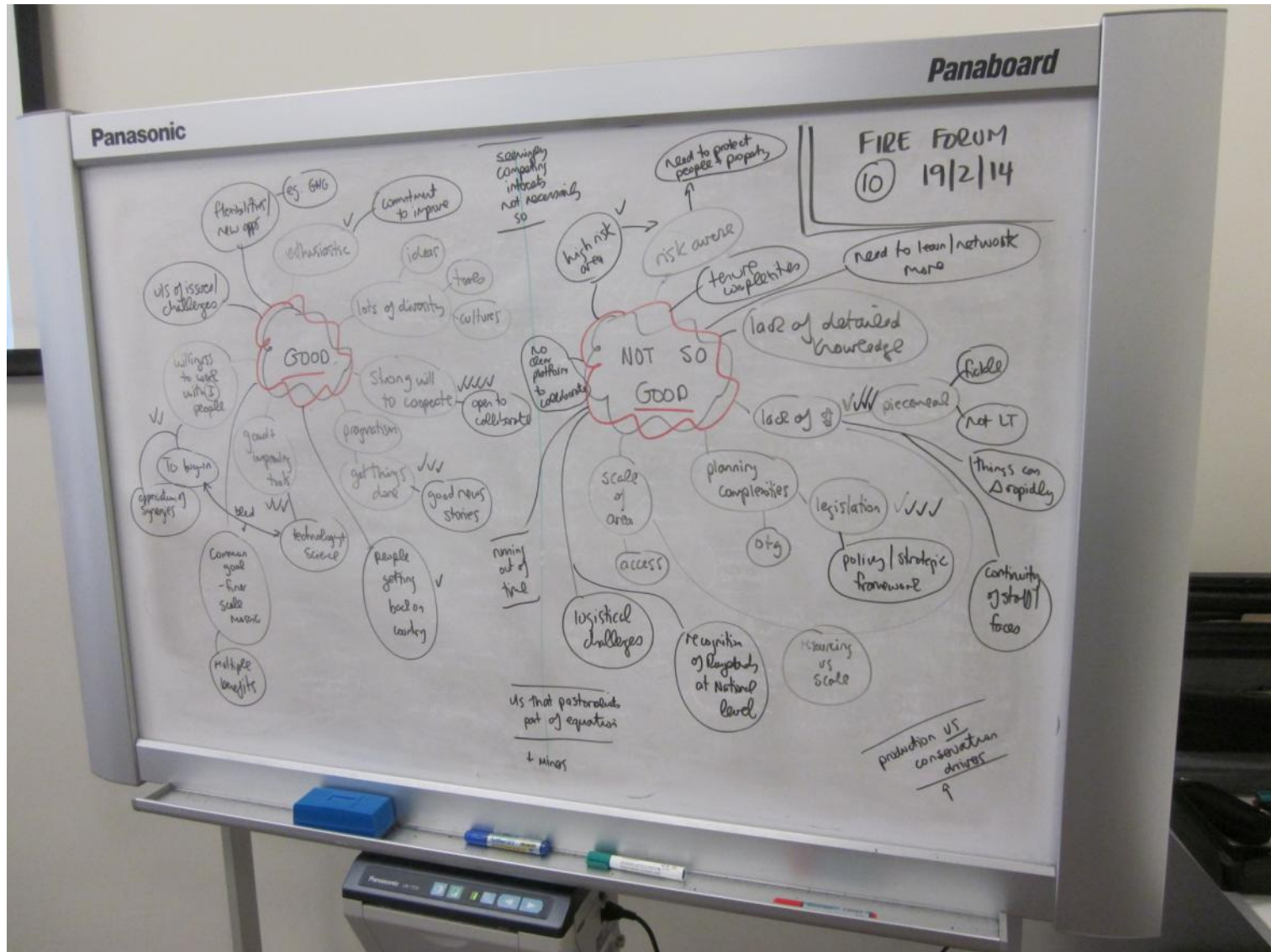
- The Tanami receives between 100 and 600 mm of rain per year
 - This contributes to a range of fire regimes
- Spatial tools work well in the region
- The largest and potentially most damaging fires tend to be in spring with shifting winds and low moisture in the environment
 - They are about much more than just lightning fires
- Three types of burning take place
 - On- ground
 - * Preferred by the local people, but access is a limiting factor
 - Aerial-assisted
 - Aerial incendiary
 - * It is important to allow time and space to incorporate cultural co-benefits when using this approach
- The Central Land Council was established in 1975
 - It covers an area of 780,000 km² and includes 15 language groups
- Governance is a very important consideration
 - There is a regional Fire Management Committee
 - * This is supported by an Indigenous Participation Agreement Committee and Traditional Owner (TO) Reference Groups
 - * Ranger Steering Committees are responsible for much of the detailed planning
- The program supports TOs in their fire management aspirations on their land
 - 'Fire burning' is very leveraged as an activity
- Ben shared the following conclusions:
 - TO involvement is critical
 - Other benefits are delivered
 - It is important that the community takes responsibility
 - Spatial tools are important
 - Ongoing fire management is critical

Ben's presentation generated the following questions and comments:

- During interviews, Indigenous people make more mention of the social benefits than of the direct fire impacts
 - Knowledge transfer to young people is rated as being particularly important
- Perhaps there is too much 'white fella worrying'
- Each region has its own unique circumstances and approaches when it comes to fire management
 - Indigenous folk exposed to pastoralists views tend to be more aligned to such views than desert-based Indigenous people

Good & not-so-good aspects

Day 1 - electronic whiteboard 10

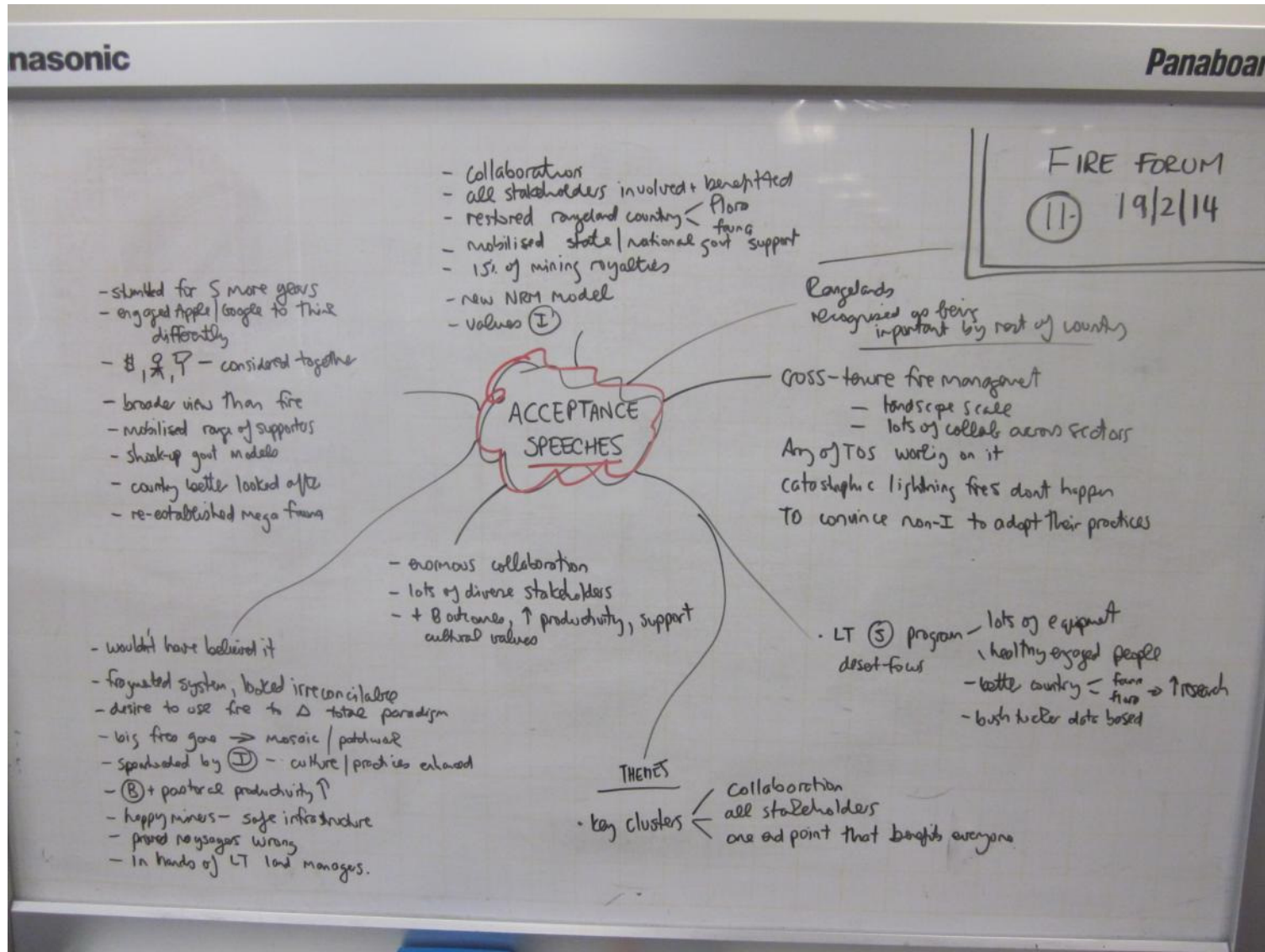


Good & not-so-good aspects

Day 1 - electronic whiteboard 10

Participants reflected on today's presentations and their own personal experience to identify 'good' and 'not-so-good' aspects of fire management in the WA Rangelands. The following points were captured during subsequent table conversations:

- Good aspects
 - Lots of enthusiasm and commitment to improve
 - Lots of diversity (ideas, tools and cultures)
 - Strong willingness to cooperate and collaborate
 - Pragmatism enables things to get done
 - Indigenous people getting on country
 - Good and developing tools
 - A common goal about achieving a finer-scale fire mosaic
 - Willingness to work closely with Indigenous people
 - Appreciation of synergies
 - Good understanding of associated issues and challenges
 - Flexibility to see and seize new opportunities (e.g. Greenhouse gas emissions)
 - Seemingly competing interests are not necessarily so
- Not-so-good aspects
 - Large scale of area
 - Limited access to many areas
 - Logistical challenges
 - No clear platform to collaborate
 - Fire management is a high-risk area
 - The 'system' is becoming increasingly risk-averse
 - * The need to protect people and property is the focus
 - Tenure complexities
 - Need to network and learn from each other more
 - Lack of detailed knowledge
 - Limited and piecemeal funding
 - * Which contributes to high staff turnover
 - Planning complexities
 - * Particularly in relation to conflicting legal and policy requirements
 - Rangelands not recognised at a national level
 - Tendency to not consider pastoralists as being part of the equation

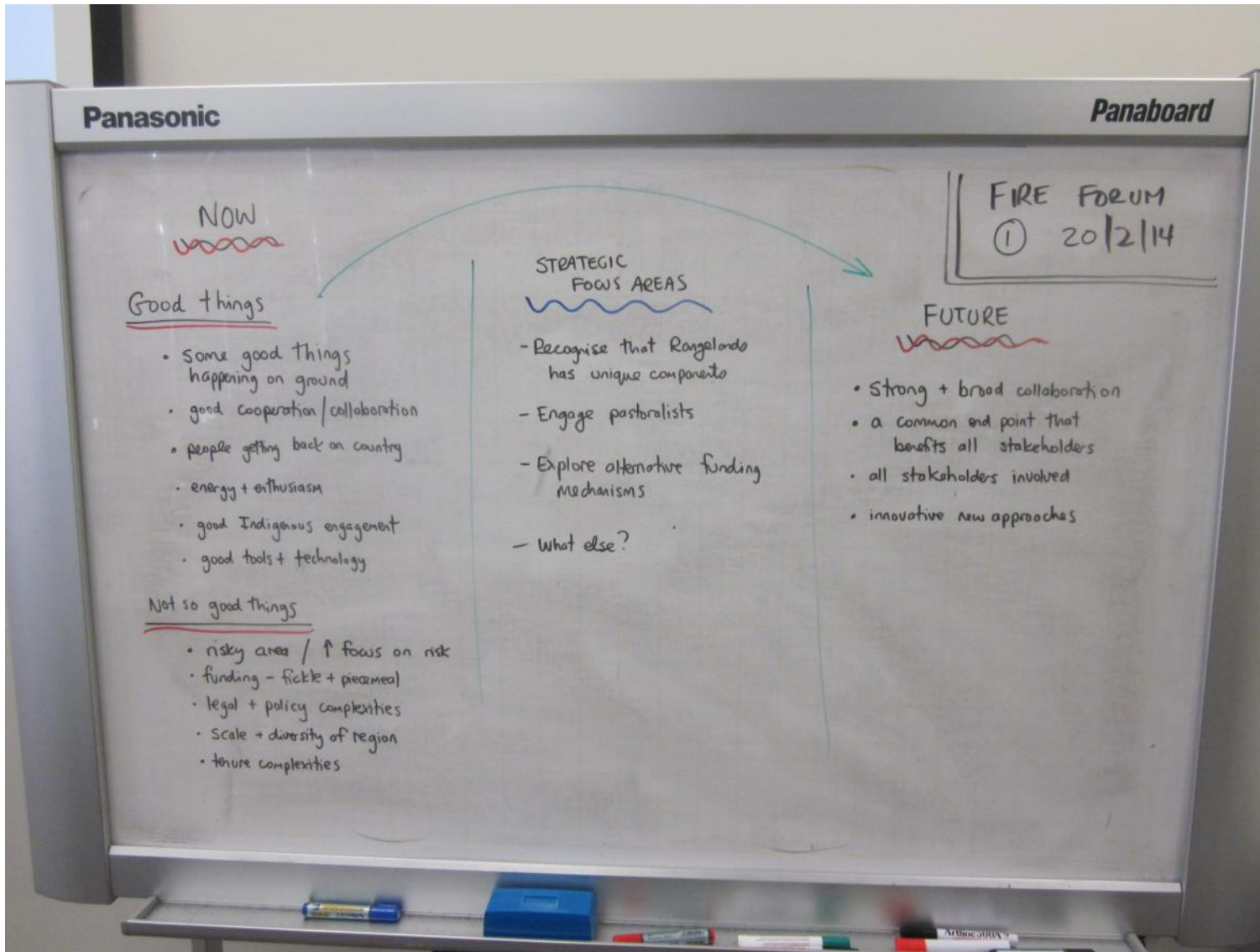


Desired future

Day 1 - electronic whiteboard 11

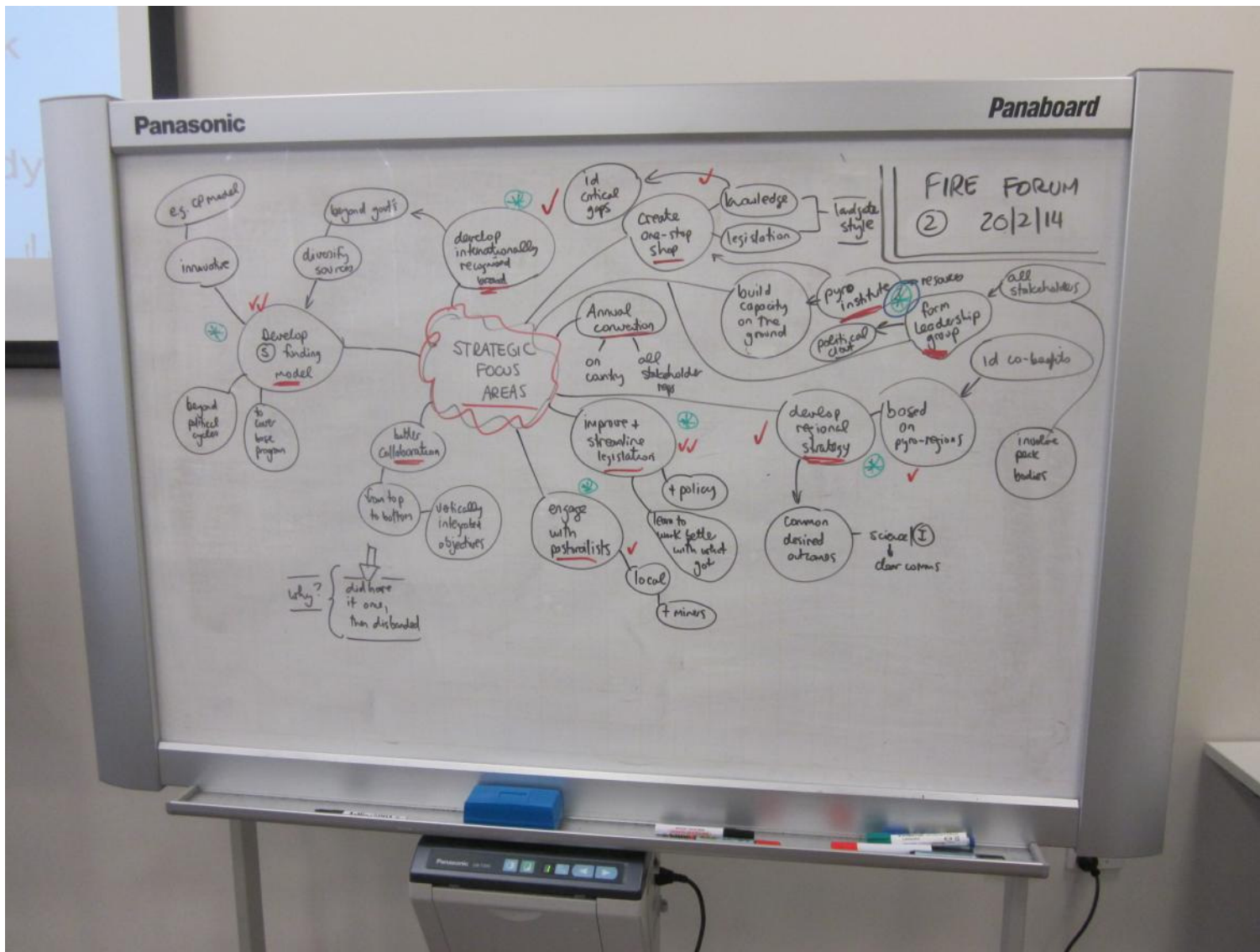
Participants imagined it was the year 2025 and that they were preparing an acceptance speech for a United Nations award for world-class fire management in the WA Rangelands. The following speeches were shared:

- There was enormous collaboration involving lots of diverse stakeholders
 - The outcomes included enhanced biodiversity, increased productivity and strong support for cultural values
- We established a long-term sustainable program with a strong desert focus
 - This involved lots of equipment
 - Outcomes included healthy & engaged people, better country, enhanced fauna and flora, increased research, and a comprehensive bush-tucker data base
- The Rangelands was recognised as being an important national asset by the rest of the country
- Cross-tenure fire management occurred at the landscape scale enabled by lots of collaboration across all relevant sectors
 - An army of TO's were actively involved in the program
 - Catastrophic lightning fires become a thing of the past
 - TO's convinced others to adopt their practices
- Lots of collaboration with all stakeholders involved and deriving benefits
 - The flora and fauna of the Rangelands were restored to their former glory
 - Strong state and federal government support was mobilised
 - Mining royalties were used wisely and effectively
 - A new NRM model emerged
 - Far greater value was placed on Indigenous culture and knowledge
- We struggled for 5 more years before engaging Apple and Google to help us think differently
 - Economic, social and environmental factors started being considered together
 - Our thinking broadened beyond just fire
 - We mobilised a range of supporters
 - Government models were seriously shaken-up
 - The country looked significantly better
 - We eventually found a way to re-establish mega fauna in the region
- We wouldn't have believed what was achieved
 - Our fragmented system looked to be in an irreconcilable state
 - We used fire to underpin a total paradigm shift
 - Changes were spearheaded by Indigenous people
 - * This helped to enhance their culture and practices
 - Biodiversity and pastoral productivity both increased
 - Miners and other land users were happy because their infrastructure was now safe from catastrophic fires
 - We proved the naysayers wrong
 - The region is now in the hands of its long-term land managers



We started Day 2 by summarising the outcomes from Day 1

- PRESENT SITUATION
 - Good aspects
 - * Some good things happening on the ground
 - * Good co-operation and collaboration
 - * Indigenous people getting back onto their country
 - * High levels of energy and enthusiasm
 - * Good Indigenous engagement
 - * Good tools and technology
 - Not-so-good aspects
 - * Fire is a risky area to work in
 - * Increasing focus on risk
 - * Fickle and piecemeal funding
 - * Legal and policy complexities
 - * Scale and diversity of WA Rangelands region
 - * Tenure complexities
- DESIRED FUTURE
 - Strong and broad-based collaboration
 - A common end-point (in relation to fire management) that benefits all stakeholders
 - All stakeholders involved in the transition
 - Innovative new approaches
- POTENTIAL STRATEGIC FOCUS AREAS (based in informal conversations out-of-session)
 - Recognise that Rangelands is made up of unique components
 - Engage pastoralists
 - Explore alternative funding mechanisms
 - What else?

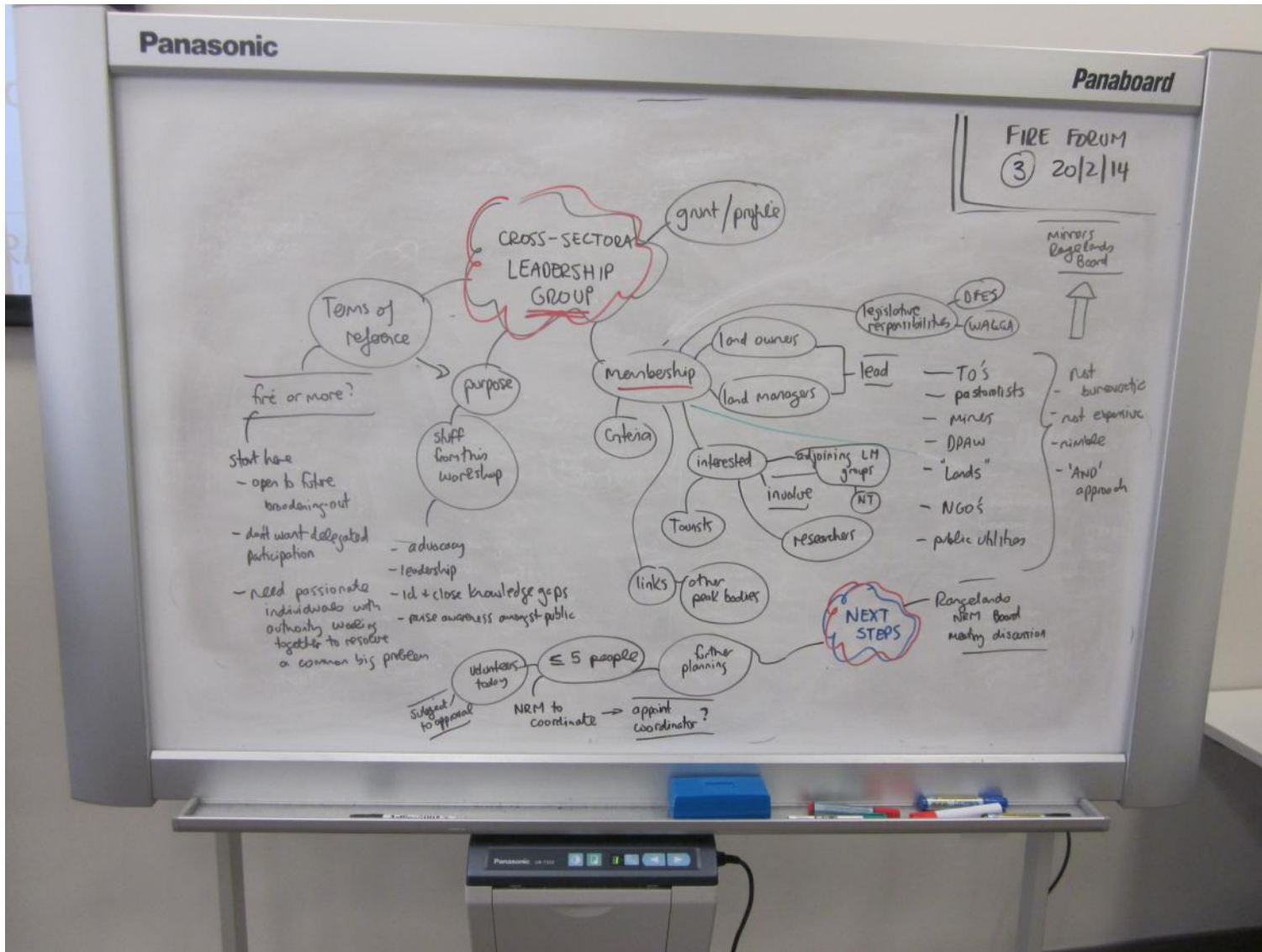


Strategic focus areas

Day 2 - electronic whiteboard 02

Each tabled determined their top-five strategic focus areas to help move from the 'present situation' to 'desired future' as summarised on the previous page

- Better collaboration
 - From top to bottom
 - Vertically integrated objectives
 - Avoid 'doing it once, then disbanding'
- Engage with pastoralists
 - At local level
 - Include miners as well
- Improve and streamline legislation and policy (3 tables)
 - While this is happening, learn to work better with what we've currently got
- Develop a regional strategy (2 tables)
 - Based on pyro-regions
 - * Identify co-benefits
 - * Involve other peak bodies
 - Establish common desired outcomes
 - * Combine science and Indigenous knowledge
 - * Underpin with clear communications
- Hold an annual convention on country involving representatives from all stakeholder groups
- Build capacity on the ground
- Form a leadership group
 - Ensure all key stakeholders are represented
 - Develop political clout
 - Ensure adequate resourcing
 - Perhaps tie-in with a pyro institute
- Create a one-stop shop
 - Similar to the Landgate offering shared yesterday
 - Explain how to navigate the current legislation and policy confusion
 - Capture and share key knowledge (2 tables)
 - * Identify critical gaps
- Develop an internationally-recognised brand (2 tables)
- Develop a sustainable funding model (3 tables)
 - To cover and ensure continuity of the baseline program
 - To extend beyond political cycles
 - Be prepared to be innovative
 - Look to diversify and move beyond reliance on government funding



Cross-sectoral leadership group

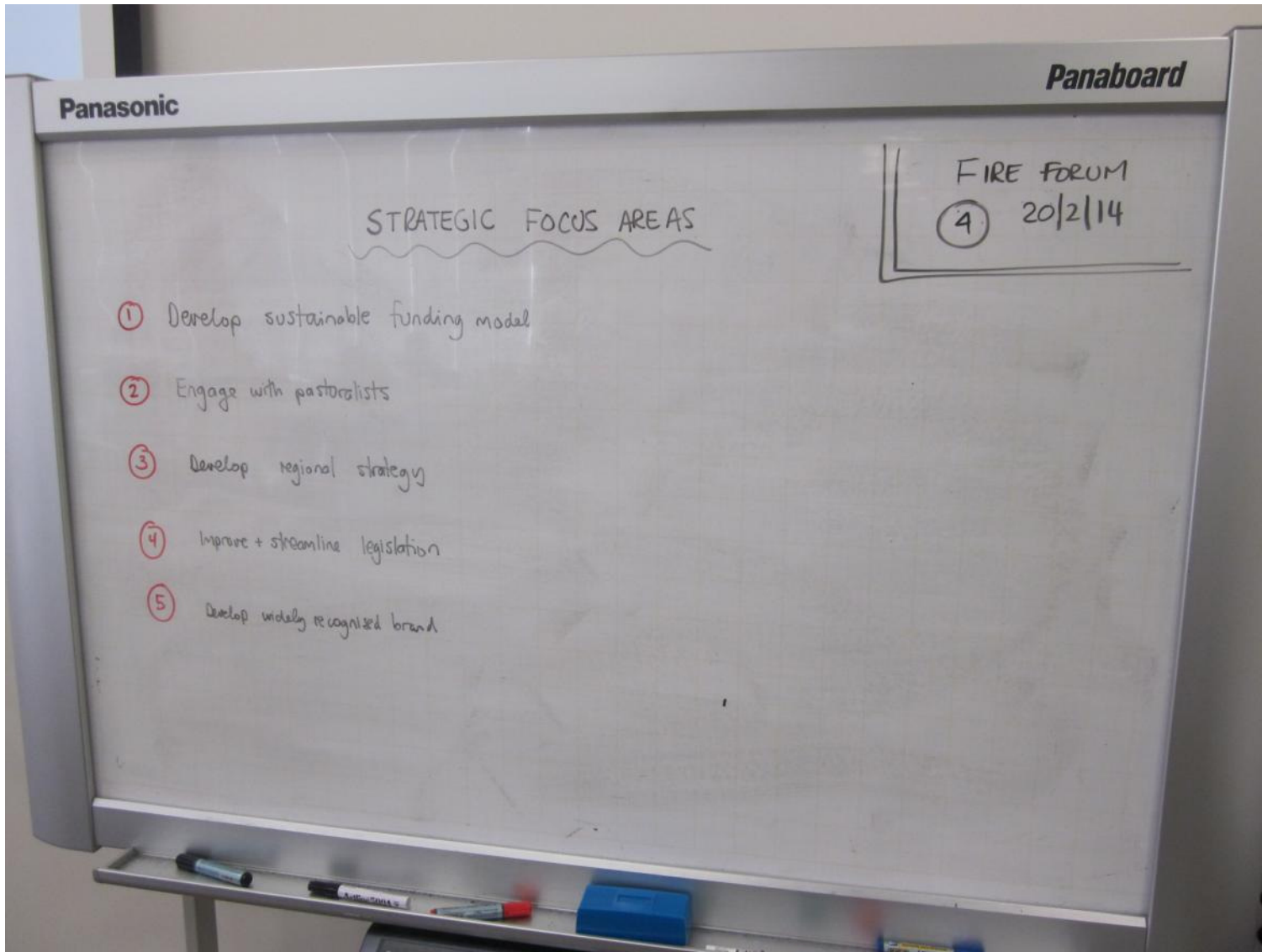
Day 2 - electronic whiteboard 03

We worked as an entire room to develop a concept for the cross-sectoral leadership group which emerged as the number one enabling strategic focus area from the previous page

- The group's purpose would be to progress stuff from this workshop
 - It's role would include advocacy, leadership, raising awareness, and identifying and closing knowledge gaps
- A clear terms of reference would be important
 - Start with a focus on fire, but leave open the option of broadening the focus in the future
 - Resist delegated participation
 - We need passionate individuals with the requisite authority working together to resolve a shared big problem
 - The group needs grunt and profile
- Membership is a key consideration
 - Establish clear criteria as part of the scoping exercise
 - * Not bureaucratic
 - * Not expensive
 - * Nimble
 - * Adopt an 'and' mindset
 - Members to include:
 - * Land owners
 - * Land managers
 - * Those with legislative responsibilities (e.g. DFES, DPaW, WALGA, DOLA)
 - Involve other interested parties
 - * Tourists
 - * Researchers
 - * Adjoining land management groups
 - * NGOs
 - Establish links with other relevant peak bodies

The following next steps were agreed:

- Table the concept at the next NRM Board meeting
 - It would make sense for the NRM to coordinate this
- Form a small group to undertake further planning
 - Volunteers from the workshop (subject to their securing relevant approvals) were:
 - * Neil Burrows
 - * Ralph Smith
 - * John Silver



Strategic focus areas

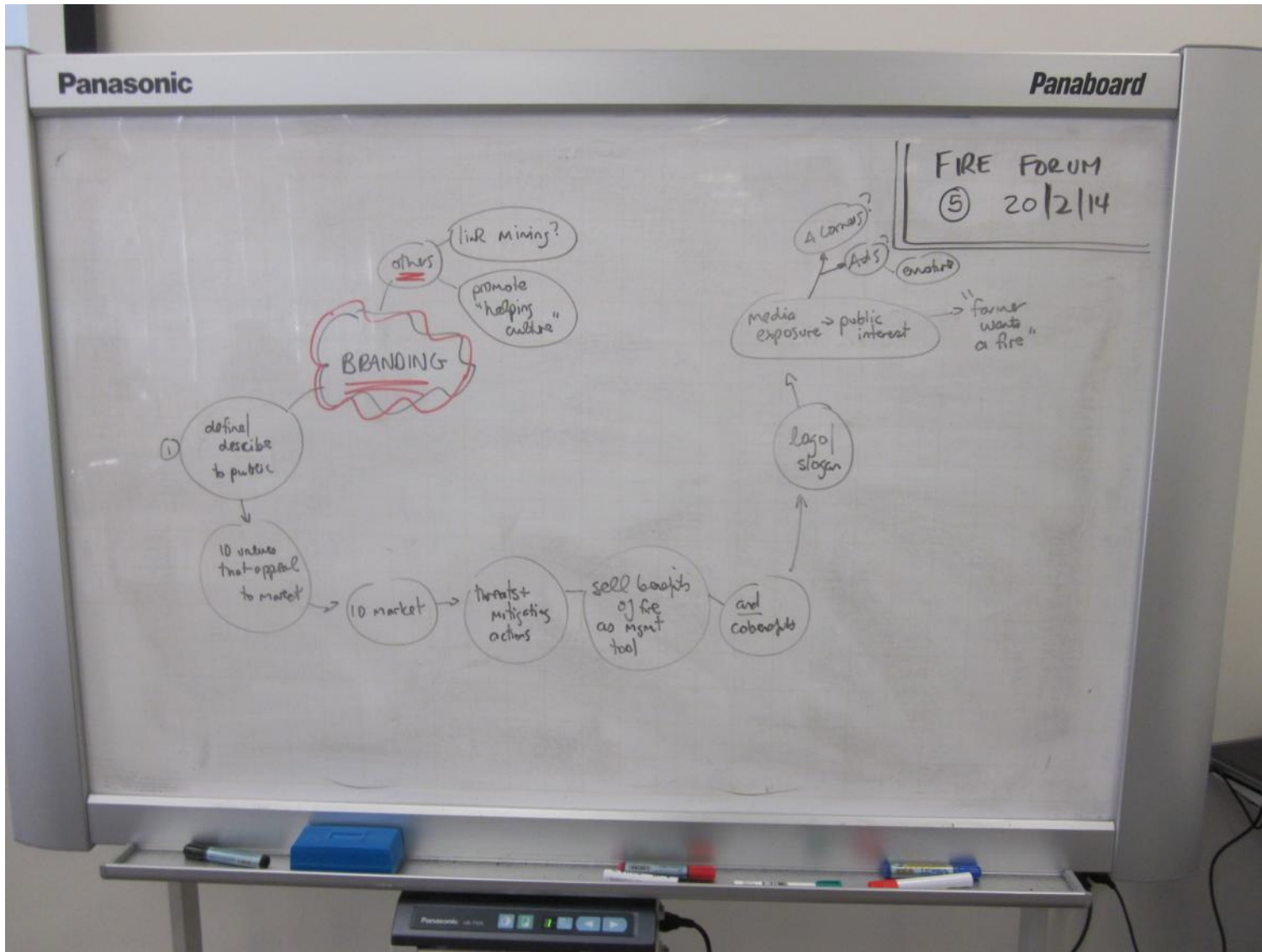
Day 2 - electronic whiteboard 04

In addition to 'establish a cross-functional leadership group', the following five strategic focus areas were distilled as priorities from the exercise summarised on page 29 of this TalkBook:

- Develop a sustainable funding model
- Engage with pastoralists
- Develop a regional strategy
- Improve and streamline legislation
- Develop a widely-recognised brand

Participants broke into groups according to their interest to scope each of the above strategic focus areas

- The outcomes from those conversations are summarised on pages 34 to 43 of this TalkBook



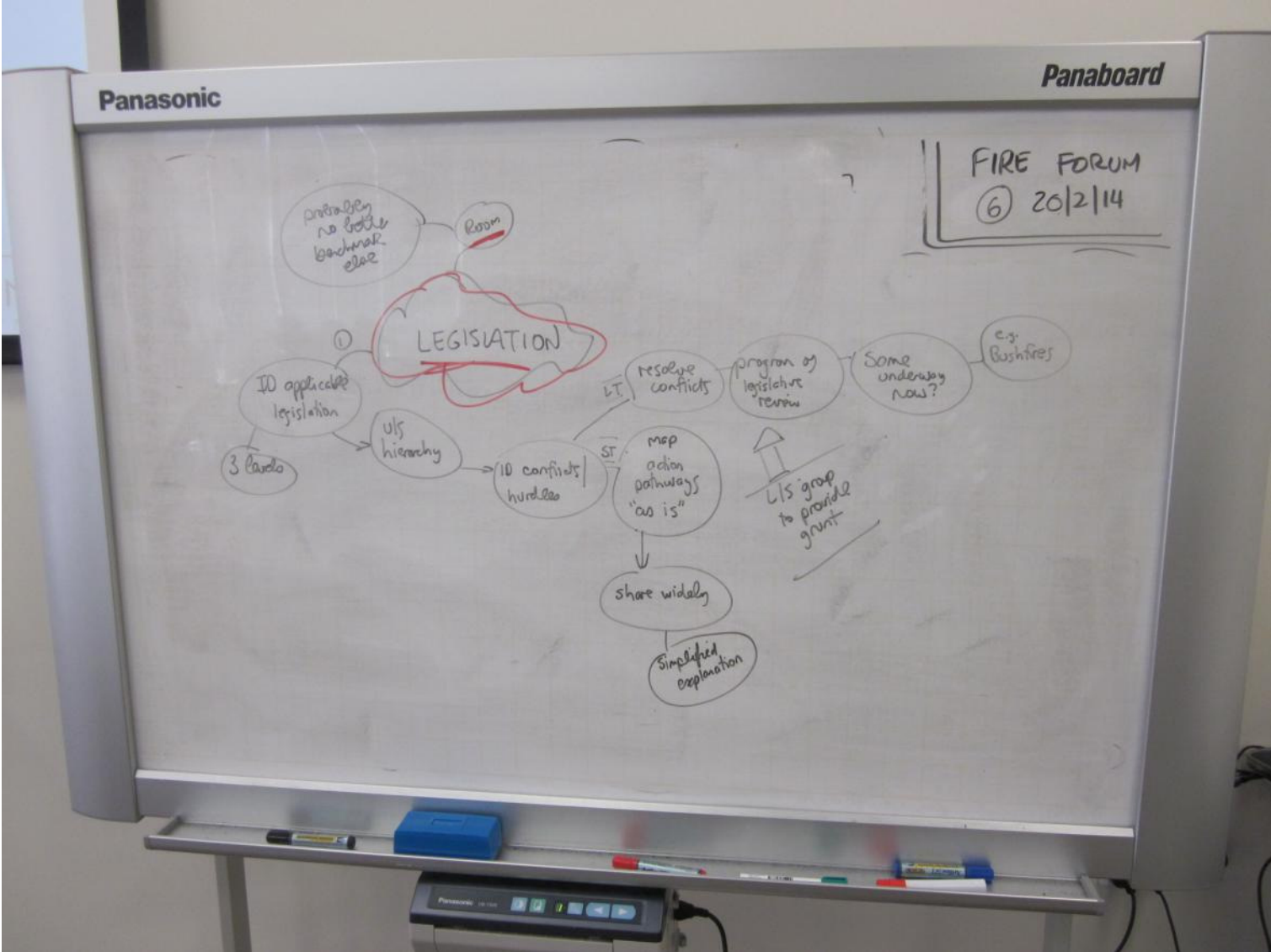
Branding

The branding group came-up with the following program:

- Define and describe the WA Rangelands to the public
- Identify the values that most appeal to the market
- Identify the target market
- Identify the main threats and relevant mitigating actions
- Sell the benefits and co-benefits of fire management as a tool
- Develop a logo and slogan
- Seek media exposure with a view to raising public interest
 - For example, 'farmer wants a fire'
 - 4 Corners story
 - There will probably need to some sort of emotional connection

Others in the room made the following comments:

- It would make sense to promote links with mining activity in the region
- Promote the aspect of 'helping culture'



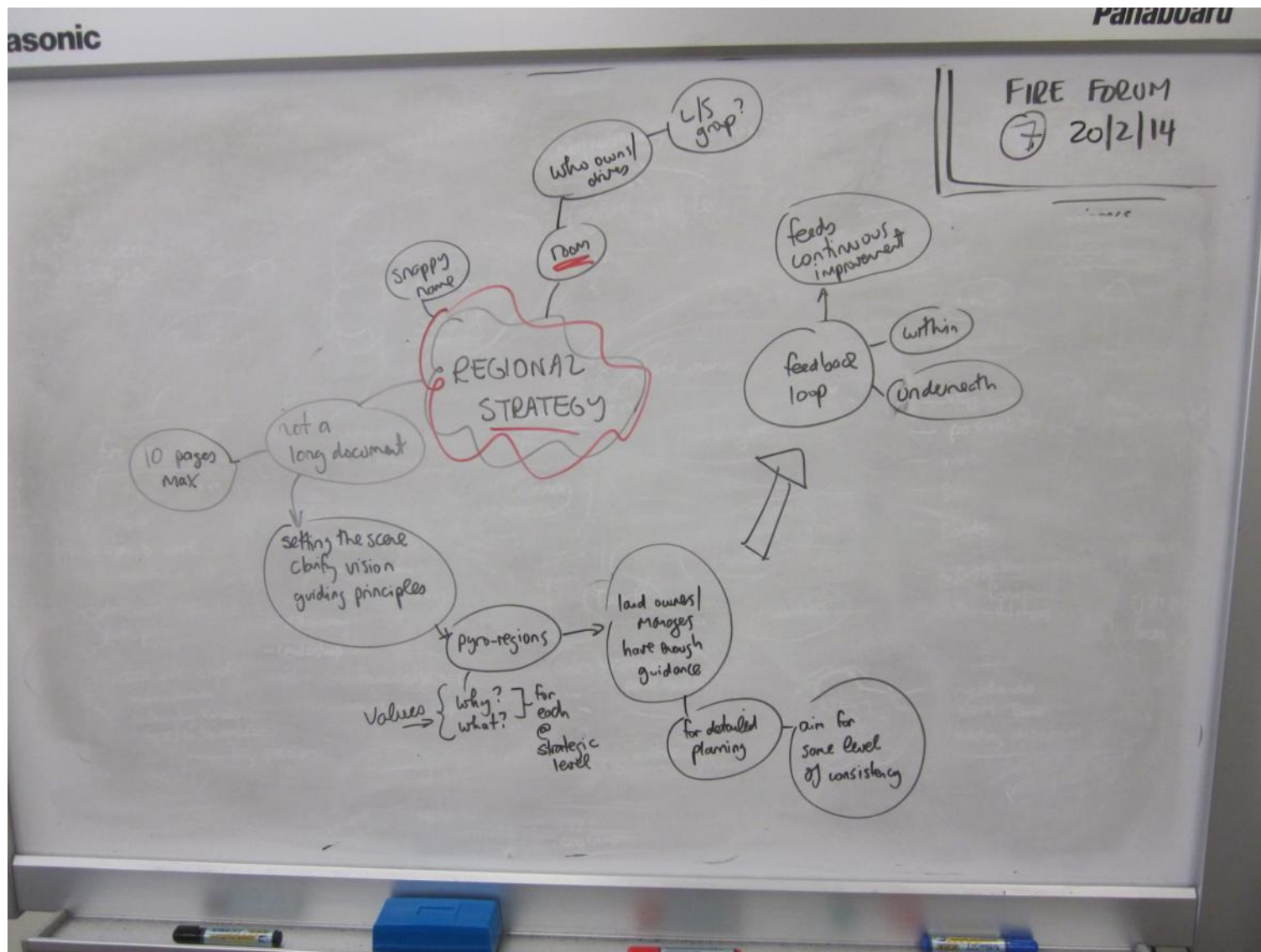
Legislation

The legislation group came-up with the following program:

- Identify all applicable legislation at the three levels of government
- Understand the hierarchy
- Identify all major hurdles and conflicts
 - In the short-term, map the best action pathways 'as is' and share this widely
 - * Make sure it is explained in simple terms than everyone can access and comprehend
 - In the medium-term, seek to have the conflicts resolved through a program of legislative review
 - * Use the leadership group to add political momentum to this
 - * It is worth noting that some such reviews are already underway

Others in the room made the following comments:

- There is probably not a better benchmark elsewhere that we could learn from

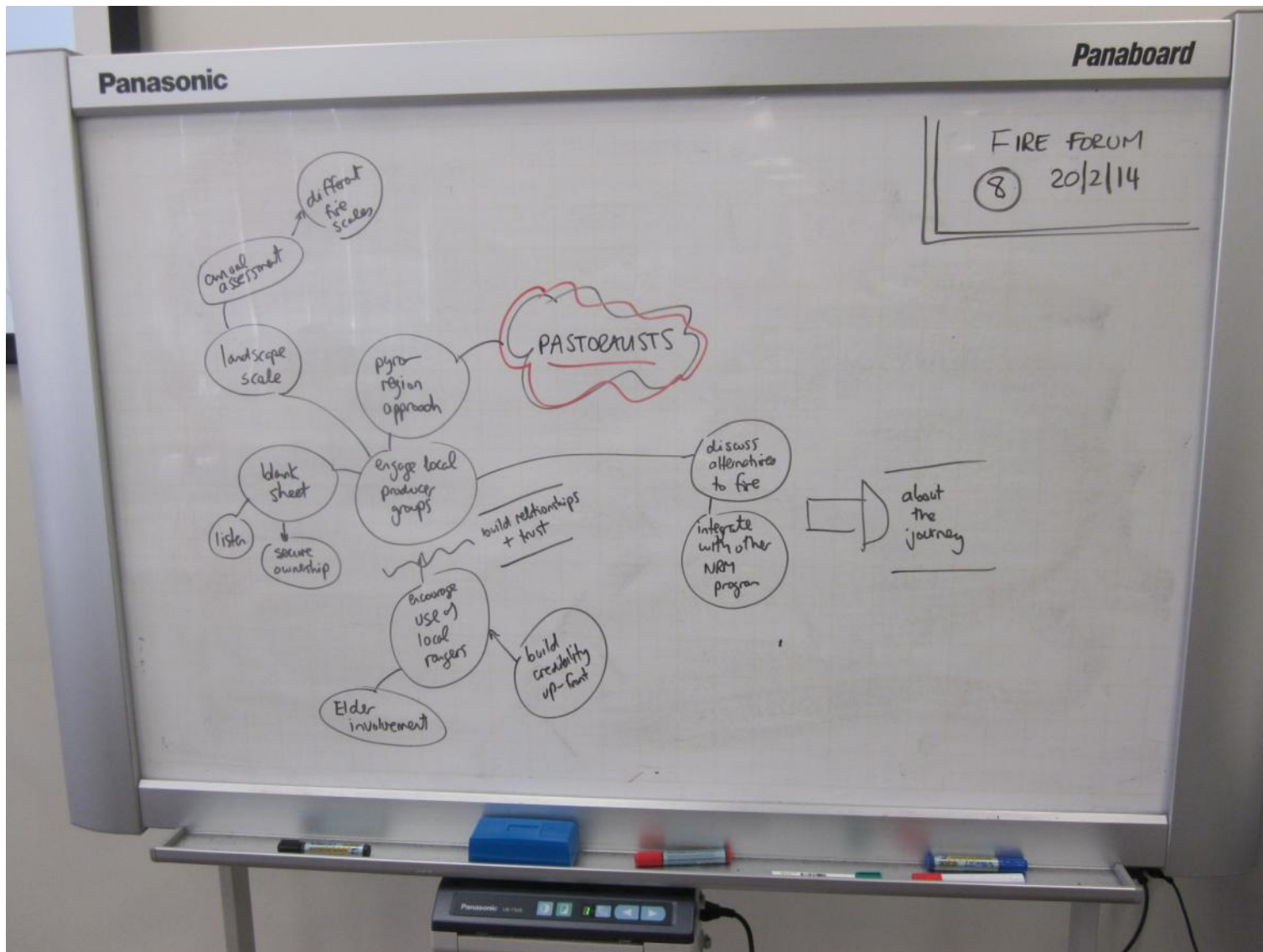


The regional strategy group came-up with the following program:

- Develop a document of 10-pages maximum
 - Ideally give it a snappy name
- Include the following information:
 - Set the scene
 - Vision
 - Guiding principles
- Frame it around the pyro-regions
 - Spell-out the strategic 'why' and 'what' for each one
- Ensure land managers have enough guidance to undertake detailed planning to deliver an effective fire management regime
 - Aim for some level of consistency
- Incorporate feedback loops so that each level of the system can continuously improve

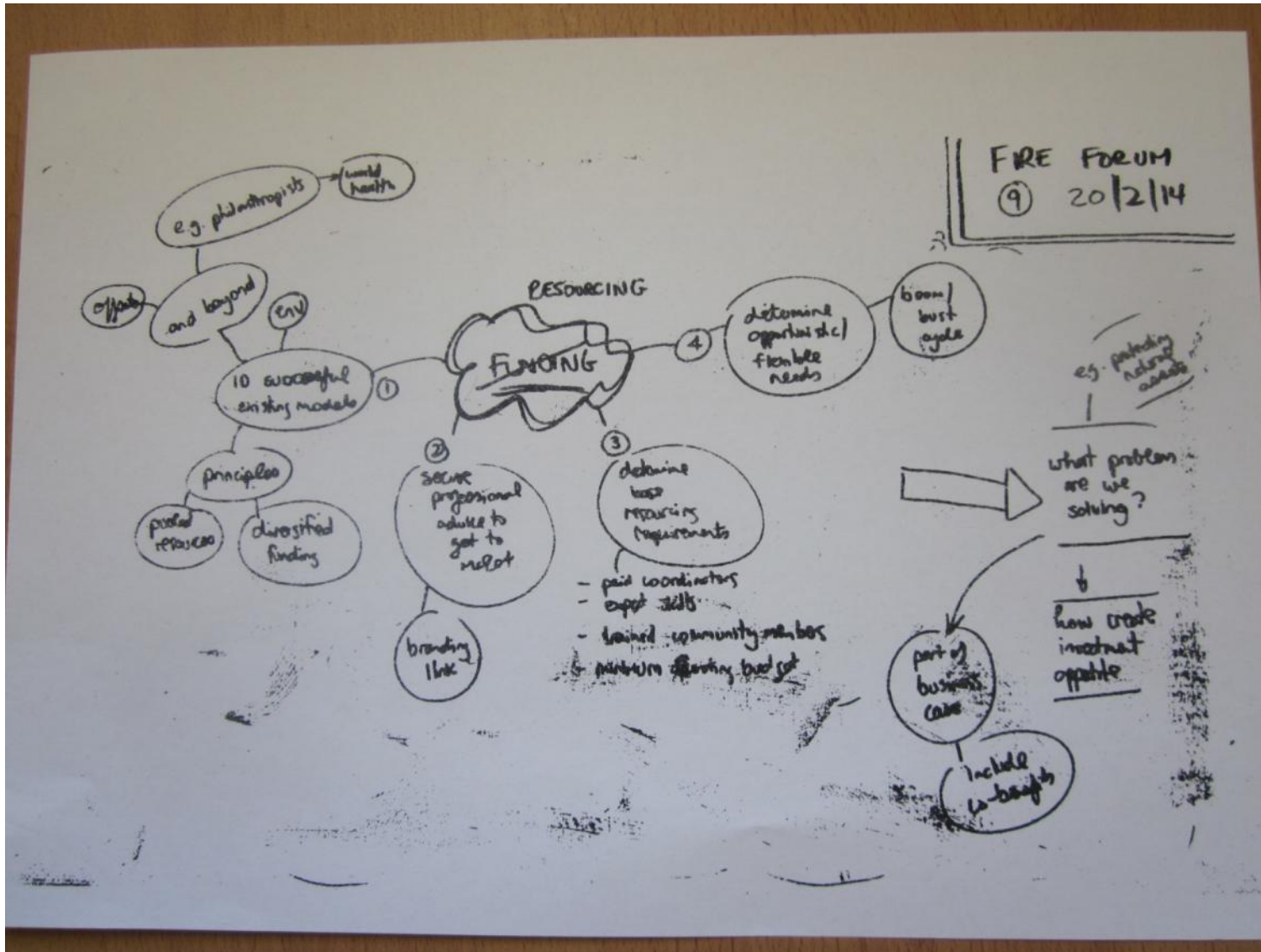
Others in the room made the following comments:

- It would make sense for the leadership group to own and drive this piece of work



The pastoralists group came-up with the following program:

- Adopt a pyro-region-based approach
- Engage local producer groups
 - Start with a blank sheet
 - * Listen carefully and seek their genuine ownership of the process
 - Encourage use of local rangers
 - * Get TO's involved
 - * Build credibility up-front by ensuring good results are demonstrably achieved by existing programs
 - * Build relationships and trust
- Work at the landscape level
 - Undertake an annual assessment
 - * Consider different fire scales
- Discuss and explore alternatives to fire
- Interface with other NRM programs
- It's all about the journey!

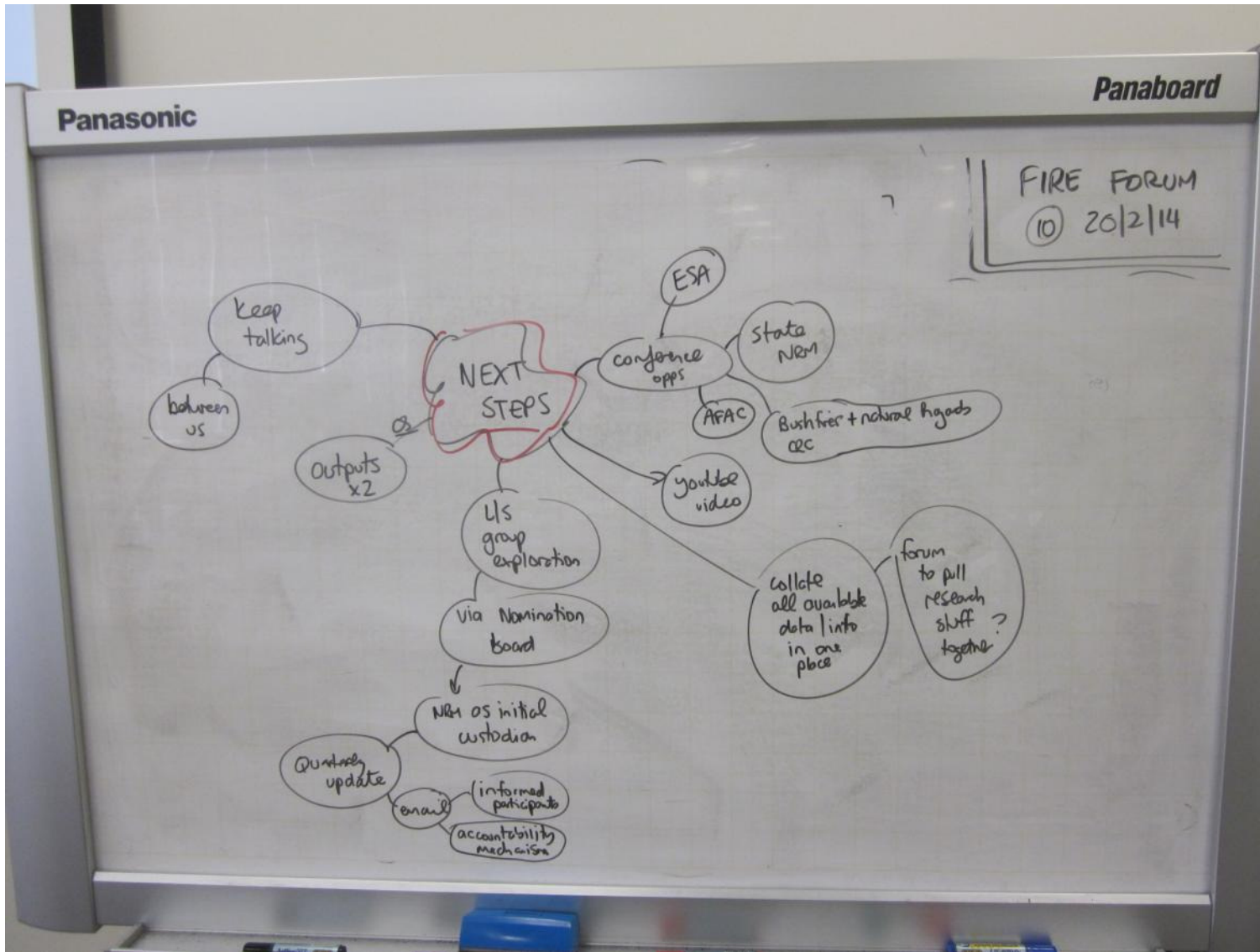


The resourcing group came-up with the following program:

- Identify existing successful models
 - Environment-focused and beyond
 - * Offsets are worthy of further consideration
 - Consider philanthropists (e.g. World Health)
 - Likely principles include:
 - * Pooled resources
 - * Diversified funding
- Secure professional advice to get to market
 - This will probably have links with the branding strategic focus area
- Determine baseline resourcing requirements
 - The baseline is likely to include:
 - * Paid coordinators
 - * Skilled experts
 - * Trained community members
- Determine additional opportunistic needs
 - i.e. those things that tend to flex during boom and bust cycles

Others in the room made the following comments:

- We need to be clear what problem we are trying to solve
 - It could be protecting natural assets
- It is worth thinking about where there is likely to be an investment appetite
- Clarify this as part of the business case
 - Include all co-benefits

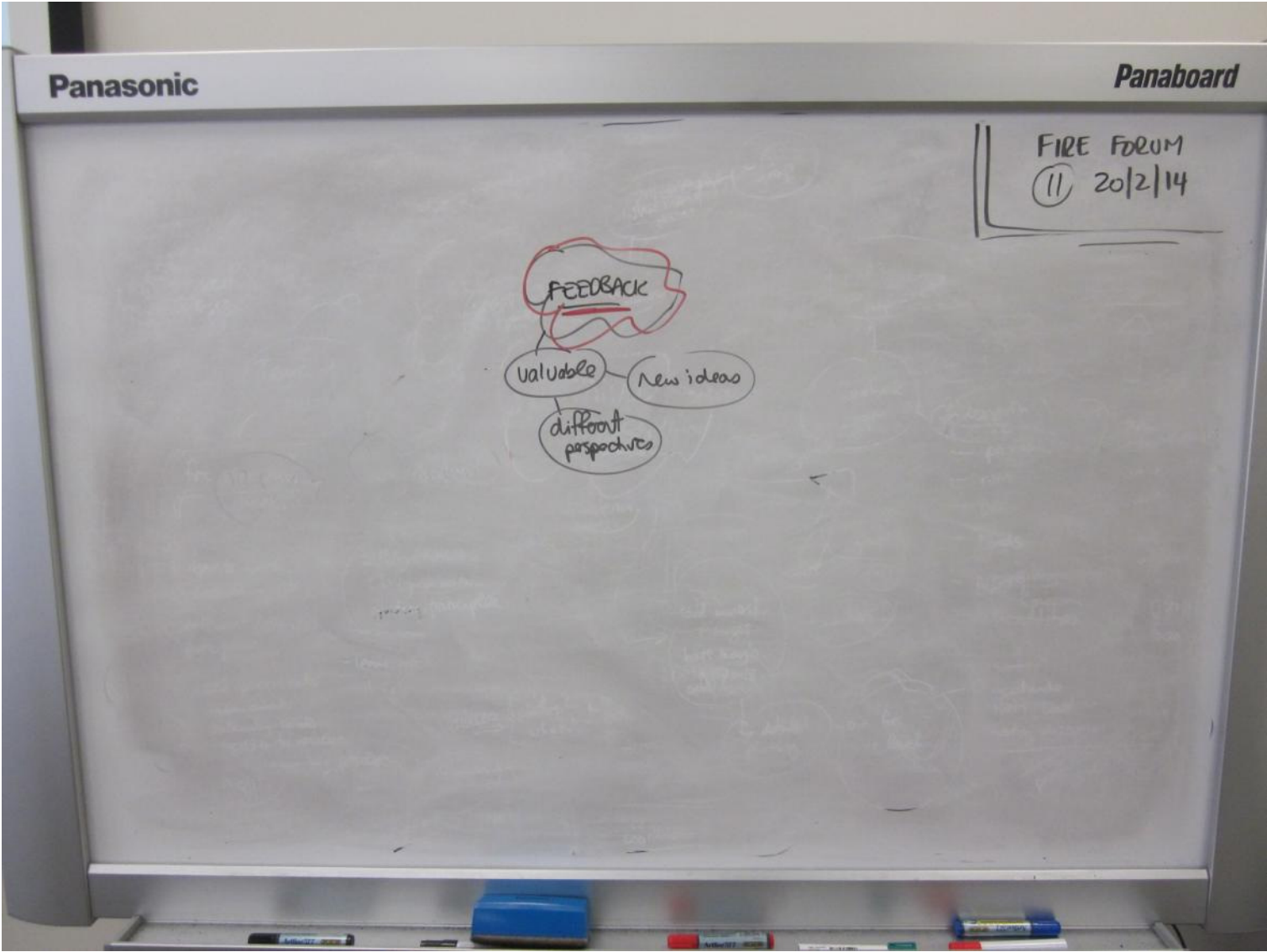


Next steps

Day 2 - electronic whiteboard 10

We ended the workshop by thinking about next steps to ensure our time investment delivers an appropriate return

- Craig will draft two outputs and aim to have them ready for distribution within 4 weeks:
 - TalkBook which captures the main conversation threads from our time together
 - BlueSheet which captures the group's argument for moving forward on one page
- Collate all available data and information in one place
 - It is unclear who is going to take responsibility for progressing this
- Progress the leadership group idea
 - NRM will act as the interim custodian
 - * They will provide a quarterly update via email to keep participants from this workshop informed and also as an accountability mechanism to ensure timely follow-up
- Develop and share a Youtube video
- Look for conference opportunities to share the ideas and energy from this workshop
 - Bushfires and Natural Hazards Cooperative Research Centre
 - Australian Fire and Emergency Service Authorities Council
 - State NRM
 - Ecological Society of Australia
- Keep talking amongst ourselves



Group feedback

Day 2 - electronic whiteboard 11

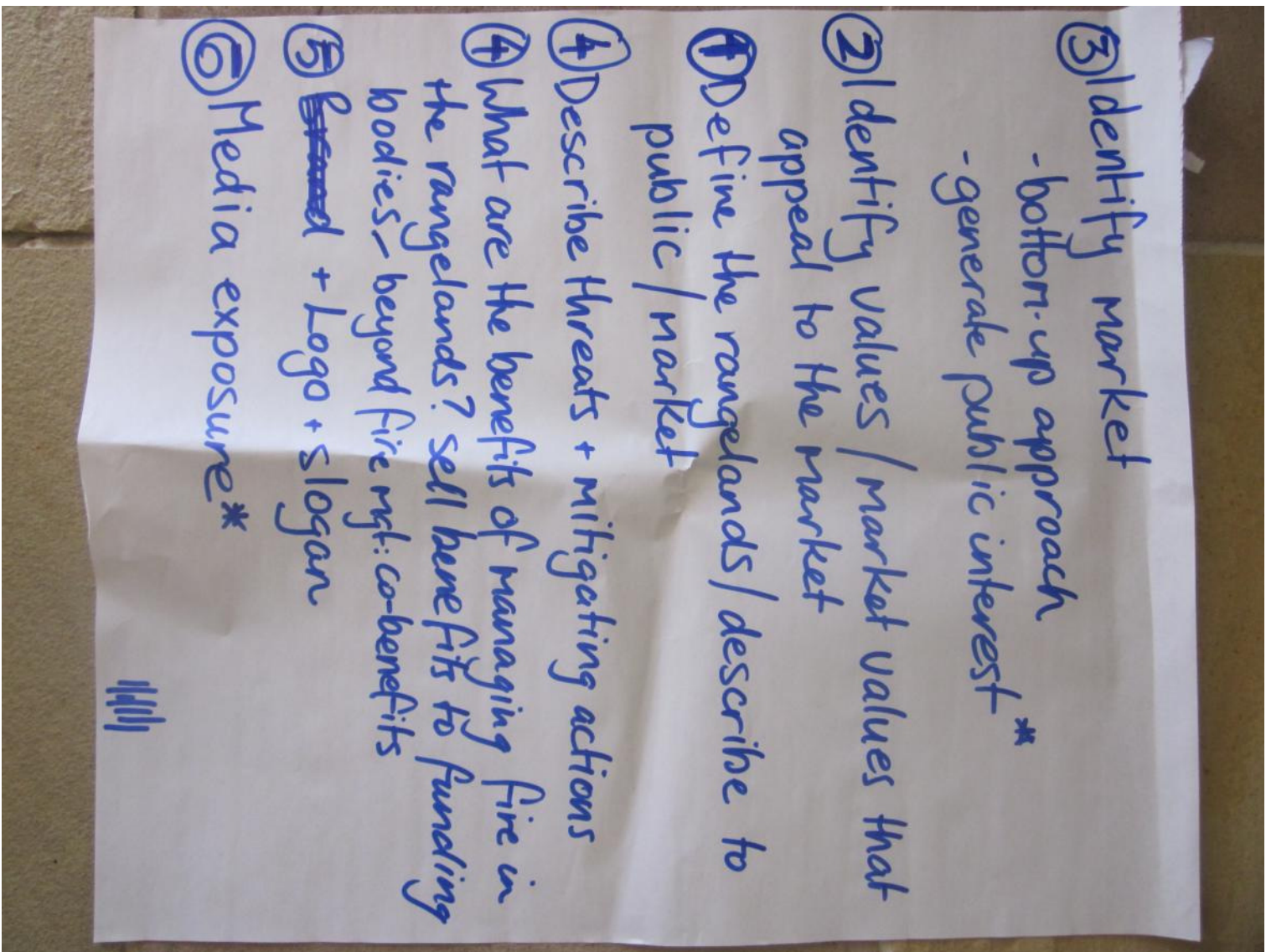
Craig sought feedback from the group about their experience of this Fire Forum

- The workshop was valuable
 - New ideas and different perspectives were shared

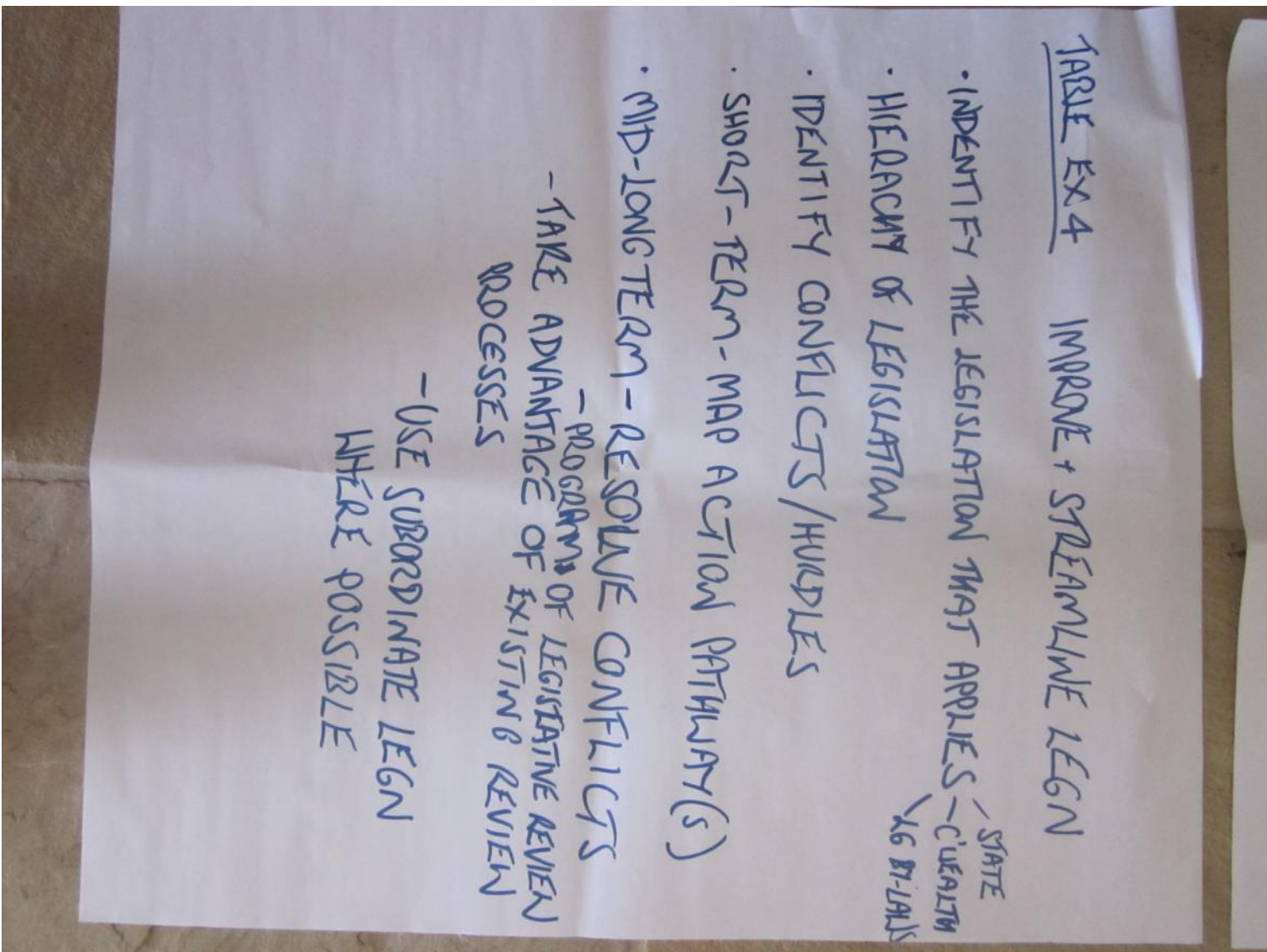
Participant feedback

Client:	Rangelands NRM											
Topic:	Fire Forum											
Date(s):	19 & 20 February 2014											
Question	Strongly agree		Agree		Disagree		Strongly disagree		Not relevant		No answer	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Outcomes												
Generated powerful ideas for moving forward	13	48%	14	52%		0%		0%		0%		0%
Identified clear next steps	8	30%	19	70%		0%		0%		0%		0%
Advanced our thinking	12	44%	14	52%	1	4%		0%		0%		0%
United our group	11	41%	15	56%	1	4%		0%		0%		0%
Likely to have a positive impact	6	22%	21	78%		0%		0%		0%		0%
Process												
Comfortable & suitable venue	15	56%	12	44%		0%		0%		0%		0%
High quality equipment	10	37%	17	63%		0%		0%		0%		0%
Relevant supporting material	5	19%	19	70%		0%		0%	3	11%		0%
Conversation accurately tracked	16	59%	10	37%		0%		0%	1	4%		0%
Range of views adequately captured	15	56%	12	44%		0%		0%		0%		0%
Adequate time for each section	13	48%	14	52%		0%		0%		0%		0%
Facilitator												
Spoke clearly & audibly	22	81%	5	19%		0%		0%		0%		0%
Used appropriate language	22	81%	5	19%		0%		0%		0%		0%
Motivated our group	22	81%	5	19%		0%		0%		0%		0%
Provided assistance & support when needed	19	70%	8	30%		0%		0%		0%		0%
Overall experience												
Understood what was happening	15	56%	12	44%		0%		0%		0%		0%
Felt heard	14	52%	13	48%		0%		0%		0%		0%
Enjoyed it	14	52%	13	48%		0%		0%		0%		0%
Would speak favourably about it	18	67%	9	33%		0%		0%		0%		0%
Comments / suggestions												
Craig is an excellent facilitator. Very methodical in capturing ideas & discussions.												
Projecting the whiteboard so the back tables could see would have been good.												
Great listener & summariser.												
Need to see summary to be able to comment (about 'conversation accurately tracked).												
Very well facilitated.												
Very well facilitated Craig. Just the right mix of leadership & low profile.												
I really liked the way we moved to a plan of action for keeping this alive.												

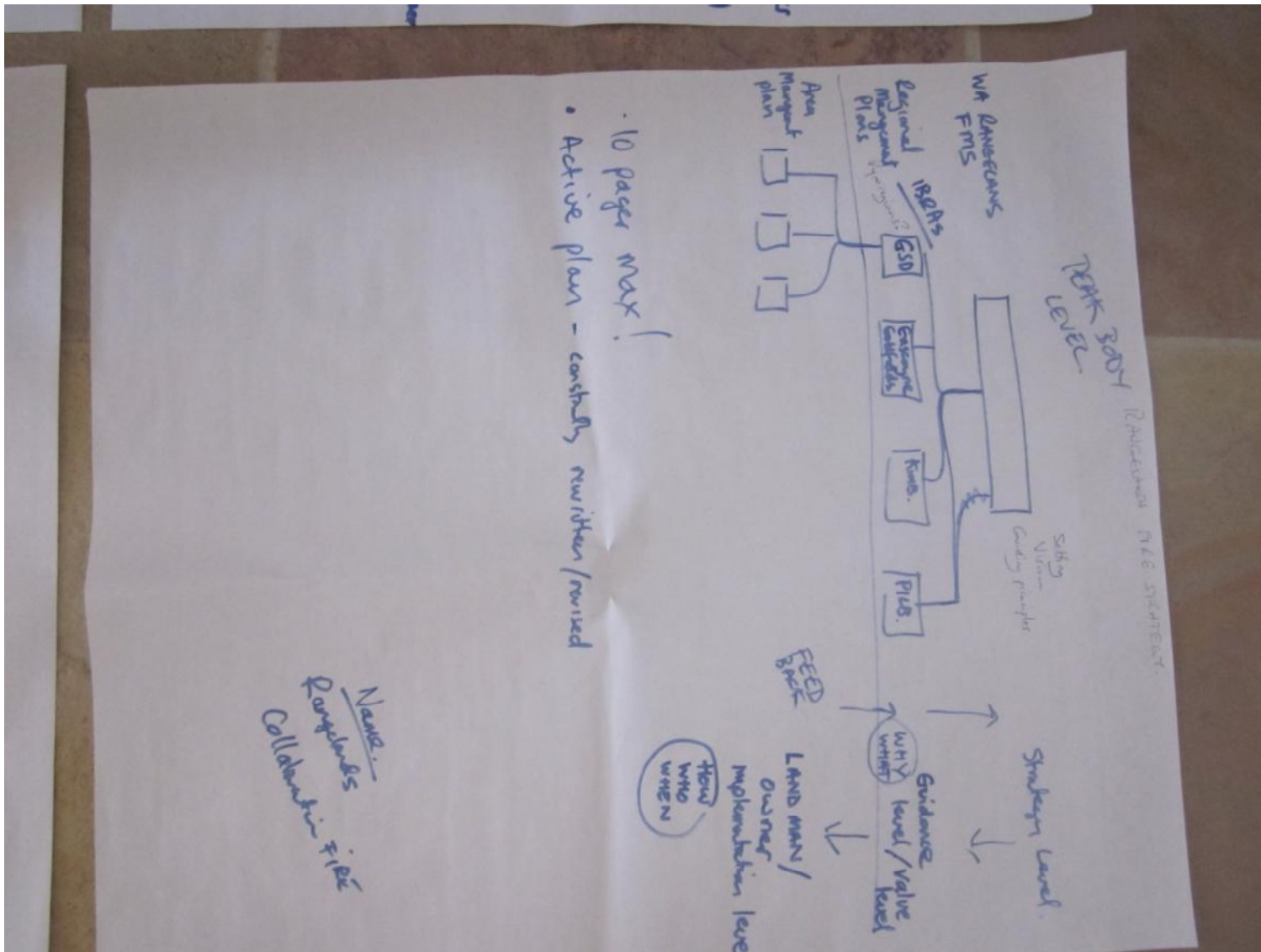
Branding group notes



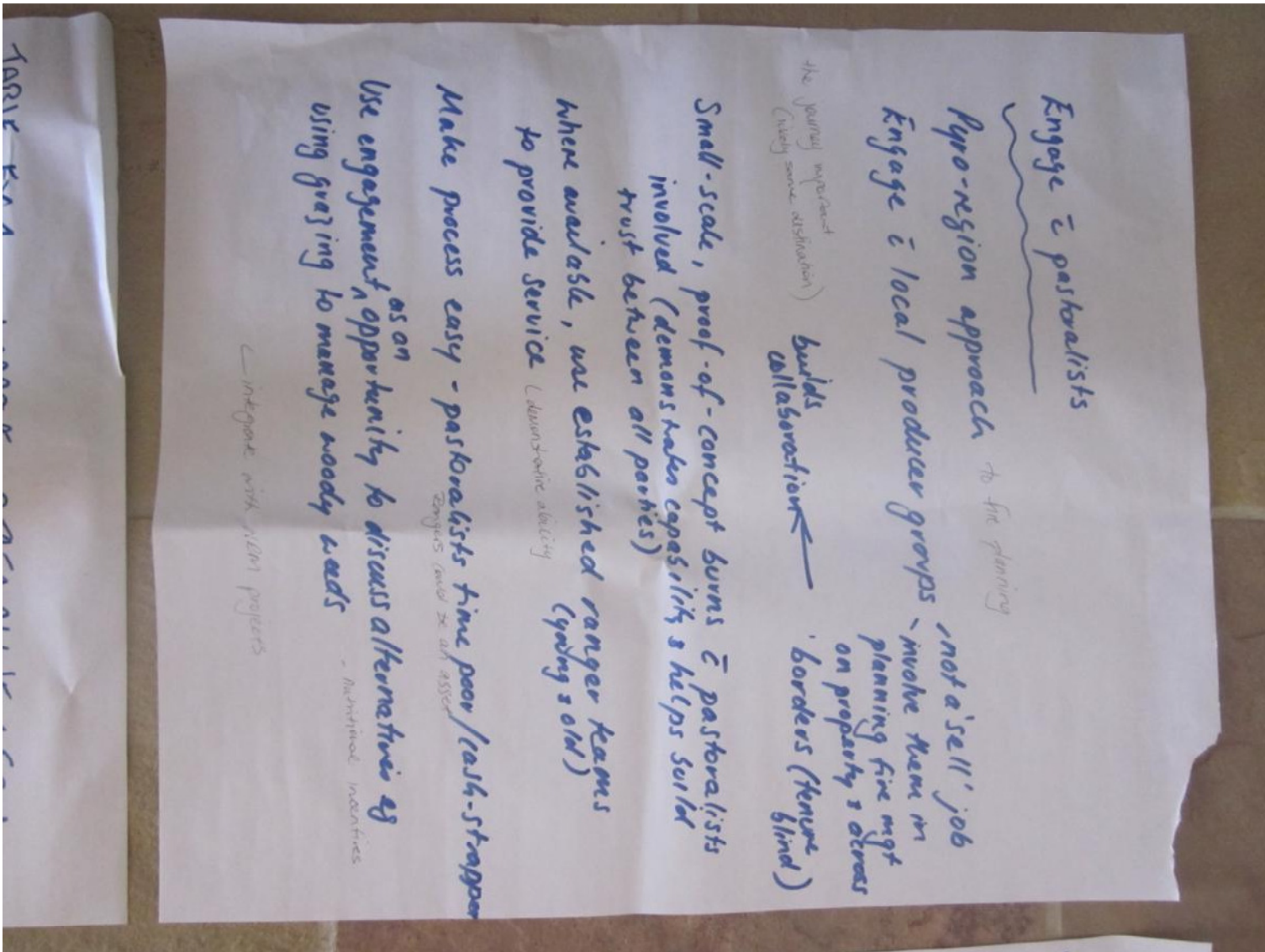
Legislation group notes



Regional strategy group notes



Pastoralists group notes



Resourcing group notes

