

Response ID ANON-4EM2-EKBE-F

Submitted to **Native vegetation issues paper**

Submitted on **2020-02-10 12:38:34**

Your details

1 What is your name?

Name:

[REDACTED]

2 Can we publish your response?

Yes, you may publish my response anonymously

3 What is your email address? (optional)

Email:

[REDACTED]

4 What is your postcode? (optional)

Postcode:

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5 Do your views officially represent those of an organisation?

Yes, I am authorised to submit feedback on behalf of an organisation

If yes, please specify the name of your organisation.:

[REDACTED]

6 Which of the following best describes the group or person you represent?

Community / Non-government organisation

If other, please specify.:

7 Which of the following best describes the sector you represent?

Environmental / NRM

If other, please specify.:

8 Are there specific parts of your submission that you want to keep confidential?

If yes, please outline which specific parts of your submission must be kept confidential and explain why. :

No.

A State native vegetation policy

9 Referring to the proposed policy objective statements below, how well do you support each one in guiding our development of a policy?

Objective 1 matrix - Objective 1:

Strongly supported

Please explain in the text box below.:

In striking a balance, legislation must take into account the long term economic outcomes not just the outcomes that satisfy current political needs. And, while this should take a long term view, there is urgent need for immediate action to introduce policies and laws to stop the destruction of our native vegetation and ensure it is protected and maintained for the generations to come. And the growing impact of climate change makes this more urgent than ever before. In addition there needs to be a mindset change of all stakeholders. We need to move away from 'competing' interests to 'collective' interests and this should be integral to new Policy initiatives.

Objective 2 matrix - Objective 2:

Strongly supported

Please explain in the text box below.:

In conserving native vegetation, the Policy must ensure that current regulations and laws so as they say. For example, the current Bush Forever legislation does not mean that the designated areas will be protected 'for ever'. It simply means that it will remain protected until the government/local council decides otherwise.

Then the EPA will make a case for the protection to be overruled. It makes a mockery of the current protections which are not protections at all. In addition, the importance of native vegetation in ensuring human health and wellbeing is a widely acknowledged fact and should form an integral part of any future Policy.

Objective 3 matrix - Objective 3:

Strongly supported

Please explain in the text box below.:

Given the huge diversity of native vegetation we question how the strategic protection can be 'tailored' to the regional setting.

10 What opportunities are presented by the development of a State Native Vegetation Policy focused on how government manages vegetation?

Please provide your answer in the text box below.:

In addition to the obvious benefits of a truly consistent, transparent and well managed long-term bipartisan Native Vegetation Policy, the development of the Policy provides an ideal and critical platform for the education of all West Australians via substantial communications programs at all levels of society. We need all West Australians to understand the enormous challenges ahead. We need to not only educate the young but to change mindsets across many sections of society.

Better information

11 How do you use native vegetation data within your sector? (Choose as many options as you require)

To plan for conservation, To plan for restoration, For baseline information for monitoring, Other

If you have chosen 'other', please specify:

To inform and educate our stakeholders and the wider public about the critical need to protect the natural vegetation on our coastline.

12 Which of the following elements of better information provision would be most relevant to your sector? (Choose as many options as you require)

Evidence-base for decisions

If you have chosen 'other', please specify:

13 What other opportunities are presented by improved information and improved access to information?

Please provide your answer in the text box below.:

The improvement of Western Australia's data systems is critical to providing society in general with the real facts around the clearing and degradation of native vegetation. As the consolidated spatial records currently only cover 3 percent of all historical clearing and there there are no credible records that can be used to reflect the real facts to inform decision making. We applaud the McGowan Government and the Minister for Environment for making this a priority.

Better regulation

14 Which of the following elements of better regulation would be most important to your sector? (Please rank your top three)

Rank better reg elements - Improved protection for native vegetation:

1

Rank better reg elements - Ensuring development is sustainable:

Rank better reg elements - Streamlined regulation for cost saving:

Rank better reg elements - Clearer requirements for business certainty:

Rank better reg elements - Improved assessment timeframes:

Rank better reg elements - Transparent, evidence-based decisions:

Rank better reg elements - Improved compliance and enforcement of unauthorised clearing:

3

Rank better reg elements - Equitable treatment of all proponents:

Rank better reg elements - Confidence in the regulatory system for all stakeholders:

2

Rank better reg elements - Other:

If you selected Other, please provide further information.:

15 What other opportunities are presented by better regulation?

Please provide your answer in the text box below.:

Better regulation will lead to increased confidence that policy cannot be manipulated and that there are real and substantial consequences for flouting the law.

We applaud the McGowan Government's move to prevent the threat to further widespread ecological communities

A bioregional approach

16 Which of the following elements are the most important to you/your sector? (Please rank your top three)

Rank bioregional elements - 1. Transparent outcomes and objectives:

3

Rank bioregional elements - 2. Leveraging local knowledge:

1

Rank bioregional elements - 3. Strategic and innovative approach to conflicting interests:

Rank bioregional elements - 4. Clear targets and thresholds:

Rank bioregional elements - 5. Planned approach to dealing with cumulative impacts:

Rank bioregional elements - 6. Effective monitoring and evaluation framework:

2

Rank bioregional elements - 7. Supporting public-private partnerships for conservation:

Please explain in the text box below.:

17 What other opportunities are presented by a bioregional approach?

Please explain in the text box below.:

This should prioritise the inclusion of Aboriginal communities in the protection and management of native vegetation on a regional level.

18 What concerns are presented by a bioregional approach, for your sector?

Please explain in the text box below.:

Other initiatives

19 What initiatives do you think would work best to improve native vegetation outcomes in your region?

Aboriginal land management, Nature-based or cultural tourism

Please explain in the text box below.:

20 What else could be done to improve the management of native vegetation to arrest the decline of native vegetation extent and condition?

Please provide your answer in the text box below.:

Major new funding is essential to facilitate ongoing research in order to inform and fund the actions necessary to stop the loss and degradation of native vegetation, to fund

damage control and restoration and to fund the communication campaigns necessary to get all West Australians on board with the the understanding, acceptance and passion to protect ur most precious commodity

Upload a document

21 If you would like to upload a document to support your submission, please upload it here.

Upload document 1 here.:

No file was uploaded

Please describe which question(s) document 1 relates to. :

Upload document 2 here.:

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Please describe which question(s) document 2 relates to. :