

Response ID ANON-4EM2-EKG8-7

Submitted to **Native vegetation issues paper**

Submitted on **2020-01-26 14:05:34**

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:

[REDACTED]

5 Do your views officially represent those of an organisation?

No, these are my personal views

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

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

Private citizen

If other, please specify.:

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

Not applicable (private citizen)

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.:

Environmental outcomes for native vegetation need to take precedence over economic outcomes. Protecting and restoring native vegetation and biodiversity now will ultimately lead to better economic and social outcomes in the long term.

Objective 2 matrix - Objective 2:

Strongly supported

Please explain in the text box below.:

Objective 3 matrix - Objective 3:

Strongly supported

Please explain in the text box below.:

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.:

This would provide consistency and transparency and allow decisions to be made based on an understanding of the overall condition and status of native vegetation. It could be used to set targets for restoring and protecting native vegetation. It is a very good idea and surprising that we don't already have one.

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

If you have chosen 'other', please specify:

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, Other

If you have chosen 'other', please specify:

May lead to better outcomes for the protection and restoration of native vegetation.

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

Please provide your answer in the text box below.:

Provides essential information to allow the protection of native vegetation and to develop recovery plans for threatened ecological communities and endangered species. It would allow the sharing of information which given the current lack of funding would allow best use of available information and new research and data gathering to be targeted with available funds effectively used to fill in knowledge gaps.

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:

2

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:

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.:

An opportunity to better protect and seek positive outcomes for native vegetation and our unique biodiversity. This is would be a positive step and assist with managing climate change.

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:

2

Rank bioregional elements - 2. Leveraging local knowledge:

3

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:

1

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.:

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

Please explain in the text box below.:

It needs to still be managed by overarching regulation ie can not be left to various areas to self manage. It could be open to domination by vested interest groups who don't hold the best interest for the protection of native vegetation as a priority.

Other initiatives

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

Pricing, incentives and markets (e.g. biodiversity banking, offsets, carbon farming etc), Aboriginal land management, Pastoral diversification, 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.:

Significant and unprecedented investment in environmental programmes designed to improve native vegetation and arrest its decline and deal with climate change. A focus on protecting the environment rather than economic growth for the sake of it. Threatened ecological communities should not be cleared under any circumstance particularly not to widen a section of road or build a new section of road which has a very shaky business case. Shift large investment levels away from unnecessary infrastructure projects which provide limited jobs and destroy habitat to environmental projects which go somewhat towards mitigating climate change and also provide jobs.