

Response ID ANON-4EM2-EKM9-E

Submitted to **Native vegetation issues paper**

Submitted on **2020-02-08 07:30:46**

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.:

I fully support this however I am concerned with the use of Strategic. Opportunity for abuse for strategic reasons especially different values for competing value propositions

Objective 2 matrix - Objective 2:

Strongly supported

Please explain in the text box below.:

Concerned about likely lack of protection for smaller areas especially if seen as too small or isolated for 'investment'.

Objective 3 matrix - Objective 3:

Supported

Please explain in the text box below.:

Agree it should be protected noting however that in the Wheatbelt especially, everything is at risk and that previously common is increasingly and sadly unique. The term regional setting is of concern - may allow for external priorities to take precedence and how will this be decided?

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.:

Important and badly needed. Brings clarity, provides framework for all to understand - community, industry and critically all levels of government and individual government agencies. This could result in consistent and long-term action and results. Requires commitment and matching policy by all government departments.

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

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)

Cost saving, 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.:

Sharing, collection and opportunities for monitoring and evaluation of current, consistent, accepted and agreed information.
Better decisions that can be explained.
Opportunity to share knowledge and educate.

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:

Rank better reg elements - Equitable treatment of all proponents:

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

3

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.:

Improved confidence and certainty that good decisions are made for the right reasons.
Confidence that once a decision is made it is final and projects such as developments can progress in an agreed and timely fashion. Equally - once an area is protected there is certainty.
Opportunity and need for regular reviews
Sets a standard for everyone that is fair, transparent and equitable

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:

1

Rank bioregional elements - 2. Leveraging local knowledge:

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

3

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.:

Possible more opportunities for local input and decision-making.

Potential for local knowledge to be more valued.

Possible interference at a local level because of overarching bioregion status.

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

Please explain in the text box below.:

Local knowledge and decision-making overridden.

Bioregions likely to be at too large and high level desktop approach.

Can encourage simplistic approaches and disenfranchises local community.

Possible prioritising of which bioregions are considered of higher value or importance.

Labelling and assumptions and lack of measurable value of social or human capital within the bioregion.

Evidence-based based decision-making about bioregions on limited research.

High likelihood of unintended consequences when used for reasons other than those designed or developed for.

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, Private land management

Please explain in the text box below.:

All initiatives are part of the complex answer. Concern for Pricing strategies and of course it would be wonderful if vegetation, biodiversity and our natural environment could be valued for itself without needing to find a reason or need to find a way to price on it!

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.:

So many different things - too many to address here. Many previous initiatives and programs that were successful need to be reviewed and considered and have long term support and equally importantly on ground action or outcomes. Initial Strategy is the key however will require high level support and resourcing to have a beneficial and lasting effect.