

Response ID ANON-4EM2-EKS7-J

Submitted to **Native vegetation issues paper**

Submitted on **2020-01-20 14:11:58**

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?

Environmental consultant

If other, please specify.:

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

Development / Construction

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.:

Objective 2 matrix - Objective 2:

Strongly supported

Please explain in the text box below.:

Objective 3 matrix - Objective 3:

Supported

Please explain in the text box below.:

Require clarification of 'at risk' or a reference to the definition that is used in this context.

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.:

Greater understanding of the extent of clearing of vegetation
Opportunity to coordinate all vegetation clearing and condition information (spatial and temporal) data.
Consistent approach across all legislation, agencies and Acts.
Opportunity to manage offsets at a more regional perspective and with greater transparency and ease.
Opportunity to rationalise EPBC referrals
Opportunity to implement policies and guidance for those areas currently experiencing high levels of clearance.
Opportunity to manage clearing under the exempt laws
More resources for government compliance and oversight
More opportunity to engage with persons and organisations outside of agencies who have important and valid information and knowledge.
Opportunity to implement a long term vision for vegetation management.

Better information

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

To inform applications to clear or impact vegetation

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, Timeliness of assessments, 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.:

Consolidate all fragmented data
Provide accurate and verified data to the public
Opportunity for higher levels of compliance for permits and illegal clearing
Opportunity to access resources to build one database with extent and condition

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:

2

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:

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.:

Consolidate approach across all legislation

Implement systems that provide more regulation of 'exempt' clearing
Clarity for all proponents regardless of the Act or activity
More robust regulation for illegal clearing and data collection for exempt clearing
Clearer management of expectations for time and process for proponents

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:

Rank bioregional elements - 4. Clear targets and thresholds:

2

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

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

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

3

Please explain in the text box below.:

17 What other opportunities are presented by a bioregional approach?

Please explain in the text box below.:

May provide a higher level of protection for "high-risk" areas.

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

Please explain in the text box below.:

If the IBRA is used for bioregional, it is currently in 'draft'. Is this the best system to use? If not, what is the alternative.

IBRA is not aligned with local authority boundaries. Can this be implemented over different authority boundaries?

The course resolution of IBRA will need to be verified on ground.

Whilst policy is useful at a regional scale, it will not be effective if decisions are delegated at regional levels, i.e. not sufficient resources or expertise in the regions.

From a policy perspective over 20 regions may be too much to implement immediately?

If there sufficient data for each region to develop accurate targets and policy? Unclear what this will look like.

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, Private land management

Please explain in the text box below.:

Market based instruments information has been explored quite extensively by the Commonwealth over 12 years ago. No point reinventing the wheel, a lot of work has been done and would be useful to re-visit.

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.:

Provide clearer direction, policy and legal instruments for private conservation.