

## Response ID ANON-4EM2-EKX9-S

Submitted to **Native vegetation issues paper**

Submitted on **2020-02-04 10:20:13**

### Your details

#### 1 What is your name?

**Name:**

Philip David Hart

#### 2 Can we publish your response?

Yes, you may publish my response in full

#### 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. :**

My answer to this question is "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 see native vegetation as being an integral part of the lives of people who live in Western Australia. As such, everybody can look forward to receiving equitable treatment with this objective.

**Objective 2 matrix - Objective 2:**

Strongly supported

**Please explain in the text box below.:**

I see both economic benefits and health benefits flowing from this objective.

**Objective 3 matrix - Objective 3:**

Strongly supported

**Please explain in the text box below.:**

Science does not yet, and may never, fully understand what resources may lie in such vegetation, which resources may have unforeseen benefits to the community.

**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.:**

At the risk of seeming facetious (mainly because I cannot think of any other opportunities), it would be the meeting of the three objectives above.

## **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, 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.:**

As a member of the Environmental Advisory Committee for the Shire of Toodyay, I can see opportunities for Council decisions to be based on better data, thereby improving its service to the community. It is highly likely that other local governments would benefit similarly.

## **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:

2

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:

1

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

Rank better reg elements - Equitable treatment of all proponents:

3

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.:**

None that I can think of.

## **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:

2

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:

3

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.:

None that I can think of.

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

Please explain in the text box below.:

I see two risks.

The first risk is that any approach devised for any given area may be suboptimal.

The second risk is that the nature of nature (Sorry, I could not resist that one!) in any given area may change over time due to such things as climate change, and so an optimal approach may become suboptimal at a later date.

## 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

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.:

Publicity (as well as consultations such as this one).

## 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.:

No file was uploaded

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