

Response ID ANON-4EM2-EKX4-M

Submitted to **Native vegetation issues paper**

Submitted on **2020-02-07 15:52:52**

Your details

1 What is your name?

Name:

Briony Moran

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Yes, you may publish my response in full

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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.:

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

Government body

If other, please specify.:

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

Government

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. :

-

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:

Supported

Please explain in the text box below.:

It would be very difficult to ensure management of vegetation is consistent across the state and land tenures, and unclear how this policy would have that effect. Suggest alternative wording, e.g: Decisions about native vegetation will be strategic and transparent, and balance long term environmental, economic, social and cultural outcomes to Western Australians.

Objective 2 matrix - Objective 2:

Strongly supported

Please explain in the text box below.:

Given various existing threats to biodiversity are expected to be multiplied by climate change, strategic approaches will be required just to maintain landscape scale biodiversity and ecological functions. The objective is supported, however policy statements cannot achieve these objectives unless supported by adequate, expert staff and resources within relevant state agencies.

Objective 3 matrix - Objective 3:

Strongly supported

Please explain in the text box below.:

A tailored regional approach is supported, which may help direct available resources to areas of greatest need or benefit.

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.:

There is an opportunity to engage with schools and community during the policy consultation stage to improve understanding of the diversity, values and threats faced by native vegetation in WA. There are opportunities to engage with universities and the WA Biodiversity Science Institute to ensure that the policy is informed by recent research findings (particularly for climate change adaptation) as well as identifying the most critical knowledge gaps requiring investigation.

There is limited information on how implementation would occur, but regular and transparent reporting (whether as part of State of Environment reporting or separate) would assist in maintaining public confidence in the effectiveness of the policy.

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)

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.:

Better ecological information can improve decision making across state and local governments, and support more strategic environmental restoration efforts. It can also reduce duplication of effort where different organisations may be collecting similar information.

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:

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:

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.:

Allocation of resources to areas of greatest need or benefit

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:

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:

3

Please explain in the text box below.:

Decision making tailored to regional ecosystem and risk types would provide better outcomes than a 'one size fits all' approach.

17 What other opportunities are presented by a bioregional approach?

Please explain in the text box below.:

A bioregional approach could support new partnerships, information sharing and collaboration for areas with similar values, threats and challenges.

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

Please explain in the text box below.:

Implementation of a bioregional approach could be ineffective if there is not sufficient investment in research, staff and conservation initiatives for each bioregion.

Other initiatives

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

Nature-based or cultural tourism

Please explain in the text box below.:

Nature-based tourism improves appreciation of natural values by residents and visitors alike, and provides an incentive (and supportive culture) for long term protection and management of biodiversity.

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.:

Consider bioregional approaches to bushfire risk management and ensure that actions undertaken for bushfire safety are effective, based on science, and are not having unintended consequences such as increasing weed invasion and future fuel loads.

Upload a document

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

Upload document 1 here.:

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

Upload document 2 here.:

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