

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Native Vegetation Strategy](#)
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Subject: Native vegetation
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I support the Urban Bushland Council's submission.

In the 1990s I was one of the architects of native vegetation clearing controls under the EP Act as "environmental harm", and of the Memorandum of Understanding to coordinate the separate assessment processes operated by the different departments involved in land clearing or protection.

I was also responsible for overseeing the implementation of the EPA's "Red Book" recommendations, and wetlands protection.

Sad to say, all these initiative have been watered down with ever slacker controls, tick-a-box approvals, and diminishing resources for management, making the current situation of vegetation and wetland protection deplorably deficient. I am happy to talk to the people running this project about the history of land clearing controls and wetlands protection. If you don't know where we've come from in the past you won't know how to get to the future.

I applaud the Urban Bushland Council's attempts to stop the rot, restore the damaged bush and waters, and save what's left.

Is it too much to hope that the good work of the authors of the issues paper, supplemented with the UBC's submission, will result in action before we lose the lot to the effects of the changing climate?

Charles Nicholson

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