

Progress on the review of the Native Vegetation Regulation



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Early results from the Native Vegetation Survey

A survey about your experiences with the way government regulates native vegetation is underway. In the first two months, to 31 January 2012, almost 300 people completed the survey. The survey includes some simple questions from which we can give quantitative descriptions of the early results. Others are broad questions and an independent expert will analyse the answers to those questions once the survey is complete. Below is a snap shot of some of the early quantitative results.

An overwhelming 85% of respondents felt that native vegetation was important to the viability of agriculture. About 70% of the respondents were involved in the management of a rural property. Grazing was the most common form of primary production on these properties (28%), followed by a mix of cropping and grazing (23%) and a mix of grazing and forestry (10%). Twenty percent of those who managed a rural property had a Property Vegetation Plan (PVP). Forty-five percent of those who had a PVP said they would recommend getting one to another land holder.

While the survey is ongoing, at this stage it appears that the public recognises the benefits of native vegetation to farming and that there are differing views on how it should be managed. It also appears that more needs to be done to make it easier to negotiate a PVP to encourage uptake by landholders.

The survey is open until 30 March 2012. To complete the survey please visit:

www.environment.nsw.gov.au/vegetation/ReviewofNVRegulations.htm or call 131 555 for a hard-copy.

The results of the survey will be used to inform the review of the native vegetation regulations. A summary of the results, including the independent expert's analysis, will be published on the Office of Environment and Heritage website once the survey is completed. No personal information will be made available.

Next steps

Development of a proposal for changes to the regulation based on stakeholder input is well underway. The proposals will be released for public review and comment once they are finalised. The public consultation period will run for ten weeks.

Public information sessions will be held in regional NSW to explain the proposed changes.

The public consultation and information sessions are your chance to influence the outcomes of this review. Opportunities for input will be widely publicised in local and national newspapers, on local radio and on the Office of Environment and Heritage website. Those who have registered their interest in the review with native.vegetation@environment.nsw.gov.au will be notified directly.

Did you know ...

Through a Property Vegetation Plan (PVP) you can change the "regrowth" date for vegetation on your property if you have been using rotational farming practices since 1943 in the western division or 1950 in all other areas. The PVP allows for the clearing needed to continue existing rotational farming practices.