

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 25 June 2012 8:07 PM
To: EHPP Landscapes & Ecosystems Section Mailbox
Subject: Comments

I would like to make the following comments in relation to the Native Vegetation Regulation changes. I am afraid I don't have the time to go through all the regs to see if the following concerns are addressed, either in previous or proposed acts. My predominant concerns relate the native grasses and the protection of creeks, streams and rivers from stock.

- * native grass pasture is incredibly important to maintain as it is often more drought-proof than introduced species and takes less water and introduced nutrient than introduced pastures. I would especially like to see it maintained on slopes, hills, and along gullies, streams and rivers.

- * buffer zones of native grasses along gullies, creeks and rivers that exclude stock. Although many gullies and smaller creeks do not flow all year round, they are very vulnerable to erosion where stock are allowed access. Cattle and horses are incredibly damaging to water courses - not only do they soil in water courses but they create pugs that destabilise the soil profile, especially in a higher flow situation. The higher nutrient also causes deterioration in the quality of water, especially when there is no flow. Algal blooms and other bacteria thrive in water that contains manures. Unfortunately cattle and horses are quite happy to defecate in their drinking water.

I believe that rural landholders should be assisted financially to protect water courses and native grasses for the greater good.

Thank you for your time.

Dallis Tanner.