

---

**From:** John Klason [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, 13 August 2012 8:37 PM  
**To:** EHPP Landscapes & Ecosystems Section Mailbox  
**Subject:** John Klason

I agree to have this published:

I refer to the native vegetation Act. I am a graduate forester, and resent that unqualified and totally misguided individuals can regulate what is undertaken on private farms, reducing productivity and implementing dictatorial doctrines that in the long term cause more forest destruction than any before. Examples of unqualified and totally misguided individuals are the National Parks administration's decimation of the great divide from Melbourne to Sydney by delinquent land management, and fire control prevention. My farm is for raising beef cattle, it is not a de facto national park at nil cost to the government.

The Government does not "own" the vegetation on my farm, it is for farmers to decide appropriate vegetation removal and control. All the clearing prevention has done is to leave timber that was useless for previous harvesting; stopping regrowth (I have red cedar- flooded gum and other prime timber), obstacles to weed control (lantana) and increased costs in farming operations. As usual, the "green" viewpoint is that all costs and all blame revert to the private landholder. It must be remembered post World War II, the government forced land clearing as part of the land grants, the result is that nearly all vegetation now standing is either weed regrowth or the result of prior timber harvesting that has left the poorer unhealthy trees, and these are now regulated to prevent removal. Also, if Forestry had not reserved State Forests, the national Parks that have taken over would have no trees left at all.

As for the "guidelines" for removal of vegetation for fencing, dams, stockyards and fire breaks, there is no allowance for ease of future maintenance, fire control and prevention of damage to infrastructure. What is the good of leaving an over mature 30m tree dropping limbs next to stockyards or fences? The author of these guidelines must have been a desk jockey with no knowledge of the real world.

The Native Vegetation Act does nothing to alleviate financial pressure imposed on farmers to follow an already overregulated industry. You cannot even scratch yourself without some bureaucrat popping up and abusing you. As for the anti clearing lobbyists, if they are willing to pay for losses incurred to farmers by this regulation, then I will listen. As the government now dictates, we do not own the minerals (we must allow mining to pay government royalties), we do not own water, we do not own native vegetation that grows on our land, we now have a carbon tax for daring to breathe and most probably will have bureaucrats with methane monitors soon chasing cattle.

I demand an end to government over regulation of private land. As for using my timber for "carbon credits"- try paying for it first!