

## Submission to the Review on the Native Vegetation Regulation

The Native Vegetation Regulations and Act must be repealed as was unanimously voted for at the Vegetation review meeting held in Cobar on 2<sup>nd</sup> July.

The Legislation Review Committee 2003 had issues with the Acts removal of civil liberties, these were never addressed and the act needs to be repealed to restore these rights. Eg Under the native Vegetation Act it is an offence not to supply information to incriminate yourself. You are considered guilty and must prove your own innocence.

The Act and Regulations must be replaced with Regional Vegetation plans that have been scientifically developed over several years by lifelong experienced local Vegetation Committees and environmental consultants. Mount Boppy District has two local district plans, The North Lachlan- Bogan Regional Vegetation Management Plan and The Vegetation Management Plan for Areas Invaded by Native Trees and Shrubs in the Cobar Peneplain that both offer triple bottom line outcomes. These with a reinstated soil conservation service are all the regulation that is required to restore our environment to open grassy woodland as described in early explorer manuscripts.

INS PVP'S incur land use theft without compensation by forcing a 20% lock up in perpetuity on degraded land. INS PVP'S are supposed to be restoring the environment but aren't able to achieve best possible outcomes, all tools need to be available without 5 tiers of controls for different treatments. The 15 year timeframe is unrealistic and improvements must be maintainable using the best available method. Better land management would be achieved by the removal of the regulations and PVP'S.

The current review has not taken into consideration the economic, social and environmental costs that are imposed by the Native Vegetation Regulation. A new Regulatory Impact Statement needs to be done to consider all the costs imposed on the regulated landowners, as well as costs to councils, governments and the world population

The Act and Regulations must be removed because they are restricting the control of noxious weeds and feral animals that are destroying the sustainability of the rural economy and natural environment.

Mount Boppy Landcare Group

Canbelego 2835