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Sent: Friday, 24 August 2012 2:13 PM
To: EHPP Landscapes & Ecosystems Section Mailbox
Subject: Submission re Native Vegetation Regulations

Submission To The Office of Environment and Heritage:

From: Jim Maynard,
 (NSW) - Lower Murray Darling CMA, Western Division of NSW
Via Mildura 3502

I have concerns on how the Native Vegetation Act and Regulations affect the operations on my property, Kerribee Station.

I wish to submit the following points:

The regulations that have been designed state-wide are not appropriate and should be on a regional basis. For instance the Murray Darling Catchment Authority area has only 5% of clearing and 95% of native vegetation and it is hard to compare this with a Catchment which has 60% or more cleared.

I submit that the Native Vegetation Regulations should be designed and enforced on Catchment by Catchment basis

I have now over 6000 ha of conservation land on my property, in perpetuity.

In the land set aside for cultivation there are various single and/or very small clumps of trees, that inhibit the use of modern farming technology that is: satellite guidance, seeding and spraying, and also the introduction of controlled traffic farming systems. Under the present regulations the removal of these afore-mentioned trees is regarded as broad-scale clearing, needing offsets. However, the removal of these trees should be regarded as a routine management practice. Often these single or small clumps of trees do not thrive and are a harbour for weeds etc.. And have little environmental advantage.

Woody weeds encroachment is a huge problem in this part of the Western Division and there is a need at times to control their spread, without going through the vegetation planning, which seems to take up to 12 months, so opportunity is often missed as one has to work with the seasons to maximise the control. I submit that this should be a decision by the land-holder who should be able to take appropriate action, when necessary.

Yours sincerely,

Jim Maynard