

#53

**COMPLETE**

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Page 1

**Q1**

First name

George

**Q2**

Last name

Lemann

**Q3**

Respondent skipped this question

Organisation name (if relevant)

**Q4**

Email address

[REDACTED]

**Q5**

Phone number

[REDACTED]

**Q6**

Yes

Can we contact you about your submission (if required)?

**Q7**

What best describes you?

**None of the above (I have a general interest in the topic)**

Other (please specify):

Conservation volunteer with South Coast Beach nesting birds and bush care

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**Q8**

Which of the following regions best describes your location/area of interest?

**South East**

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**Q9**

The Commission publishes submissions on its website for transparency. If you do not want your personal details or responses published, please tell us below.

**I agree to have my submission published with my name or company/organisation**

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Page 2

**Q10**

To what extent are the NSW environment, industries and communities currently impacted by invasive species?

The NSW natural environment is hugely impacted by invasive species. Just look at the list of threatened species in NSW! As a volunteer in bush care and monitoring beach nesting birds, most of what we do is battling invasive weeds and protecting birds from foxes, cats and dogs.

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**Q11**

To what extent do you think existing programs in NSW are effectively managing invasive species?

Despite current efforts invasive species are not being managed effectively. Daily we see fox prints on our beaches.

Rabbits are in disastrous numbers where I live. This prevents us from re-vegetating degraded areas as rabbits will eat or dig out seedlings.

The constant battle against invasive weeds in natural areas is never ending. It is particularly disheartening to see the very plants we are pulling out still being sold in nurseries or promoted as good garden plants in the media.

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**Q12**

What, if any, are the key barriers to effective management of invasive species?

Lack of personal responsibility on private landholders to look after their land/garden and on pet owners to keep their pets under control.

Perception of humane animal control. Why should feral animals have more rights than those of native species? There is nothing humane about critically endangered birds being eaten by foxes. If we agree that something is an invasive species then all efforts should be made to eradicate it.

Ability for nurseries to continue to sell plants that are known to be invasive.

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**Q13**

How has invasive species management changed since the introduction of the NSW Biosecurity Act 2015 legislation and associated programs and plans?

Effectively, little has changed. If it is to be judged by results on the ground, and the increase in invasive species, then I would say it has been of little productive use.

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**Q14**

What are the future risks posed by invasive species to the NSW environment, industries and communities?

Future risks include: the further decline and possible extinction of native species and degradation of natural ecosystems; increased cost to the taxpayer and private landholders to control invasive species; increased despondency among volunteers and other conservation workers as their job gets harder and harder.

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**Q15**

What opportunities do you see to improve the outcomes of invasive species management in the future?

Removing any protections for invasive species such as deer, wild horses etc.

Increased power of enforcement for councils and other agencies regarding pets and weed species.

Increased cooperation between agencies such as National Parks, local councils, Local Land Services and private landholders.

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**Q16**

Respondent skipped this question

Any other comments?

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