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Q1

First name

[REDACTED]

Q2

Last name

[REDACTED]

Q3

Email

[REDACTED]

Q4

Yes

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

Q5

Yes

Can we add your email to our mailing list for occasional updates on this topic?

Q6

I am representing an NGO or community group.

What best describes you?

Q7

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

What best describes your main regional interest?

Q8

Your submission may be published. If you do not want your personal details or responses published, please tell us here.

I agree to have my submission published anonymously
– please remove my name before publishing.

Q9

What do you consider is the most significant action(s) we can undertake to protect and restore biodiversity and ecosystem function on private lands?

We can all see the impacts that rampant land clearing is having on our native fauna & flora and how extinction of species is now more likely than ever before. The current land management framework relies too heavily on self-assessments by landholders for the suitability of their private land for being cleared. The current provisions are ineffective and essential habitat is being cleared more or less unchecked. One estimate is that the rate of land clearing on private property is said to have tripled since the Local Land Services Act 2013 and the Land Management (Native Vegetation Code) 2018 were implemented.

The current self-approval laws must be cancelled along with the code-based land clearing laws. Some vegetation on private property is not suitable for removal and accurate vegetation mapping across all areas must be a priority - at all levels of government.

Land holders must be encouraged to keep existing vegetation on their land. This provides essential food for protected native species, including threatened pollinators including bats and bees. Without these pollinating species, our ecosystems face their own extinction event and this includes farmers.

Q10

How can we further improve soil, water and vegetation management to protect and restore biodiversity while delivering sustainable economic outcomes?

Landholders must receive incentives to protect and restore their valuable natural areas. In NSW current rules, any land cleared before 1990 is exempt from oversight but this must be changed.

Q11

What do you consider is the most effective way to further support and enable landholders to deliver sustainable land management and production outcomes?

Ensure there are clear communication strategies to ensure every landholder knows their obligations and responsibilities but also what opportunities exist to help them preserve their land. Help them to replant and maintain these areas and ensure the mapping outlines enforceable boundaries.

Q12

Is there any other information about this topic you would like to share with us?

Government needs to fully fund the agencies which have oversight of these areas and has accountability for what takes place. Conservation must become the key focus.