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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

Other (please specify).:
I have a life long interest in the topic

What best describes you?

Q7

North Coast

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?

Self-assessment for land clearing must be withdrawn and replaced with an expert and independent process. Land owners may even appreciate finding out about what habitat and native fauna depend on their uncleared land. And they the land clearing assessment that is denied on environmental grounds may then be suitable for Biodiversity Funding. The due process could direct landowners to and facilitate this. Land clearing is not a right. Only suitable topographic and ecological sites are appropriate for clearing. Waterways as well as native fauna can be adversely effected by unconsidered or conditioned land clearing.

Q10

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

Its easy. A combination of clear regulations that protect soil, water and vegetation must go hand in hand with incentives to land owners to a.) seek assessment of their land for conservation values b.) education about these values c.) incentive rewards for keeping these values. More funding is needed to support this positive approach.

Q11

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

Land owners must know that the scheme that gives them information about their land will not stop their current legal farming activities (unless land clearing is one of them) but does have a high likelihood of giving them funding for the values kept on their land. Its obvious the land clearing laws as they stand must be tightened. The real risk of this is that as this is muted land owners fear they will be stopped so it unleashes a whole epidemic of unwise and unnecessary land clearing. Hence hand in hand (and proomoted in the media) there has to be a carefully orchestrated campaign that focusses on the benefits of a.) and c.) above .. and the incentives must be increased in and be upfront advertised as part of the program. All care and thought needs to be put into avoiding panic land clearing.

Q12

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

Yes. Rehabilitation grants are needed to support land owners who want to restore native forests and their dependent wildlife on parts of their farm. Many of them are new, young and wanting to repair the damage on their land from past overclearing.