

#129

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Monday, October 30, 2023 10:52:21 PM
Last Modified: Monday, October 30, 2023 11:39:20 PM
Time Spent: 00:46:58
IP Address: [REDACTED]

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Q1

First name

Thais

Q2

Last name

Turner

Q3

Respondent skipped this question

Organisation name (if relevant)

Q4

Email address

[REDACTED]

Q5

Phone number

[REDACTED]

Q6

No

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

Q7

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

What best describes you?

Q8

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

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

Q9

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

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

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Q10

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

Severely. For example:

- Feral cats are killing millions of native wildlife indiscriminately, especially on urban fringes.
 - Varroa mite is decimating the bee populations and the livelihoods of beekeepers, and the ability for essential pollination to occur.
 - In Kosciuszko NP, the endangered native species are impacted by huge numbers of feral horses which are causing severe damage to ecosystems, vegetation, and wildlife.
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Q11

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

Falling far behind.

There's an urgent need for increased funding and frontline staff for programs which are long-term and strategic, rather than ad-hoc and politically-driven.

Need to improve compliance and enforcement to ensure uncooperative landowners and public land managers are responsibly managing invasive species.

Fire ants, varroa mite, and feral horses are not yet being effectively managed.

Until there's a commitment to prioritise prevention and early action, including through stamping out the movement of high risk plants, pet mammals, reptiles, birds and freshwater fish, effective management won't occur.

Q12

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

Lack of funding and frontline staff for programs which are long-term and strategic, rather than ad-hoc and politically-driven.

Lack of cohesive management of invasive species across the whole landscape, regardless of who owns or manages the land.

Lack of compliance and enforcement to ensure uncooperative landowners and public land managers are responsibly managing invasive species.

Lack of rapid response capacity to tackle invasive species after major disturbances including droughts, floods and fire.

Lack of setting a high priority for prevention and early action, including through stamping out the movement of high risk plants, pet mammals, reptiles, birds and freshwater fish.

A need for ensuring independent oversight and accountability for government action on biosecurity and invasive species.

Q13

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

Compliance and enforcement has become a focus for landowners and public land managers to responsibly manage invasive species, and needs to continue.

Awareness of prevention and early action, including through stamping out the movement of high risk plants, pet mammals, reptiles, birds and freshwater fish. More advertising needed to make this a very high priority.

Encouraged collaboration and involvement of the community and industry in partnerships and shared solutions, which needs to continue.

A focus on statewide and national research and innovation to develop and encourage uptake of improved tools and practices, which needs supporting now and into the future.

Q14

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

Managing invasive species across the whole landscape, regardless of who owns or manages the land, using a holistic approach, to reduce the incidences of devastation by such species as fire ants, varroa mite, fungal diseases, and feral horses.

A disconnect by landowners and public land managers, and taking their eyes off the long term responsible management of invasive species.

Tackling invasive species after major disturbances including droughts, floods and fire.

Unchecked and badly managed movement of high risk plants, pet mammals, reptiles, birds and freshwater fish, without severe enough penalties.

Manpower to ensure independent oversight and accountability for government action on biosecurity and invasive species.

Q15

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

Increasing funding and frontline staff for programs which are long-term and strategic, rather than ad-hoc and politically-driven.

Managing invasive species across the whole landscape, regardless of who owns or manages the land.

Improving compliance and enforcement to ensure uncooperative landowners and public land managers are responsibly managing invasive species.

Building the rapid response capacity to tackle invasive species after major disturbances including droughts, floods and fire.

Prioritising prevention and early action, including through stamping out the movement of high risk plants, pet mammals, reptiles, birds and freshwater fish.

Encouraging collaboration and involvement of the community and industry in partnerships and shared solutions.

Ensuring independent oversight and accountability for government action on biosecurity and invasive species.

Supporting statewide and national research and innovation to develop and encourage uptake of improved tools and practices.

Q16

Any other comments?

Nil
