

The following are my comments on the Draft Report on the Impacts of Native Vegetation and Biodiversity Regulations.

Permission MAY be granted for the harvest of trees planted for that purpose. Where permission is refused, who then is going, to be held responsible for the control of alien species such as Tasmanian bluegums seeding down and establishing as, weeds in areas of native vegetation?

Burning of native vegetation is considered to environmental harm. Yet burning is the only sensible method of reducing bushfire risks. Autumn burning is also essential for the reproduction. of vast majority of our native species. Is it the Environmental Protections Authority wish to see many of our native species die out through state imposed neglect?

There is also concern about added costs of fencing:. private reserves wildlife corridors etc. It is unclear what charges will be imposed for permits to clear fence lines, and to take trees for fence posts etc. These fences are not an economic. proposition at the best of times and I suspect state charges will go a long way towards negating the finances available for conservation fencing.

Firefighting is another concern on C.A.L.M. reserves. If protection is not legislated for Volenteer brigade members can be the first to reach fires on C.A.L.M. held reserve yet leave themselves open to prosecution if they attempt to put the fire out. They only have to run over or knock down native vegetation. The alternative is to not attend.

A.C. Chapman & Sons  
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