

Supplement A

Landholder questionnaire

The following is an extract from a survey of landholders commissioned by Local Land Services, NSW.

Questions 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 were answered using the scale: 1 Strongly disagree, 2 Somewhat disagree, 3 Neutral or unsure, 4 Somewhat agree, 5 Strongly agree.

Questions 5 was answered Yes or No.

Q1. Thinking about your rural property, to what extent do you agree or disagree with these statements about native vegetation? Native vegetation includes trees, shrubs, herbs and grasses that are indigenous to NSW.

1. Protects and helps manage environmental aspects such as water quality, soil conservation, native plants and animals
2. Is important for stock grazing
3. Is important for shade or shelter
4. Is an important source of timber for my own use (e.g. firewood, property infrastructure)
5. Helps protect cultural heritage
6. Is important for recreational activities (e.g. camping, picnics, bike riding, horse riding)
7. Provides an economic return from activities other than timber and grazing, such as biodiversity offsets, carbon credits
8. Is important for the natural scenery and aesthetic
9. Provides an economic return from timber and/or grazing

Q2. Native vegetation includes trees, shrubs, herbs and grasses that are indigenous to NSW. To what extent would you agree or disagree that...

1. My native vegetation is important for the conservation of native plants & animals
2. My native vegetation is important to control erosion and protect water quality
3. My native vegetation shelters feral animals
4. My native vegetation should be managed to produce timber products (e.g. sawlogs, firewood, fence posts)
5. My native vegetation requires active management
6. My native vegetation adds to my property's value
7. My native vegetation should be used to contribute as much as possible to income from my property
8. My native vegetation reduces the productive capacity of my property
9. My native vegetation is a harbour for weeds
10. My native vegetation is a fire hazard
11. My native vegetation should be left to grow as nature intended (i.e. without human intervention)
12. My native vegetation harbours native pest animals
13. My native vegetation is costly to manage
14. My native vegetation increases the productive capacity of my property
15. Managing my native vegetation takes too much time
16. How I manage the native vegetation on my private property should be up to me

Q3. And do you agree or disagree with these statements about the knowledge and experience needed to manage native vegetation?

1. My experience on my property makes me the best person to make decisions about managing my native vegetation
2. You need to be a qualified ecologist to know about all the native species on my property
3. I'm capable of assessing native vegetation on my property
4. I seek out information to better understand and manage the native vegetation on my property
5. I rely on Local Land Services or other experts to identify and provide advice about the native vegetation on my property

Q4. And do you agree or disagree with these statements relating to protecting native vegetation?

1. A lot of other landholders in my community are concerned about protecting native vegetation
2. Protecting native vegetation is important for maintaining the natural beauty or aesthetic qualities of my area
3. It's important to consider the community when making decisions about protecting the native vegetation on my property.
4. Protecting native vegetation will be important for future generations of my family
5. Protecting native vegetation is important for the future of my community

Q5. In the last five years, which of the following native vegetation management activities have you carried out on your rural property?

1. Felling native timber for construction and/or firewood
2. Clearing land for rural infrastructure like sheds, outhouses, powerlines
3. Planting and protecting native vegetation
4. Clearing for environmental protection works (may incl. work related to re-vegetation or bush regeneration; wetland protection; erosion protection; dune restoration; ecological burning; controlling weeds)
5. Clearing for grazing
6. Clearing land to prevent personal injury or property damage, inc. firebreaks
7. Clearing land for expansion of agricultural activities
8. Some other clearing activity (PLEASE SPECIFY)
9. None of these

Q6. To what extent would you agree or disagree that...

1. I think protecting native vegetation on my property is rewarding
2. The consequences would be serious if I made a mistake with protecting native vegetation on my property
3. Protecting native vegetation on my property is something I am passionate about
4. It would be a big deal if I made a mistake with protecting native vegetation on my property
5. My position on protecting native vegetation on my property tells others something about me
6. Protecting native vegetation on my property is important to me
7. Making decisions about protecting native vegetation on my property is complicated
8. What others think about protecting native vegetation on their farm tells me something about them
9. I care a lot about protecting native vegetation on my property

Q7. Have you contacted Local Land Services about managing native vegetation?

1. Yes
2. No
3. Not sure

Q8. Why did you contact them?

1. For more information on land clearing rules
2. Applying for grants
3. To notify Local Land Services about a clearing activity
4. To apply for a certificate for a clearing activity
5. For support in assessing my property's native vegetation prior to clearing
6. Other reason (PLEASE SPECIFY)

Q9. And finally, thinking of the property you own or manage, what is it primarily used for?

MULTI RESPONSE

1. Cropping
2. Cattle/Sheep/Other Livestock
3. Horticulture
4. Tourism/recreation (including shooting and/or fishing)
5. Paid conservation land use/ carbon farming
6. Lifestyle or hobby farming
7. Other use (PLEASE SPECIFY)

Q10. What is the Local Government Area (LGA) of your rural property?