

General comments (not in any priority order).

Good to link to biodiversity policy; No Net Loss vs Net Gain is better as population grows it will be impossible to prevent vegetation removal BUT replacement is good; Why not count resident's gardens? ( legislate for native vegetation in NEW developments!!! we have conditions from developers for various building standards eg fencing materials etc& municipalities ask for "green space"); all vegetation improves Carbon Dioxide capture; what about roadside vegetation (vandals destroying with 4WD vehicles, councils need assistance to monitor/prevent this); good to see crown land included it is a "whole of community issue" not just private landholders!!! THE WHOLE PROBLEM must be addressed. I know this is complex BUT the world is a UNIT. Costs of achieving these proposals is going to be great!!! However anything worth doing probably is expensive. Councils will need training in assessment of vegetation quality etc. OR need employees with the appropriate qualifications (use DEWLP staff!!)

Section 1: good guidance for Planners at local govt BUT we need to see the BIG picture (what are the neighbouring councils doing? nature is not bounded by lines on a map!);

Section 2: Staff comment and cost BUT needed. Like 2 pathways for assessment. "Keep it simple stupid" the best policy. will keep everyone pulling in the same direction. Number 10 - define SIGNIFICANT!!!

Section 3: Good improvements; ground truthing will be needed for satellite imagery; very pleased scattered trees have been included although it will be difficult and expensive I guess;

Section 4: Good to have offsets recognised BEFORE losing vegetation. ie plan to succeed not fail in No Net Loss!;

Section 5: Is it possible to achieve improvement 21??? Must be done! CONSISTENCY is the important word and aim here. Must achieve this ie we all pull in the same direction. Consistent exemption guidelines a must.

Section 6: OK nothing extra to add.

In closing humans must learn to work with nature not against it.