

Biodiversity Coordination Unit



Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to express my concerns regarding the new draft bill for the Biodiversity Act. My concerns are for the proposal that vegetation (native) planted for longer than 20 years comes under the act. I have an eight acre block which I have spent many, many hours on, planting native vegetation on, about four or five acres of it. In the future I want to be able to subdivide the block (5000m² is currently legal) but now realise that I will have to get permission from “native veg” and presumably pay a fee – all because I planted native vegetation (Whilst my neighbours who have not done anything for the environment get a clean run). I also assume I will no longer be able to collect firewood from my own block of land. Obviously, I consider this totally unfair.

I feel like I am being “fined” for doing what I think is the right thing for the planet and some of the local wildlife whilst others get off scot free!!

I actually think that the proposed bill opens a can of worms. Is my block for instance a “garden” and therefore exempt, is a row of native trees leading to a house going to come under the legislation – Anyone in their right mind will no longer plant native trees. Will I be compensated for the loss of value to my block and the costs incurred in applying for clearance or subdivision?

Yours Sincerely,

A solid black rectangular redaction box used to redact the sender's name.