



Categories:

Blue category

[You don't often get email from [redacted] Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

It's apparent that the annual rainfall in South Australian agricultural areas has been declining since circa 1970. It's well known that SA has been over cleared. Goyders line is moving south. Climate change is happening. Where I reside at Steinfeld our annual rainfall totals have been half the long term average for the last 3 years. Down from 275 mm to 140. Formerly permanent waterholes and springs in the Levi creek never dry in living memory are now empty. What water does remain is now toxic to stock . It used to support small farmers as their water supply before mains water was installed. Those holdings have long since been failed. Water tables are falling all over the state. Causing death of established trees in drier areas . Feral goats are moving into areas where they were never seen driven by drought. The mid north is in danger of desertification. Just think about that for a while....

There's now scientific evidence of what previously was suspected . Native vegetation enhances rainfall. To that end all disused railway corridors and cleared roadsides where services won't be impacted need reforestation urgently. The task will become more difficult in the future as climate change impacts intensify. Habitat species and timber trees (for housing or firewood)could be planted . Currently these areas are usually weed infested fire hazards with no economic, environmental or social benefits. The planting would also allow for carbon storage with peak emissions soon being reached and there being a need to lower carbon in the atmosphere. South Australia could show the world how to move into the future.

I've done Bush bids for the Rann government and Environmental stewardship for the Gillard government's. On my 3 heritage areas. If substantial effort is not made soon South Australia will lose its unique Temperate Lomandra grasslands that are already endangered on account of climate change and poor land management practices . I've been living at Steinfeld for 35 years and can see the environmental decline. Farmers have abandoned large areas as they are no longer economically viable. Leaving them to life style ownership. The public needs an environmental awareness education program...

Cheers [redacted]