

NSW
Farmers
Association

Please describe how native vegetation and biodiversity/threatened species laws have impacted on your:

Farming practices (your day to day operations)

Managing our stock (animal husbandry) is difficult due to regrowth problems & dense shrub on our property. The control of feral animals & pests in these areas as well as noxious weeds limit our capacity too.

Productivity (ability to develop existing or new land)

75% of our property we have not been able to develop for further production. Invasive scrub is limiting our stocking rate more every year. The remaining 25% is being overcropped now and overstocked which is reducing our productivity greatly and putting undue pressure on this land which could be simply fixed by allowing us to develop more land to allow a good crop & pasture rotation going.

Sustainability (the ability to improve your land and the environment)

The inability to remove invasive scrub is causing land erosion and scalding & introducing a mono-culture which is upsetting the sustainability & biodiversity in these areas.

Property values and returns

Our land as freehold has no value as such anymore. The equity of our scrub country has fallen dramatically due to not being allowed to sustainably develop it. Our overall property value has drastically reduced because we do not have enough developed land. Wool production & yields are down due to increased vegetable matter and dust. It's very hard to fatten stock due to overgrazing by kangaroos and crop yields are also affected by wildlife. Lambing percentages are down.

Investment patterns (either on- or off-farm)

Investment opportunities are limited because of the above restrictions which are stopping us from making any farm profits or capital improvements.