

Re-veg.net.au

Forest Management Survey



CARING
FOR
OUR
COUNTRY

Take part in the 2010 Re-vegnet.au Forest Management Survey and help us tailor the project to suit your needs.



“A healthy forest is a productive forest and a productive forest benefits everyone.”

Managed properly, a healthy and productive forest on your property can add enormous value to the farm enterprise and at the same time can provide recognised environmental services to the broader community. There are many landholders throughout Queensland who have integrated forest management into their production systems and who now benefit from years of healthy forest cover. These landholders will be the first to tell you that, despite popular opinion, forests in the rural landscape require active management in order to reach maximum health and productivity.

Forest productivity can be described as the rate at which your forest is growing. An unhealthy forest (overstocked, choked with weeds, poor form and genetic condition and lack of groundcover) will generally have slower growth rates and less overall benefit to the landscape and environmental protection.

No matter what your purpose for growing or managing forests, the same fundamental management principles are required so that your forest can be healthy and productive.

Basic forest management requires knowledge of optimal stocking densities, tree health, forest products, fire management and systems of agricultural integration. Establishing and managing a planted forest requires knowledge of appropriate species for the site and the purpose, weed management, methods of site preparation, and infrastructure requirements. Furthermore, the design and planning process is essential to optimising the benefits of forest cover in your overall production system.

Re-veg.net.au is a forest management project that has been funded by the Australian Government's Caring for our Country funding round. The project encompasses six coastal catchment groups, east of the Great Dividing Range, from the NSW border to Bloomfield in the north. Re-veg.net.au will assist landholders in coastal catchments to confidently manage their forest land for multiple objectives, providing downstream environmental benefits, diversifying income opportunities, and improving the long-term resilience of our landscape.

The large on-ground component of the program has been developed to progress through a logical flow from definition of 'best practice forest management', mapping and risk assessment of priority areas, the improvement in skills and training of landholders,

developing property management plans and the implementation of those plans via financial incentives and an extension program for on ground works. On ground works will include improving the health, productivity and ground cover of overstocked regrowth forests, revegetating recharge and discharge zones and linking fragmented essential habitat forests.

The keystone of Re-veg.net.au is in the development of central demonstration sites throughout the project regions. Demonstration sites will be developed in conjunction with participating landholders, who will be given the opportunity to develop their forest management skills. By supporting and promoting a network of 'champion' landholders Re-veg.net.au will provide a working example of best practice forest management to surrounding landholders and the broader communities.

Forestry, in all of its shapes and forms is a positive land use that provides benefits to the entire country. Re-veg.net.au aims to improve the value and benefits of the private forest resource and in doing so will promote the positive story of forest management to coastal and city communities. The only way to truly take ownership of your forest land is to manage it.

As the lead partner in the project, Private Forestry Southern Queensland invites you to participate in the project and in the process of developing the landholder network. An initial landholder survey has been developed with the aim of improving and measuring the delivery of forest land management information. This survey will be the first step for landholders wishing to be involved in the training and incentive program.

By completing the Forest Management survey, you are helping us to design an extension and education program relevant to the needs of landholders in your region. The information that you provide in the survey is strictly confidential. Your personal details will be used to assess your eligibility for the incentive program; to contact you regarding upcoming events; and to assist you with property management planning should you continue with the program.

Follow this link to the Re-veg.net.au Forest Management Survey <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/5NYNHBJ> or visit Re-veg.net.au and follow the web link. The survey should take no more than ten minutes to complete.

Your participation in this survey is greatly appreciated and will help us to provide you with the skills and information that you require for the sustainable management of your forest resource.

For further information regarding the Re-veg.net.au project contact Private Forestry Southern Queensland on (07) 54836535, email pfsq@bigpond.com or visit the Re-veg.net.au website.