



Alison Anderson
MINISTER FOR NATURAL RESOURCES,
ENVIRONMENT AND HERITAGE

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Major Native Vegetation Management Reforms for Territory

Environment Minister Alison Anderson today announced a series of major reforms in native vegetation management in the Territory, including the Daly Region.

Minister Anderson said the reforms will provide certainty and clarity for landowners while protecting the Territory's biodiversity for generations to come.

On the Daly Moratorium, Minister Anderson said it was time to start carefully implementing the enormous amount of scientific and land management research that has been done on the Daly.

"It is time to take some small, very careful steps to implement the process that has been unanimously recommended to me by DRMAC," she said.

DRMAC includes representation from indigenous groups, environmentalists, scientists and local landowners.

Minister Anderson said the reforms include:

1. A 'world's best' Native Vegetation Management Act for the Territory.

The legislation will be developed over the next 18 months and go through extensive public consultation.

It will ensure that all land clearing across the Territory takes place in a sustainable manner based on science. The legislation will include caps on total clearing and will provide the basis for climate change impacts to be included in land clearing decisions.

2. Amendments to Interim Development Control Order 17 (commonly known as the 'Daly Moratorium').

Trials of the 'adaptive management' land clearing processes developed by the Daly River Management Advisory Committee (DRMAC) will commence. These changes will allow local landholders to make applications to the Minister and DRMAC to undertake limited clearing under strictly controlled and monitored processes based on science.

Changes to IDCO 17 will also provide a practical process for dealing with clearing of re-growth of low biodiversity value in the Daly region.

The IDCO is **not** being lifted – it will remain as a safety-net. The Daly will still be subject to special land clearing controls not applicable anywhere else in the Territory.



3. An immediate tightening of land clearing procedures across the Territory.

The new application process will be fair and transparent, but it will require landowners to make a compelling case for clearing that involves significant research and preparation.

All applications for greater than 200 hectares of clearing will be directed to the Minister's office for a decision on whether formal environmental assessment is required. Further, the risks of cumulative local and regional impacts on landscape integrity will be taken into account in the decision making process.

Media Information: Maria Billias 0401 119 746