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Good neighbour policy

draft released for comment





Good neighbour policy draft released for comment

The Department of Conservation and Land Management (CALM) has conducted extensive consultation with key rural stakeholders, including the WA Farmers Federation, the Pastoralists and Graziers Association and the WA Local Government Association, for almost two years to develop its draft *Good Neighbour Policy*.

This policy is designed to strengthen CALM's relationship with its 10,000 neighbours whose properties adjoin CALM-managed land, including farmers and pastoralists, industrial and commercial enterprises, urban and rural residents, and other government agencies and instrumentalities. In many cases, both parties have roles and responsibilities set out in legislation, but CALM will work to build good relations in its application of legislation, policies and actions.

The *Good Neighbour Policy* will guide the management of cross boundary issues that affect CALM and its neighbours. It will provide specific advice about the most common cross boundary issues, including:

- fences adjacent to CALM-managed lands;
- fire management;
- control of weeds;
- control of introduced pest animals;
- straying stock on CALM-managed lands;
- native animals that affect primary production;
- access to and activities on CALM-managed lands and waters;
- off-reserve conservation programs and activities;
- natural resource management; and
- neighbour and community input to CALM planning and operations.

Comments on the policy, which can be downloaded from CALM's *NatureBase* website (at www.naturebase.net/good_neighbour_policy.pdf) or obtained as a booklet from CALM offices, are invited, with a closing date of 30 September 2006.

The 12 month public comment period has been adopted so as to enable feedback in the light of experience with the draft policy across the full annual cycle of seasonal conditions and agricultural and pastoral activities.

A series of community forums in major regional centres will also be held throughout the year to discuss the policy's content. Dates and locations will be published in future public advertisements.

Comments should be sent to:
Good Neighbour Policy Coordinator
Attention: Kerry Carmichael
Department of Conservation and Land Management
Locked Bag 104
Bentley Delivery Centre WA 6983
or email kerryrc@calm.wa.gov.au.



While the *Good Neighbour Policy* provides some specific information about the most common cross-boundary issues, not all queries will be answered in the document. Some issues might need to be resolved by telephone, email or personal contact. To speak to a CALM staff member or to obtain a booklet, contact CALM's offices:

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