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Veg maps under the microscope at upcoming workshops

Landholders in Southern Queensland have a great opportunity to get on top of state vegetation legislation and learn how to change incorrect vegetation maps at free upcoming vegetation management workshops.

Held at Toowoomba and Roma on 20 and 22 June, the free workshops help landholders work within the guidelines of the Vegetation Management Act 1999 and outline how to better interpret Regional Ecosystem (RE) and Regrowth Vegetation maps.

AgForce Projects principal vegetation officer Alina Butler said a lot of producers have been affected by the regrowth legislation in South East Queensland.

"It's important to remember there are still a lot of management options available to landowners with native vegetation on their properties and applying for a Property Map of Assessable Vegetation (PMAV) is as crucial as ever. PMAVs secure cleared land and provide certainty of vegetation classifications and boundaries, enabling producers to better understand what activities can be done and where," Ms Butler said.

"Landholders who do not have a PMAV may have regrowth mapped on their property, which means they have to comply with the regrowth code before clearing; this applies to both Freehold and Leasehold land."

Ms Butler said the workshops will also focus on how producers can dispute incorrect classifications by applying for a PMAV.

"A lot of the regional ecosystem mapping is incorrect, so the workshops will show landholders how to begin the process of changing their regional ecosystem maps if it's negatively impacting their property management.

"An example of where this occurs is if a piece of land is marked as endangered or of concern vegetation on a regrowth map, but is in reality not of concern, the landholder still has to get a permit in order to put a fence through."

AgForce Projects is providing all landholders who attend the workshops with a property GeoPDF. This technology allows people to map basic points, lines and polygons, which are useful for lodging applications with DERM. Participants also receive version six RE, version two Regrowth and satellite maps of their property as well as a certificate of participation that goes toward a nationally accredited Certificate IV in Conservation and Land Management.

Workshops are delivered free to all producers through AgForward, an initiative of AgForce within its project division, funded by the Queensland Government.

To attend a workshop in Toowoomba or Roma, please register 10 days prior to the event by contacting Paddy Roe on (07) 3238 6048 or [email](mailto:paddy.roe@agforce.org.au) or visit www.agforward.org.au/calendar.htm and download a registration form.

More information about vegetation management, thinning techniques and conducting biodiversity and land condition assessments will be discussed at workshops in Mitchell and Dirranbandi on 13 and 14 July. The field days have been coordinated by AgForce Projects and QMDC Land Technical Officer Chantelle Doyle in partnership with MLA and the Queensland Department of Employment, Economic Development and Innovation.

To attend a workshop in Mitchell or Dirranbandi contact Alina Butler on 0427 139 295 or ButlerA@agforward.org.au or QMDC's Chantelle Doyle on 4620 4600 or email landtor@qmdc.org.au.

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