



Better productivity, biodiversity just a click away

Media release: 2 October 2012

Landholders will have the chance to improve farm productivity, environmental sustainability and vegetation management at a series of free AgForce Projects workshops at Belmont Station and The Caves this month.

The free workshops are part of a new Biodiversity Project being undertaken by AgForce through funding from the Australian Government's Biodiversity Fund.

A property computer mapping workshop will be held at Belmont Station (Etna Creek Rd) on Thursday 18 October followed by vegetation management workshops at Belmont Station and the Caves on Friday 19 and Saturday 20 October.

AgForce Projects technical leader and Biodiversity Project manager Graeme Bell said the workshops will help local landholders improve property management, a major objective of the two-year research project on Belmont Station.

"This project has been developed to research ways for landholders to increase their property's natural biodiversity while running a successful grazing property," Mr Bell said.

"An important part of the project is to share this knowledge with local properties, which will include free workshops ranging from property computer mapping, pest and weed field days, and vegetation management."

The vegetation management workshops will give landholders information about vegetation laws and how to lock in cleared farming areas or dispute incorrectly mapped areas by applying for a Property Map of Assessable Vegetation.

Mr Bell said the mapping workshops will give landholders hands-on skills to create their own property map identifying infrastructure, business activities, natural resources and future developments.

"This type of map is essential for landholders looking to improve property planning and productivity, meet government legislation and sustainably manage their property."

"The practical mapping skills help with land condition monitoring, planning future infrastructure and rotational grazing practices and the software's in-built tools make it simple for landholders to easily measure paddock areas or fencing requirements and accurately calculate things such as grazing pressure circles, frontage country and grazing land types".

To register for a workshop visit www.agforceprojects.org.au or call 3238 6048. These workshops are delivered free through funding from the Australian Government's biodiversity fund.

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