



FARMING AND FORESTRY POLICY



WHAT WE BELIEVE

Farming and Forestry are critical to the economic, social and cultural development and cohesion of our state, especially regional communities.

We recognise the vital role NSW farmers play in both State and National economies. Farmers have fed our growing population and have been at the forefront of this State's development since its inception. They are stewards of the land, producers of our food and carers of our livestock and wildlife. Farming is the lifeblood on which every Australian relies.

Farmers are on the brink with competing land uses, the migrating urban fringe, inner city politicians. Restrictive legislation, bureaucratic red tape and litigative government departments add to these woes.

We will always support the interests of farmers over blow-in green groups or animal rights extremists.

Forestry is also a critical industry in NSW. It supports thousands of rural and regional families and provides the timber products that we all rely on. Australia's forestry industry is at the forefront of environmental management and we support policy that will ensure the continuation and growth of our forestry sector.

The Shooters, Fishers and Farmers Party have a proven track record in advocating and delivering results for our farming and forestry sectors we will stand by farmers and foresters in the face of mounting opposition and challenges and actively work to ensure these industries thrive.



OUR ACTION PLAN

1. Protect the legislated right to farm policy that gives NSW farmers the security they need knowing they will not be subject to nuisance lawsuits or harassment from 'activists'.

2. In times of flood

3. In times of drought assistance for farmers:

- Grow State and Federal Government drought prevention programs and infrastructure like sheds, silos and stock fodder bunkers
- Introduce legislated drought assistance by classifying drought as a natural disaster under emergency services legislation.
- Reinstate freight subsidies for farmers.
- Interest free unsecured loans for drought repair and prevention for farmers

3. Restore and strengthen private property rights, particularly for farmers.

4. Amend land acquisition legislation to provide further benefits and protection for rural farming property owners.

5. Stop environmental zoning of private land, including environmental restriction through biodiversity overlays and riparian zones unless full and just market compensation is paid to the landowner.



OUR ACTION PLAN - Continued

7. Advocate for a strict public interest test to be satisfied before Government can take legal action against farmers for land clearing.
8. Creation of a Game Fish and Pest Management Authority in NSW as a 'one stop shop' for all wild animal (terrestrial and water) interactions, recreational and commercial, thus streamlining enforcement, resource management, record keeping and research.
9. New initiatives and funding to encourage young farmers to continue to work in the agricultural sector.
10. Immediate review of foreign ownership of prime agricultural land.
11. Support current legislation to enable kangaroos culled by famers or volunteer conservation hunters in non-commercial zones to be lawfully utilised rather than go to waste.
12. Revive and grow a sustainable timber industry, including the reversal of decisions to convert previous timber logging areas into National Parks.
13. Protect private native timber forests from legislated encroachment by government.
14. Campaign for Government to immediately introduce a state-wide water security plan, addressing flood mitigation, new dams, cloud seeding, and better management of flows particularly in the Northern Rivers.



OUR ACTION PLAN - Continued

16. Support the farming of food grade and industrial hemp with a low tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) level.

17. Oppose any form of carbon tax.