

## COSMIC DESERT FILLS THE VOID

Recent changes to Vegetation Management legislation have resulted in graziers' confusion about what they need to do next, according to local cattle producer Jeff Bucknell.

Mr Bucknell, who operates his Rural Property Design Business "Cosmic Desert" from his Torrens Creek cattle property, said that landholders were increasingly concerned by government expectations and ongoing public accountability issues.

"People are uncertain about the regional ecosystems themselves, or, more importantly from a producer's point of view, the white areas inaccurately delineated on the maps," he said.

"It's important to realize that PMAVs (Property Map of Assessable Vegetation) not only lock in previously-cleared areas to be exempt from requiring permits in the future, but also categorize many other areas for ongoing opportunities."

He said that while government departments no longer provide any direct one-on-one service, it was unclear at this stage what third party contractors such as Greening Australia and Agforce are specifically able to offer.

Cosmic Desert grew out of Mr Bucknell's frustration when he was unable to locate any local specialist help while upgrading his own rural property designs.

"As a result, over the last couple of years I have become extremely proficient in areas of GIS technology and working with digital data," he said.

His extensive hands-on involvement in the vegetation management debate over the past ten years, and his contacts with other professionals within this field, have made him very familiar with the issues landholders are likely to encounter in completing successful vegetation management applications.

"Cosmic Desert possesses the entire range of specialist skills, machinery, hardware, software and meta data to address all aspects of holistic Property Resource Planning and Design," he said.

"I have developed a unique process to accurately ground-truth the white areas on the RE maps, and a legitimate methodology to establish areas of thickening and encroachment.

"Therefore, I protect the graziers' interests as well as alleviating contractors' concerns over compliance issues, and satisfy all government requirements."

For more information, visit the website [www.cosmicdesert.com.au](http://www.cosmicdesert.com.au)