

Land Clearing on King Island

Dr WOODRUFF question to MINISTER for PRIMARY INDUSTRIES and WATER

My office has been contacted regarding ongoing illegal land clearing on King Island, and this person is concerned that little to no restorative action has been required to address some illegal land clearing that they've heard has occurred. The person who undertook illegal land clearing has apparently been allowed to keep the land cleared to undertake grazing on it. Under Section 41 of the *Forest Practices Act*, the Forest Practices Authority can require those who have breached the act to repair or make good any damage to land as a result of a contravention of the Act.

In a location that's home to many threatened native vegetation communities, unlawful land clearing ought to be treated as the serious matter it is, and restorative action should be taken to rectify the clearing. There should definitely not be tacit endorsement of an illegal practice by allowing grazing to occur on this land. Can the minister confirm if a section 41 order has been made in relation to a legal land clearing that appears to have occurred on King Island, and if not, why not?