

Subject: NOM - Notice of Motion 1 - Recognising Natural Sequence Farming
Index: Notice of Motions
Author: Councillor - John Stephens

SUMMARY OF REPORT:

Clr Stephens has given notice that he intends to move the motion as detailed in the report.

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATION:

That the Notice of Motion be considered by Council.

FINANCIAL/RESOURCE IMPLICATION:

Unknown at this stage. There would be a cost to implement the intention of the Notice of Motion.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS:

Unknown at this stage.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS:

Unknown at this stage.

LIST OF ANNEXURES:

Nil.

ATTACHMENTS:

Nil.

REPORT:

Clr Stephens has given notice that he intends to move the following motion:

That Great Lakes Council approach the NSW State Government to set up field testing in Great Lakes and to use Great Lakes Council's expertise in water management to field-test Peter Andrews' theories for Natural Sequence Farming."

Why Great Lakes?, well we have staff (who are recognised at world-best practice in water management, the condition of our two great lakes are proof of that, apart from all the awards they have won.) We have land care groups, who include farmers on our lake perimeters ready and willing to participate in trials of creek and contour management.

Because it is currently illegal to interfere with a natural water course in New South Wales, limited research has begun on Peter Andrews' theory of creating "leaky dams" of logs, rocks and local material. which hold back water in a creek, so that it has time to let the surrounding land soak up the water.

The outcomes can be enormous for repairing soil erosion and crop quality. Climate change which may cause weather change, means we have to know how, when and where this could work, because topography will largely govern its success.

But above all we have a world market of academics, not to mention farmers, who would come here to see how we are managing our farm and urban runoff and the management techniques of our lakes. Properly marketed we could fill our accommodation in the shire all year round.

Some radical thinkers in this field, whose passions were born with the discovery and development of permaculture do not agree with all of his ideas, but the "leaky damn" concept seems to have general tick of approval.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Notice of Motion be considered by Council.

