

Media Release

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Government announces RLPB services will be maintained

The NSW Farmers' Association has acknowledged today's commitment by the State Government to maintain frontline services provided by Rural Lands Protection Boards, under the restructure recommended by an independent review.

The NSW Government has today announced that it will adopt the recommendations and move forward with the changes.

NSW Farmers' Association President Jock Laurie says the Government must recognise the role that RLPBs must play as NSW's advisor, regulator and facilitator in animal health and in pest animal and insect management – during this process of reform.

"The Government must also stand by its commitment to modernise RLPBs in a way that meets the interests of the State's 138,500 RLPB ratepayers and RLPB frontline workers," he said.

"I am sure that this issue will be discussed further at the NSW Farmers' Association's Annual Conference in July, but in the meantime we are looking carefully at implications of reforms, and will be releasing a document highlighting these.

"We understand that our Members will have some concerns about these changes, and we take this concern very seriously.

"Any changes to the management of Travelling Stock Routes (TSRs) will be a major issue for many Members and the Government must understand the importance of these parcels of land.

"We are committed to working with the Government and the RLPB State Council to ensure these concerns are addressed as the changes are implemented," Mr Laurie concluded.

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