

Australia's new megafauna: problem or solution?

Science begins out in the field.

Only once observed, can new knowledge be documented and then gradually filter through reports and peer-reviewed articles, to library-shelves, legislators, politicians and text-books...

This necessary process must not stifle innovation at the grass-roots!

On Kachana we remain inspired by what others have achieved in similar latitudes:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XsmoJsRWK0Q> (7 minutes)

Positioned as we are, our custodianship includes a duty to rebuild [an effective water-cycle](#).

In the late eighties Kachana Pastoral Company took on a challenge that nobody wanted:



Sunshine was heating up and dehydrating the land-surface...



Water flowed off in flash-flooding...

After years of abandonment, neglect and exposure to wildfire, remaining minerals and **nutrients** were leached out and being washed downstream...

Biodiversity was in visible decline...

Thirty years later, after having tested some of the principles discussed in the video above, some people are jumping up and down wanting to shut us down. – Or at least tie our hands behind our backs.



Note that to create this mosaic in the vegetation, all we use is temporary fencing and managed animal-impact.
No monocultures, no mechanical inputs, no herbicides, no drenches, no hormones...

(In areas that are too hard on cattle we use donkeys.)

It remains conceivable that new Australian megafauna will be integral in building water-security for much of the continent. So why limit our options now?

Yes, we do make mistakes. Yes, we are small. Yes, we are slow, and there remains much to learn...
But we are communicating with people around the world addressing similar challenges, and there is an increasing body of science to explain our results.

And **YES** we are putting **new Australian species to work** in the rebuilding of water-cycles.

(We'd rather see water percolating through living soil profile and draining through well grassed drainage-lines than flowing off over exposed bed-rock and ripping up riparian areas...

If there are more effective ways to achieve these outcomes, please let us know.

We have sufficient degraded areas for other techniques to be demonstrated alongside our current work.)

Does the [Kachana Wild Donkey Project](#) really need to be terminated before we can get competent third-party evaluation?

[Click here to follow the discussion](#)

Please send constructive input:

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Subject: Remote catchment management