Preservation of Permanently Protected Areas

According to the Brazilian Forestry Code, Law n^2 12.651/12, Article 3^{rd} , is the designation is understood as "Permanent Preservation Area (PPA): protected area, covered or not by native vegetation, with the environmental function of preserving hydrological resources, the landscape, the geological stability and biodiversity, to facilitate the movement of fauna and flora, to protect the soil and to assure the wellbeing of human populations. The PPAs are inviolable natural areas, with strict exploration limits, as it is not allowed to directly exploit the area for commerce". In this regard, the farmer must delimit the area according to the forestry code and isolate it, with natural fences (native trees that prevail in the region) or physical barriers (fences and wires) to avoid external animal entrance (cattle) and human activities (cultivation, firewood, hunting, etc.).



Steps



Step by Step

12.651/12

- Delimit PPA according to the number of taxable properties and width of the watercourse (steam, creek, river): e.g., for watercourses < 10 meters wide, 30 meters of preservation; for 10 to 50 meters wide, 50 meters of preservationFor protection, surround the delimited area with fences and wire to stop the entrance of animals and people who could cause any kind of damage tothe natural vegetation. Native trees can also be planted especially in natural areas, according to the rehabilitation tracks foreseen in the forestry code.
- It is possible to include other sustainable use practices, such as the connection of areas to create ecological corridors and the planting of native ornamental species to improve the visual appeal of the landscape.

It was observed that protected watersheds maintain their water flow, even during periods of droughts. Moreover, it is possible to observe a major number of species of flora and fauna, many of them with an important ecological/pest-control function, for instance to control cicadas or coffee berry borer.