

The Chair  
Agricultural and Environmental Committee  
Parliament house  
Brisbane  
[aec@parliament.qld.gov.au](mailto:aec@parliament.qld.gov.au)

Dear Sir/Madam

Congratulations on your new proposed amendment bill to turn back past mistakes.  
We would appreciate consideration of the following points:

1. Completely stop the grazing of cattle on public land in all forms including State Forest.
2. Provide ecotourism facilities of national parks outside the boundary of the preserved area.
3. Protect existing remnant and regrowth vegetation on private land. Self-assessment regulations with respect to the removal of vegetation are unacceptable and have resulted in clearing of large tracts of vegetation during the last years.
4. Develop regulations on the clearing of vegetation on steep slopes (see regulations of other States). Clearing of very steep slopes and lack of large scale remedial efforts of revegetation contributes to the loss of soil. It also contributes to siltation past the delta of the rivers and, here in North Queensland, has adverse effects on the Barrier Reef.

And a word to the specific situation here on the Atherton Tablelands and the area of the upper Barron River catchment, in which we live:

In this area native vegetation remains in patches of varying sizes that contribute to the biodiversity of the higher elevations of this area. Tighter protective measures are needed to preserve biodiversity with changing climate. Many recent studies identify areas at high elevation on the Tablelands as refugia for many species with increasing temperatures. The protection of these areas will take into account the vital ecological role plant and animal species play for providing humans with natural resources, such as clean air, water, soil etc.

Thank you for considering the raised points.

Sincerely

Dr. Peter M. Heise-Pavlov and Dr Sigrid Heise-Pavlov  
Upper Barron