

Mr Alex Thomas MSc CHIA MCP

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01-April-2016

Research Director  
Agriculture and Environment Committee  
Parliament House  
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Dear Sir/Madam,

Re: Vegetation Management (Reinstatement) and Other Legislation Amendment  
Bill

I am writing in support of the proposed reforms.

I care about industrialised forms of land clearing because it severely compromises the services the ecosystems provide, and thus reduces the quality of life in both the present and future.

Specifically, I spent many years on a Masters study of the woodland fauna of Weipa, Cape York, and found that the woodlands and riparian habitats of the region support a remarkable diversity of species. My thesis is available in the public domain from <http://researchonline.jcu.edu.au/1835/>.

That study found many things, such as the presence of threatened species and some species that occur almost exclusively in woodland or riparian areas. The context of the study is that the woodlands are in many ways considered by some to be bereft of wildlife and use. An 'eco nullius', analogous to the way Aboriginal custody of land was considered 'terra nullius'. The science shows it isn't so.

However, my argument is not just one of logic and science.

I care about the future because I have a child, and want her and all future children to have the same if not better opportunities that I have had. I strongly feel that there is an ethical and now pragmatic imperative to at least preserve if not grow intergenerational natural capital.

Yours Sincerely,



Alex Thomas