

April 14 2016

Research Director  
Agriculture and Environment Committee  
Parliament House  
BRISBANE QLD 4000

**Submission to the Inquiry into the Queensland land clearing reform Bill**

I support the changes proposed because it establishes necessary and responsible land management practices that will slow degradation of our natural environment.

It will address the problem of loss of koala habitat, prevent the release of CO2 from tree clearing, help slow climate change and by improving management of catchments slow the degradation of the Great Barrier Reef. While threatened species get attention in conservation and development conflicts, all species, even common ones, are members of ecosystems to which they all contribute. So all should be conserved. Today's common species will be threatened in future otherwise.

Making the legislation retrospective to March 17 to deter panic clearing is a good idea, but still requires the bill to become law asap. It also requires adequate enforcement mechanisms and staff.

I commend the government on this bill, to redress terrible mistakes in allowing reckless land clearing in the past and I look forward to hearing that it has been passed into law and is effectual.

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