

From: [REDACTED]
To: [vminquiry](#)
Subject: Re: Vegetation Management (Reinstatement) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2016.
Date: Monday, 18 April 2016 12:36:12 PM

I would just like to affirm the positive decision to be made for the above Amendment Bill and applaud the present Government for taking this initiative in seeking to reduce the amount of mass land clearing in the interest of the long term health of the Great Barrier Reef.

We also are seeing an incremental devastation of local clearing of native forest on the Sunshine Coast in the name of development, which is destroying key habitat for our native fauna that rely on protection and food from these areas, particularly our koala whose territories are becoming fragmented and thus the gene pool for interbreeding declines along with their health and population.

It is alarming to see the rate at which land clearing has increased over the period of 2013-14 which continues to degrade the soil and surrounding environment.

We are surprised that there doesn't seem to be protection legislated for high value habitat. Even in our local area, private landholders have erased large areas of virgin bushland for the sake of putting in cattle and / or lawn when the surrounding land has already been cleared from sugar cane farming.

Peregian Springs is another case in point, where massive areas of Paperbark forest has been cleared for the ongoing 'Peregian Springs' Development. Locals that we have spoken to have been horrified that this was allowed to go ahead and is still in process.

Surely if there were protective measures in place, these outcomes might be reduced.

My husband and I again do reiterate our support for the approval of this Bill which will hopefully put stronger legislation in place to protect our important and unique vegetation and fauna, not to mention helping to reduce our overall carbon emissions, plus providing a better quality of life for people generally.

Kind regards,
Victoria and Doug Fitzpatrick

[REDACTED]
Bli Bli 4560
Queensland
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

