

**From:** [Michael Peel](#)  
**To:** [vminquiry](#)  
**Subject:** Submission on vegetation management laws  
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Hello, my name is Michael Peel and thank you for the opportunity to make a submission on the Government's proposed new vegetation management laws to control land clearing.

I fully support the proposed new laws and the need to protect native vegetation from uncontrolled land clearing for the following reasons

1. We need to protect native wildlife habitat and our iconic species such as the Koala whose habitat and numbers are in serious decline in Queensland.
2. Tree clearing has a detrimental impact on the Great Barrier Reef particularly in regards to water quality and I believe all six Great Barrier Reef catchments should be protected rather than just three. The Reef is already experiencing severe bleaching and needs strong protection.

Tree clearing is also responsible for millions of tonnes of carbon dioxide emissions which contributes to climate change.

In addition land clearing affects salinity as well as impacts on biodiversity.

The proposed bill is good because it removes the ability to clear large amounts of land for so called undefined high value agriculture.

It restores protection for environmentally important regrow the woodlands and properly restores protection for riparian areas.

Finally it gets rid of the oops defence of claimed mistaken clearing and restores the presumption that a landholder is responsible for any clearing that takes place.

Thank you again for the chance to make this submission on this important issue for the environment.

Michael Peel

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