

From: [REDACTED]
To: [vminquiry](#)
Subject: Parliamentary Submission
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Vegetation Management Bill.

Our family beef production land carries approx. 400 head of adult cattle in the Scenic Rim Regional Council area near Boonah.

For various reasons but mainly financial constraints, there has been regrowth of eucalyptus forest over perhaps 70% of the 3200 acres. The main tree types occurring are ironbark, moreton bay ash, stringybark, bloodwood, she-oak, bluegum, spotted gum and other gum types. Lantana has become a problem in lots of places.

We have seen some of our Proposed Veg Management Maps and it would appear that we would have some of all categories from A to C as well as white areas of non-remnant.

As our land is mostly undulating to steep we carry out thinning and good forest practice by handwork, that is cut-stump poisoning, injecting with tordon and occasionally spraying lantana in the thickets. This does not disturb the ground surface and all valuable timber trees are left untouched.

We are constantly seeing red-tail black cockatoos, wedgetail eagles, mountain larries and very occasionally koalas. Betongs have been seen and currently Qld Wildlife are looking for eastern quoll. Of course an array of other more normal species of wildlife abound.

It should be clear to you that we manage our land responsively, caring for wildlife and land as well as our cattle. We understand that trees put nitrogen into the soil and that tree cover is important for protection from the elements and for shade for all living things.

Our cattle go mainly for export, to Japan and USA.

We absolutely require the right to continue thinning of forest trees(the small, the crooked, the less desirable) as well as the elimination of our worst invasive weed, Lantana. This is our current practice in areas classified as non-remnant white(map) areas

The Ag and Enviro Committee must 100% comprehend that the current restrictive fire laws have led to the exponential spread of Lantana. It is out of control in the National Parks because fires have been too cool to kill it and farmers are unable to burn without affecting the Parks in most situations. Further restrictions for farmland can only mean loss of production and in a short, repeating short time, beef production will cease in some areas. Regrowth levels on our land are outstripping our rate of thinning due to lack of fire. We can't handle inflexible vegetation laws on top of that. Flexibility and case by case consultation with approvals is necessary.

Ground cover is what stops erosion. Ground cover means grass. We can't get enough grass to stop erosion if there are too many trees.

Qld is the biggest state producer of beef in Australia and Scenic Rim's Regional Council Area derives 40% of it's gross product from beef. Production of cars, fridges, Arnotts biscuits..... all gone! You have the responsibility to help save Beef.

We are 96 km from Brisbane. Come! We would be pleased to show you around.

Cameron & Heather Miller

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Moogerah 4309 Qld

Phone

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