Clairinsh

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21.04.2016

Research Director
Agriculture and Environment Committee
Parliament House
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Dear Chair and Committee Members

Submission to Committee on Vegetation Management (Reinstatement) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2016

I am a member of the general public who worked with Livingstone Remnant Vegetation Study Group from 1995 to 2014.

Insensitive clearing and development are devastating environment and habitat Species, both iconic and little known, are threatened with not only extinction but by increased inability to support healthy populations due to forced inbreeding because of reduced habitat area.

It has been shown scientifically that the impact of tree clearing on our already drought stricken state has increased the state of drought.

Tree clearing near catchments can cause land erosion and run off into our river catchments.

The erosion and run off caused by clearing along the Great Barrier Reef catchment banks is a leading cause of impacts to our Reef

Tree clearing in general is contributing to Climate change and the release of millions of tonnes CO2.

I support the passing of the bill, to protect Queensland's ecosystems and wildlife. This bill is important particularly because it:

Reinstates the protection of high value regrowth on freehold and indigenous land;

Removes provisions which permit clearing applications for high value agriculture and irrigated agriculture;

Broadens protection of riparian vegetation, especially in the Great Barrier Reef catchments of Burnett Mary, Eastern Cape York and Fitzroy Great Barrier Reef;

Reinstates the application of the riverine protection permit framework to the destruction of vegetation in a watercourse, lake or spring; and

Reinstates a broader requirement for environmental offsets to be required for any residual impact, not just 'significant' impacts as is currently provided for in offsets legislation

Living in a Serpentinite region off setting is particularly difficult and not particularly successful due to the very area specific terrain needed.

Yours sincerely

Christine Elizabeth Fraser