



Magnetic Island Community Development Assoc
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25 April 2016

Research Director
Agriculture and Environment Committee
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The Vegetation Management (Reinstatement) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2016

This Association has a vested interest in this bill which has been referred to your committee and which proposes to amend the *Vegetation Amendment Act 1989*, the *Sustainable Planning Act 2009*, the *Water Act 2000*, the *Environmental Offsets Act 2014* to tighten the vegetation management framework for controlling land clearing in Queensland, and limit the clearing of riparian vegetation, especially in the Great Barrier Reef catchments.

Our interest is because Magnetic Island is a continental island surrounded by the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park, and within the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area (GBRWhA). The island presents expressions of many World Heritage Values, including values which are uniquely expressed on the island at the scale of the entire WHA (ie they occur on Magnetic Island and nowhere else in the WHA). There are also many Matters of National Environmental Significance that occur on Magnetic Island including turtle nesting on our beaches, whale calving in our bays, and many migrator species.

Therefore, the impacts on the Great Barrier Reef from tree clearing from Great Barrier Reef catchments directly impacts on Magnetic Island and its World Heritage Values. We are fiercely protective of our natural environment so strongly support the proposed legislative measures.

Yours sincerely

Lorna Hempstead AM

Hon President