

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Agriculture and Environment Committee](#)  
**Subject:** Barrier Fencing in Queensland  
**Date:** Tuesday, 1 December 2015 5:25:10 PM

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Dear Sir/Committee,

I am writing to offer my opinion on the matters raised in the Information Paper on the Barrier Fencing Investigation.

I have insight into the issues with pastoral land and production in west and north Queensland and how this coincides with the issues relating to dog management. I make no representation on the issues in the south-east and rabbits.

In the information paper you state a definition of 'wild dogs' and this is good, you also indicate that neither dog nor dingoes are indigenous or native, they may be naturalised, they therefore do not have a role as an apex predator in our natural systems. Today humans are the 'apex' and to use dogs as a tool to control cats and foxes is irresponsible.

Exclusion fencing on any scale empowers land managers, to;

- Limit the movement of predators to our production systems (dog attacks on livestock),
- Manage the populations of macropods on either side of the fence (thus your reference to the impact on native species is often a positive),
- Manage grazing pressure on our pastures for improved productivity but more importantly for land condition management,
- Creates very strong biosecurity regions or boundaries (when and if they are needed).

For these reasons public investment into exclusion fencing provides strong benefits and also includes;

- Economic activity or stimulus in drought effected regions,
- Provides basic infrastructure from which private investment will build off. When modelled, the first infrastructure, be it a road, railway or barrier fence is a high cost and of no benefit until the second road, railway station or fence is built, as infrastructure increases and becomes saturated the final piece in the puzzle is 'free' and is 100% effective.

For these reasons I feel that public money is well spent on regional exclusion fencing for;

- Positive animal welfare outcomes (stock deaths, damage and stress and management of biosecurity issues),
- Positive environmental outcomes (grazing management, thus weed control, soil erosion and downstream sedimentation issue),
- Positive community outcomes, (job creation in fence erection and maintenance, and increased rural workforce ie shearers),
- And this leads to economic growth for producers, communities and the state.

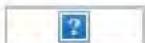
Exclusion fencing is a capital asset to regional Queensland, that if publicly supported provides a basis for expansion, the state does have a place to build and maintain this asset.

**David Mims**

**Business Owner**

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