



Graham and Margaret Shooter,


Submission for the review of Conservation Plan for Protected Plants.

Firstly, we care greatly for our land, the environment and our community [community needs] and appreciate those who show the same concern.

Previously we were able to selectively sell/ have relocated the *Livstonia Australis* CTP from our property and from other properties in this area with minimal damage to the surrounds. This was beneficial to other palms growing in that area, to us and to our township. This was banned in Qld and apparently for years the same palm was being brought to Qld from other states, with the risk of introduced diseases.

Commerce and sustainability of the land CAN go hand in hand with the right decisions

INCOME: a. Landowner

b. Employment

c. Community

d. Economy

a. During the drought many landowners/farmers had to destock their properties and another income had to be sought. For us part of our income was the sale of the palms.

b. Employment for at least 5 workers to dig out/transport/relocate the palms.

c. Other landowners in the community were able to be involved

d. Tax from the income would benefit the ailing economies of this State and the nation

SUSTAINABILITY:

In 2007 we had an Environmental Scientist from Europe stay with us who estimated 10,000 to 15,000 large palms and uncountable numbers of young palms so the seed bank at the present time must be enormous.

Selective taking would benefit the younger palms.

CONSERVATION:

We, as landowners, are concerned about the state of our property and find other landowners the same. Landowners, at the present, cannot clear land without restrictions BUT the MINING COMPANIES, the COUNCIL and whomever else allowed by the government who think they have a need can destroy the land, therefore the wildlife etc, without compunction.

Bushfires will destroy the countryside.

Weeds, such as Lantana, Thornbush are now out of control in the green areas. [see below]

When asking the about clearing these weeds my husband was told to clear a hole through to the root, put a chain around and pull it out.

SUCH WISDOM.

Is this weed management?

Pests and Vermin have become more prevalent and dangerous. [see below]

Is this conservation of the land, flora and fauna?

EDUCATION:

Would be nice on weed and vermin control – methods/products which would not damage the land, waterways, wildlife etc. People receiving some Centrelink payments could assist in this

Educating the public, school holiday programs

Shutting off the forests, parks etc. to the public does not generate an interest

COMPENSATION:

If the government continues to restrict/prohibit the use of the land and the selling of its product owned by the individual then compensation for lost income should be made/introduced.

Many landowners do not receive handouts from the government and depend on other forms of income. The government could be made aware how some of laws affect the public.

We would like to work with a government department who actually cares about the environment, the people affected by these laws and can only hope that common sense will prevail so that the community and nature can co-exist

3rd July, 2013

ADDIT:

There is now growth out of control in these areas such as Lantana, Thorn Bush and now Casuarina Oak which are killing the native trees.

Feral pigs and canetoads are also destroying the land

NB, have tried telephoning Research Director but phone engaged
 M. Shooter