

14/03/19

Acting Committee Secretary  
Innovation, Tourism Development and Environment committee  
Parliament House  
George Street Brisbane Qld 4000

Dear Sir/Madam,

Firstly I would say that most people would like the reef to be in good condition. However for this reef regulation bill to be going to parliament with only a few days to make submissions is ridiculous. We have been told that we must provide for the drought. So now it appears that the legislation is going to hinder our ability to either grow hay or grain to bale etc, also the extra cost after we jump through the hoops, red tapes and more records to keep.

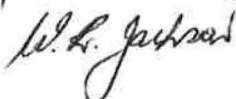
Farmers and graziers have enough to deal with eg: fires, floods and droughts.

On the point of where we are in relation to the sediment it would have to go through a weir at Charters Towers and then the Burdekin Dam which in distance to us is about 300kms away before it leaves the Burdekin Dam and travels to the sea into the reef. Lolworth Creek which is our main creek which flows into the Burdekin River has a series of lagoons that it flows into and backs up leaving silt behind in them and onto a flood plain. I am sure there would be a lot of other natural filter systems on other properties.

I am pleased however that you are going to accept existing BMPS but am concerned that it may only apply for 6 months? The BMPS were motivated by people who were already caring for the land and was done voluntarily and believed to get the most efficient result. It must still go that way.

Perhaps the greatest contributor to erosion has been the Gillard /Ludwich federal government in 2011 by stopping live export cattle to Indonesia for a time. This caused thousands and thousands of cattle to be held up and then over stocking because the calves that should have been taking their place had to be accommodated. Beef production is just like in a factory with a conveyor belt. As the bigger ones are turned off they are replaced by younger ones. If the conveyor belt stops then there is a problem. These cattle were then unsuitable for Meatwork grade cattle. The next year they were too heavy for the live market so when they were to go to be processed there was an over supply of cattle. In some cases they had to be held for another 4-6 months before they could be processed. All the time putting more pressure on the country then most areas went into a long drought with the grass instead of being a metre tall was only 100mm tall. The result after years of drought unusual bare paddocks and EROSION.

Yours sincerely



Warren Jackson

