**Submission Date** 

2013-04-10 00:48:56

Date

04-10-2013

I, as a Queensland primary producer.

strongly support the changes you have proposed with this Bill.

support the changes you have proposed, however, have suggested some further recommendations with the Bill.

My production type is

meat producer

The land tenure on my property is

freehold

I have Remnant Vegetation found on my property

Yes

I have High Value Regrowth Vegetation found on my property Yes

My main issue/s with the current vegetation management framework is:

Overly complex process to obtain a development application/permit for vegetation management. The length of time taken to obtain a development approval/permit for vegetation management. Incorrect mapping

Overregulation of activities that are routine and essential to the management of my property (for example clearing for fence lines, firebreaks, roads, or infrastructure) Over-administration or administration of vegetation management by inexperienced departmental staff

If this Bill is passed it will mean the following for my property in terms of improved productive, environmental and/or social aspects: Production: Able to control encroachment, pest and weed management and environmental clearing and maintaining infrastructure without the hassle of getting permits, especially when long distances from govt offices.

Environment:Able to rectify flood damage to soils and watercourses under self-assessable codes. Also remove weeds and pests from remnant forests.

Social: Saves a lot of time and money to have the "onus of proof" reversed, especially when there is so much incorrect mapping.

If I could propose further changes to the legislation these changes would include:

Inclusion of Wet Tropics with freehold and indigenous land in the recent changes to the regrowth legislation. The wet tropic is a completely different landscape from the Burdekin and Fitzroy region. Regrowth is a lot thicker and grows a lot more quickly in the wet tropics where waterways are only a short distance in length and most of the soils are alluvial. Ground cover of grasses and legumes hold the soil together better than trees. Water quality is excellent in most of this area and our sediment levels in watercourses are low. Most of the nitrogen and phosphate detected has come from the adjacent World Heritage Area.

. The deletion of categories 1 to 6 waterways requiring 50m riparian areas in properties less than 400 hectares. On small properties such as along the eastern seaboard this

requirement can use up most of the available grazing and agricultural land. In the wet tropics, where there are trees there is no grass, hence the erosion of soil happens with torrential rain. e.g. On my 100 acres of available grazing land, if I revegitated along all my category waterways 1-5 I would only have left approx 10 acres of available grazing land. If only on my Category 5 waterway, I would be left with 40 acres which would be unsustainable.

.The ability to selectively log on freehold as in the past without being hindered by local by-laws or local planning schemes.

Many property owners paid for the timber when purchasing their land and now have a growing asset that they have lost the ability to harvest. Using forest practice the timber industry can harvest timbers in a practical manner but under local planning schemes the additional restrictions imposed make the

harvesting too expensive an operation.

Full Name

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Name and Signature

Laurie Taylor



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