

SDNRAIDC

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, 13 March 2018 3:28 PM
To: SDNRAIDC
Subject: RE: Vegetation Management Laws

Dear Madam Sir,

I would like to strongly protest about the proposed changes to Vegetation Management Laws. I have been a responsible land owner in the Dirranbandi District for 45 years. Our property is sustainably managed to cope with the seasonal fluctuations in this district. We did not go out and wholesale clear the whole property in the late 1990's and early 2000's like many in the area did. We responsible landholders are being penalised by this proposed legislation as we will not be able to manage thickened invasive native species on our land. We do not want to wholesale clear our land for farming it is good grazing land and can continue to produce good results for our triple bottom line (Environment, Social, Financial) if we are allowed to manage it sustainably. Much of this property was adversely affected by the four record cataclysmic floods we had in 2010, 2011 and 2012. We have been in drought since the last flood destroyed our grass feed base. As a result we have been running half our normal stock numbers with drastically reduced cash flow.

I was one of the group of three landholders from this district who spent a great deal of time working through the land types and negotiating the Dirranbandi Area Management Plan (AMP). Due to cash flow restrictions from the ongoing drought we have not been able to do all the work we had hoped to do to date under this plan. Much of the country on this property that was adversely impacted by the flooding is Regional Ecosystem (RE) 11.3.3 Coolibah woodland on alluvial plains which (as Prof. Bill Gammage says in 1788) would have had 5 trees per hectare. Our AMP allows this to be thinned to 15 stems per hectare. The other large RE on this property is 11.3.3 Poplar box woodland on alluvial plains which the AMP allows to be cleared to 120 stems per hectare. This country has thickened with false sandalwood and Belah to levels of over 2,000 stems per hectare. Our AMP group worked through nearly 20 RE's in great detail and negotiated an outcome which was good for the environment and the landholders.

I am deeply saddened to see all this work thrown away for political expediency. Our AMP was **not** negotiated under the Newman Government Legislation it was under the previous Bligh Government's rules, and as such should be allowed to stand and be rolled over for a further ten years to allow the good sensible management to continue. We landholders are generally not reckless and are intent on managing our country for the greater good for future generations. Reasonable landholders have no problem with those who do the wrong thing being penalised. The proposed legislation penalises all of us who did not recklessly wholesale clear their land when changes to the land clearing legislation was first mooted many years ago.

Yours Sincerely, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]