

## SUBMISSION

In providing this submission I refer directly to the key provisions of the legislation which may be amended.

<b>1. Removing High Value Agriculture and Irrigated High Value Agriculture from the Vegetation Management Framework</b>
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Removing HVA and IHVA from the Vegetation Management Framework will have detrimental effects state wide. The people of northern Queensland will no longer be able to clear small areas to further develop farms which in turn affects people from all over the state in many ways.

An example of how this removal could affect my business is by limiting the availability of fodder or grain crops that are grown in the state for supplementing and finishing my livestock.

In times of drought this makes management much more stressful for people. This has flow on effects to all Queenslanders.

I think the removal of HVA and IHVA from the Vegetation Management Framework is very short-sighted in terms of producing food and fibre for a growing world population and is bad for the people of Queensland.

<b>2. Retaining Self-Assessable Codes</b>
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Retaining the self-assessable codes is essential, they help farmers carry out normal vegetation management that is necessary to produce food and fibre. The vegetation of the extensive grazing areas of Queensland are never not changing and therefore needs to be managed so people can continue to produce food and fibre and in turn contribute to prosperity of the state and country.

Vegetation management on many family farms is an ongoing process that does not need over complication and restriction by red tape.

There are thousands of hectares on our farm that have never been developed to Category X. But over time and possibly multiple generations the Category B areas could be developed under the self-assessable codes. I think it is wrong that this opportunity could be taken away from the younger generations of land managers. It is very short sighted to take the ability to manage the land away from the people who live there and know it best.

If the self-assessable codes were taken away and we needed a development approval to do the same activity it would negatively affect our business by putting increased stress and expense on land managers and in turn farm families.

<p>3. Including High Value Regrowth as an additional layer of regulation under the Vegetation Management Framework on leasehold, freehold and indigenous land</p>
<p>Including High Value Regrowth as an additional layer under the vegetation management framework is unfair as a percentage of the mapping for category C is incorrect and many land managers may or may not know this is the case. This has costs now and into the future. It is wrong to make this change overnight based on what maybe incorrect mapping.</p> <p>Farming is a business that spans across generations and there may need to be work done in these area in the future.</p>
<p>4. Increasing Category R regrowth watercourse vegetation to include additional catchments in the Burnett Mary, Eastern Cape York and Fitzroy Great Barrier Reef Catchments.</p>
<p>5. That no compensation will be payable to landholders subject to added layers of regulation – high value regrowth, regrowth watercourses and essential habitat during transitional arrangements</p>
<p>Simply not fair that no compensation will be payable to landholders subject to added layers of regulation – high value regrowth, regrowth watercourses and essential habitat during transitional arrangements</p>
<p>6. Increasing compliance measures and penalties under vegetation management laws.</p>
<p>Simply not fair to Increasing compliance measures and penalties under vegetation management laws.</p>
<p>7. Other matters relevant to the Vegetation Management and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2018 that the review committee should consider appropriate and worth some consideration</p>
<p>Farmers need security in legislation. It is a bad move to change what is essentially working well. I believe farmers are developing sustainably with the legislation as it stands and should not be rushed into developing with the fear of legislation changing with the next change if government.</p> <p>Self-Assessable Codes have been very useful and more cost effective than lodging applications. If these amendments are made I see a negative impact on all the people of Queensland because the business of farming will have been made unnecessarily harder.</p>

Signed:	Cameron McLeod Schutt
Address:	
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