

Rob Williams

17 Mar. 2018

Committee Secretary
Secretary State Development,
Natural Resources and Agricultural Industry Development Committee
Parliament House
George Street
Brisbane
Qld 4000

Submission on:

Vegetation Management and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2018

Regrowth

I ask that the definition of regrowth be redefined. A forest that has been growing since 1989 has in most cases become a significant wildlife habitat, would be functioning as a carbon sink and ensuring good quality water flows into our river systems and to our ailing reef. Any previously cleared land that has regrowth, and is no longer grasslands, warrants protection.

Fodder harvesting

With regards fodder harvesting, if the grasslands cannot supply enough feed for cattle, then it is marginal land that should not be punished further by losing its ground cover in times of stress.

I take part in tree planting programmes in the Cairns region and note that in most cases, the area should never have been cleared in the first place. I appreciate the government funding that is made available to the many groups who carry out these activities, but think that better vegetation management planning would reduce the need for and cost of future revegetation. I value the agricultural industry and hope that my food can come from land that is managed sustainably. It can be done.

Regards,

Rob Williams

Spokesperson for Barron Delta Mangrove Protection Campaign