

SUBMISSION

I provide my submission on rejection of the changes proposed in the Vegetation Management (Reinstatement) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2018 ("the Bill").

This constant change in legislation severely impacts on the ability of farm managers to plan and implement effective long-term property and business management decisions. Ecological processes work in much longer timeframes and can be severely compromised when mismatching regulations are enforced. Farmers have long called for certainty with the vegetation management regulatory framework. I am totally opposed to continued uncertainty and attacks on the viability of myself, the long-term sustainability of my business as well as attacks on fellow farmers.

The impacts of the proposed changes to the Vegetation Management Act include;

- The purpose for High Value Agriculture and Irrigated High Value Agriculture will be removed.
- Extends Category B areas (remnant vegetation) and Category C (regrowth vegetation) to freehold land, and indigenous freehold land. Additional 862 000ha High Value Regrowth and water course buffers to all reef catchment, Burnett Mary, Fitzroy, Eastern Cape York.
- Thinning will require Development Application to be lodged for approval.
- The purpose for High Value Agriculture and Irrigated High Value Agriculture will be removed.

Describe the impacts the changes will make to stall agriculture, discourage investment, and increase costs and time to manage vegetation.

Signed:

Address:

Date:



Please consider what impact these proposed laws will have on rural families.

Consider that farmers don't need the Queensland Government controlling how we manage our land.

We are the best conservationists you will get. Our love of the land and the management we use is for a reason. If the regrowth isn't controlled along the watercourses they will become over grown with noxious weeds and rendered worthless for grazing. This will lead to a severe fire hazard.

Please consider that farmers are very well educated people who have a massive knowledge in their profession. Our farm management is working with the original PMAV. It cost considerable money to have the PMAV locked it.

"THE BLUE DOT" blanketed over prime farming land shows the government is being incorrectly advised on these issues and it needs to be changed.

These proposed laws will have a significant impact financially on our business by reducing productivity.

Our rural communities are getting smaller. We need the younger generation coming back to the family farm. In the last ten years our farm has endured drought, flood and the worst cattle prices in history. We are still farming because we are using viable farm practices.

I would like the Committee to be aware the debt that is attached to our farms has to be repaid.

Therefore please consider very carefully the detrimental effects these proposed laws will have on farmers and their families.