

From:
To: [SDNRAIDC](#)
Subject: FW: sdinc committee sub against veg laws
Date: Tuesday, 20 March 2018 2:18:44 PM

Alistair and Narelle Webb

From:
Sent: Tuesday, 20 March 2018 1:57 PM
To: 'sdnraidc@parliament.qld.gov.au'
Subject: FW: sdinc committee sub against veg laws

Alistair and Narelle Webb

From:
Sent: Tuesday, 20 March 2018 8:59 AM
To: 'sdnraidc@parliament.qld.gov.au'
Subject: sdinc committee sub against veg laws

Good morning,

My name is Alastair Webb and I am a third-generation grazier in the remote community of Wyandra (Western Queensland). I have learned I require from my Father, Grandfather and Longreach Agricultural College and have been managing Warrego Park my entire life. It is safe to say that I understand the country and the best possible methods for maintaining the health of the environment. It is my primary priority to ensure that I run a sustainable business for both my own career and for the future generations of the Webb family.

Mulga trees are very prominent in my community and have been vital for keeping cattle alive during the droughts. I am sure that you are aware that Western Queensland has been struggling with droughts for many years and we have required a lot of assistance to ensure that all the stock we hold are healthy during this time. Droughts are natural disasters that are particularly devastating in the agricultural industry and, although we prepare as best we can for these times, there is a high cost associated with feeding the stock which can be felt by not only the farmers but the entire community.

I can understand the motivation for the proposed new vegetation management laws and how they will assist to maintain the native vegetation to lower carbon emissions and better safeguard the health of the Great Barrier Reef. I do however believe that regulating mulga clearing does more harm than good for the following reasons:

1. Mulga re-grows very quickly.

According to "Mulga: Regrowth benefits-management guideline" written by the Queensland government, Mulga may grow 22-41cm/yr and may reach a trunk diameter of 20cm in 20 years.

2. The stock needs to be fed either way.

We will either have to push Mulga trees or truck bales of hay many hundreds of kilometres to feed the cattle. There is not only a large amount of carbon emissions due to the trucks themselves but farming the fodder for hay has its own environmental issues.

3. Purchasing cattle feed is expensive!

We not only need to purchase the hay but the transport. It is difficult for farmers to manage this cost and pushing mulga trees provides a low-cost alternative. This not only assists the farmers themselves, but the local community.

Thank you for taking the time to read what I have to say about this matter that I feel very strongly about. I hope that you take my opinion into consideration when making a decision on how these new laws may affect Outback Queensland.

Alistair Webb

Alistair and Narelle Webb