

SUBMISSION

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

1. Removing High Value Agriculture and Irrigated High Value Agriculture from the Vegetation Management Framework

. Farmers and graziers, particularly in the Northern areas of Queensland will be drastically affected by this change of Legislation as they rely highly on the ability to grow supplementary fodder and the survival of stock during drier seasons and drought.

With the removal of HVA and irrigated HVA cropping, the energy and protein for stock also for human consumption will be non-existent in some regions. No production and more aid will be needed for the farmers and their futures.

. The livestock and cropping industries have a great input into this States economy and land values will decline.

Promotion of these western and drier regions as “potential food bowls” has been on the agenda for many years. It can’t be stopped overnight by limiting this capability.

. Survival of the family property relies on the potential to expand their business and drought proof for future sustainability.

2. Retaining Self-Assessable Codes
<p>. Every farm is held sacred by the owner.</p> <p>Farmers care for their land because without correct care and nurturing, they have no income or land value.</p> <p>Landholders are all conservationists, caring for the land e.g. BMP self-assessments has been a useful tool to make us become more aware of possible problems. Any problem areas found through the use of the self-assessment codes, help farmers keep the balance of grasses and suitable tree coverage, preventing soil erosion.</p> <p>. The no cost self-assessment tools are playing a big part towards time management too, thus allowing effective management of properties, business and saving vegetation.</p>
3. Including High Value Regrowth as an additional layer of regulation under the Vegetation Management Framework on leasehold, freehold and indigenous land
<p>. Queenslanders must protect the farmers and their ability to supply food for a growing nation and world population.</p> <p>Mapping errors have a devastating effect on all concerned through bad hasty decisions and incorrect readings. Too much emphasis is placed on grabbing and overprotection of land to appease International Treaties through the HVR re-inclusion.</p> <p>. After reviewing the PVM for our properties, unlike many others, we have been most fortunate not to have an issue as yet. However to expand our boundaries may now be impossible as the neighbour now has a HVR. What does “freehold land” really mean?</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>. Category R changes will impact many farmers in many different regions and the domino effect will be catastrophic to the economy. How can the development of the proposed “Northern Food Bowl” become a reality when Government red tape is being pulled so tightly that no new or developing agriculture projects will be a possibility?</p> <p>. Essential habitats have magically appeared with no warning. So more red tape.</p> <p>We are over policed and it appears that International agencies are pulling the strings.</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>. Added layers of regulations are completely unnecessary given the fact that farmers have a vested interest in their land and watercourses without any Government pay outs. Watercourses on our properties are always managed and protected to the best of our ability. Experiencing the HVR on creek banks, it is of no real value as the wildlife drag soil into the waterways eroding loosened soil, whereas the pasture to the water line holds the soil.</p> <p>From a producers point of view, added pressure of more regulations deserve compensation, just for the time management alone. Will we receive it?</p>
<p>6. Increasing compliance measures and penalties under vegetation management laws.</p>
<p>. Penalties seem to have tripled, though mistakes do happen it appears governments cannot make any.</p> <p>Perhaps the right to make a sustainable living does not apply, just as the rights of farmers and their workers are slowly being eroded. The Bill potentially breaches fundamental legislative principles (FLPs).</p> <p>Trial by media is not acceptable!</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>. The HVA and irrigated HVA amendments will have a drastic effect on farmers and their livelihood.</p> <p>These families have suffered more than enough over the past 6 – 7 years, yet try valiantly to keep ahead of red tape, now more changing legislations, whilst still caring for their land and what is left of their assets.</p> <p>Compassion must stay alive for these people so they can develop some sustainability for the future and family succession or we will be importing and paying more for our foods.</p> <p>. Drought proofing for future production should be on government agendas. Changing legislations are sending alarm bells to banking institutions. They aren't supporting any new investments because of the uncertainty.</p> <p>. Jobs are not being created but LOST!</p> <p>Hopefully these new regulations may not directly affect our properties, as yet, however we do know many others who will be and wish to support them through this submission.</p>

Signed

Signed:	Diane Binnie
Address:	
Date:	18/03/18