

From:
To: [SDNRAIDC](#)
Subject: Snraidc
Date: Wednesday, 21 March 2018 9:20:55 PM

It is with a great deal of disappointment that I find myself having to make another submission to the committee investigating the proposed changes to Queensland's vegetation management act.

My family operates a beef cattle enterprise on 7400 hectares 65km southwest of Roma. It is described as belah box country with bendee ranges.

Typical of this country and soil type is the presence of an understory of false sandalwood.

This woody weed establishes a dense canopy that stops any sunlight from reaching the ground and doesn't allow any grass to grow. These duplex soils need ground cover to keep the topsoil in place to prevent the highly dispersive sub soil from being exposed.

Therefore, management of false sandalwood is vital. The proposed changes implement a layer of bureaucracy and expense that is not necessary.

The current framework is workable. The notification process allows the department to monitor activities and there is continual surveillance being undertaken to check for those doing the wrong thing.

If we were to apply this proposed application process to the existing car driver's license regime, drivers would have to apply to make a trip, pay an application fee and wait for a response before driving, knowing full well that there are penalties if they break the law. These changes are just bogging business down in more red tape.

The continued uncertainty is stifling investment in Queensland. Investors are faced with continual changes that are being derived from political preferences with no consideration to the fact behind the debate.

In closing, I'd like to point out how badly rural Queensland feels about how it is being treated. We are the low hanging fruit that is flicked off at the first chance for political gain. There is no science behind these changes. There is no thought, no compassion and no benefit. The government is treating rural Queensland as a disposable asset that can be traded for votes at an election. It's not fair. It's not right. Please, please reconsider the changes to the vegetation management act.

Yours faithfully

James Stinson

James and Natalie Stinson