

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.

* FARMING PRACTICES CANNOT JUST BE CHANGED OVER NIGHT. WE WANT THE OPPORTUNITY TO BE ABLE TO DROUGHT PROOF OUR BUSINESS FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE, TO BE ABLE TO IMPROVE OUR ~~COUNTRY~~^{PROPERTY} WHEN WE ARE BEST ABLE TO DO THIS, BOTH FOR OUR STOCKS BENEFIT AND FOR OUR LANDS BENEFIT, IF CATTLE ARE DYING BECAUSE DAMS HAVE RUN DRY, OR WILL RUN DRY WE NEED TO DO OUR WORK STRAIGHT AWAY, NOT WAIT WEEKS FOR APPROVAL FROM SOMEONE WHO DOESN'T KNOW THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN MULGA AND EUCALYPTUS TREES.
* IF THIS BILL GOES THROUGH, FARMERS WILL GO BROKE. AND LEAVE THE LAND, WHO IS RESPONSABLE FOR THAT? SMALL COUNTRY TOWNS WILL BE NO MORE WHO IS RESPONSABLE FOR THAT? AUSTRALIA HAS THE BEST AGRICULTURAL LAND IN THE WORLD (ARGUABLY) BUT WE WILL IMPORT ALL OUR FOOD. WHO IS RESPONSABLE FOR THAT?

Signed:

Sandra J. Ryan.

Address:

Date:

21 / MARCH / 2018