

## SUBMISSION

I very much doubt that anything I put in this submission will ever be read by anyone. That is the sad truth of the society that we live in today - our concerns mean nothing and no-body cares about anything that we, the minority, have to say. I quite frankly believe that I am wasting my time by even writing this letter in support of our grazing community and many of the land management strategies that have been used for generations, but here goes...

Many of us graziers live and breathe the very land that we live on. Our life is our land. We don't take holidays, we are often underpaid, we sacrifice family time because we have a paddock to plant or cattle to muster or something else needs fixing. Yet our kids understand this - they accompany us whenever we have to do these tasks - it is part of their daily life and they are much better for it. We create better human beings as they are taught from a young age to care for their environment as they are immersed in it from babies onward.

We take great pride in our properties and many of us are some of the best land-managers and environmentalists that there are. We purposefully don't tell anyone about the habitats on our properties; the multitudes of koalas, echidnas, emus etc. We don't tell anyone about many of the features that have been treasured by the property owners and secretly hidden and protected from one generation to another. Many of these areas will be preserved and protected by the very people who own the properties as we know as soon as anyone with "power" is alerted, then things really go wrong as they try to push their idealistic expectations onto the landholder. Just leave the landholder alone and those areas/species will always be protected.

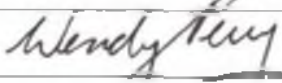
We, as an industry, are sick of pen-pushing types who sit in glazed offices in smoggy cities telling us that what we are doing is wrong! I challenge each and every one of you to spend one month with me, working alongside my husband and I, all expenses paid. I guarantee that after that month of immersing yourself in our property, you will have a great understanding of how we, common graziers, love and care for our land; striking a balance between nature and development, as we feed the nation whilst preserving precious native flora and fauna.

I could go on and on in this letter about each individual key provision that the current government is trying/going to change but I really feel that I would be wasting a great deal of time and energy on my part. I understand how politics works but what I am really appealing to is for the government to be innovative - take a step back, take the time to come out and really "talk" to the country people and get a feel for their industry rather than doing a whirlwind "day trip", kiss a few babies and make empty promises. Take the time to get to know the people who know the country. Take the time to actually see how much the land means to the people who live on it and how they each take steps to protect and nurture the flora and fauna that is unique to the different properties. Get an understanding of how trees/regrowth etc actually work and why farmers/graziers do certain activities - we always do things for a reason - why not try to understand the reasons behind certain activities. I guarantee that if you guys in power were to actually take the time to do things like this, you may be surprised how the polls read.

All we in the bush are asking for is for someone to actually listen to the voices of wisdom - the ones who really know how the land should be treated and cared for - not some idealistic views of those in inner city sanctuaries who have never had a blister on their hands in their life.

I ask the Government to try something different - it would certainly get noticed! I am inviting you to come out of your air-conditioned offices and sit and have a cuppa with me on the back veranda. I guarantee that by the end of the conversation, you would have a much better understanding of the Queensland bush than you will ever get from any political advisors.

I ask you not to change the current vegetation management laws. Let the farmers and graziers manage and protect their land as they have done for centuries - they are the best environmentalists and land managers - let them do what they do best without them having to constantly be constrained by unnecessary red tape which will not help the environment one little bit.

Signed:	
Address:	
Date:	22/03/18