

## RE: VEGETATION MANAGEMENT AND OTHER LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 2018

## SUBMISSION

The Vegetation Management Bill is a Labor government's patronizing, meddling impost on a rural industry which, by its very mandate, manages vegetation effectively in order to protect, preserve and progress the industry for the benefit of the entire nation. In a very real and practical sense it would reduce productivity and income, and increase financial stress on rural families.

- I am a third generation grazier in the upper reaches of the Belyando/Burdekin catchment. This property has celebrated 100 years of continued ownership in the same family. We are currently transitioning into fourth generation succession.
- Since I took over as property owner and manager in 1976, this land has gone from strength to strength as a result of judicious and responsible tree clearing and land management. Grass cover is dense, erosion is virtually non-existent, and waterways are healthy. Wildlife has never had it better!
- Any limitations placed on our ability to manage encroaching regrowth or reduction in the area we are entitled to manage would be financially disastrous.
- The resultant drop in productivity would place even more financial pressure on an already tight budget.
- Drought tolerance would be greatly diminished.
- It would have a detrimental effect on the succession process.
- I question the government's agenda.
- In assuming one of the reasons behind the legislation is the welfare of the GBR and the sediment and chemical run-off from farms and properties along the various catchments, why is it that we never hear anyone mention the tonnes of insecticides, herbicides, oils, detergents, cleaning agents and pharmaceuticals etc that must end up in the Pacific Ocean from the hundreds of thousands of households along the coast and hinterland.
- Invasive species such as parkinsonia, rubber vine, parthenium, harrisia cactus – are becoming real problems along our watercourses. I think the department's resources would be more wisely employed in the control of these species, even to the extent of policing!

MALCOLM DYER  
