

From:
To: [SDNRAIDC](#)
Subject: SDNRAIDC Committee
Date: Wednesday, 21 March 2018 12:45:15 PM

Dear Committee,

We purchased our property Sommariva on the Warrego Highway between Morven and Charleville twenty-fives years ago.

At that time this property could only run 300 head of cattle.

The paddocks were so overgrown that the tracks were only accessible via motorbike and it would take us all day to weave our way through the mulga to check our boundaries.

The ground was bear dirt and the stock were skinny.

We freeheld this property and paid for the trees that was on this land as part of the freehold payment.

With development and being able to harvest and control the mulga lands we have turned this property around.

What you will see now is established body of grass and low regrowth mulga that the cattle can reach as a source of food.

We have an increase in wildlife and our carrying capacity has been extended to 1000 head now making this property viable.

We can now check our boundary in the comfort of our Toyota in about an hour which is a huge difference and a great saving on time.

If our rights to manage these mulga lands are taken away from us we will see in the not too distant future that these properties will return to the way ours was when we purchased it some twenty five years ago.

Country towns and businesses out here rely heavily on the rural community for support.

We have already seen how much these our towns have suffered with the removal and cut backs of most government services.

When these properties become unviable and they will, then they will be sold up by the banks.

What will happen to the people, the towns, the next generation? They will no longer exist.

We ask that you think very carefully about what you are about to bring in and the chain reaction that this is going to create.

We want to be here long term, we want to be able to encourage our children to stay here, we want to be able to keep producing food for your table.

Please look 10, 20, 30 years down the track and not just the next three as what you are proposing will affect us all long term.

If these rights are taken away from us then the property owners need to be compensated.

Your Sincerely

Bill & Karen McLennan