From:

To: <u>SDNRAIDC</u>
Subject: vegetation laws

**Date:** Wednesday, 21 March 2018 11:45:51 AM

Robert Sharplin and Pip Clifford

To Whom it may concern,

My name is Robert Sharplin. I along side my partner manage a 100 000 acre property 110km south of Quilpie, south west Queensland and would like today to inform you what the new mulga clearing laws will do to not only our family and business but thousands of families and towns across Queensland and New South Wales.

Farmers in not only South West Queensland and North Western New South Wales but a majority of Queensland rely on the mulga just as much if not more than we rely on rainfall; however unfortuntletly this country does not get the rain that the coast of Queensland or other regions of Australia receive. The mulga trees then become a reliable source of feed on our properties as we are going into our 7<sup>th</sup> year of drought.

How will this affect our incomes/ towns/ businesses/ families: If we cant clear mulga then people like my self will lose there job because of not being able to keep cattle on the property. Station owners could end up losing there whole property as they cant feed there cattle so they cant sell cattle which comes to not being able to pay the bank. Businesses, families, animals lives rely on Mulga. Without money coming into local farming businesses we can not support the small towns shutting down not only small stores but also possibly state government councils. Families will not be able to afford to send their kids to school and many more horrible situations will come to occur if we can not feed mulga. As someone with a 3 month old I worry for ours, hers and our families and friends future if these laws pass.

The Mulga trees will always rejuvenate, and 99% of the time grows back thicker and healthier than before. If your offices and staff don't believe me I am happy for one of your members to come out to my property and show you where the Mulga has been pulled through out the last 10 years and show you what has rejuvenate in that time.

As a farmer we pride ourselves of managing our cattle but the most important thing to us is managing our land/country. We do this by clearing fire breaks, non overstocking cattle and other stock and many other ways. Mulga needs to be cleared to encourage growth of grass, other native plants and the regrowth and rejuvenation of new Mulga.

Us Farmers need to be able to use our mulga trees as a reliable food source for our stock so I ask you please STOP THE MULGA CLEARING LAWS.

In 2017we received rainfall 194 millilitres 75 of that in January 2017 where the heat in out here does not give it a chance to soak in to the ground to grow grass/herbage.

So I ask you to not go ahead with these clearing laws

Thank you

Regards

Pip Clifford and Robert Sharplin

Regards

Pin Clifford and Robert Sharnlin