

## 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.

**We have demonstrated over the years that harvesting of Mulga is sustainable , and replicates what the life cycle of the Mulga Lands is- instead of drought killing large areas of trees which then regenerated, we mimic this by harvesting mulga and these areas are then allowed to regrow. Earlier in this drought our son was pushing mulga beside which were trees I had pushed in an earlier drought, beside them were stumps my father had cut and also stumps that had been cut in my grandfather's time- I estimate that block has been harvested at least six times.**

**In the areas that have been cleared to grow improved pasture we have developed a management plan that allows trees to regrow which after a number of years are then chained adding nutrients to the soil, then the cycle is repeated. The completion time of this cycle can vary considerably so any arbitrary fifteen year regrowth maximum can have an impact on our sustainability.**

**Productivity is imperative not only for the Rural Producers, but also for the survival of Rural Towns & Communities.**

**Optimal land management guidelines are only achievable in consultation with Land Managers, genuine Scientists and Government.**

Signed:	David Jamieson
Address:	
Date:	22/03/2018