

Tara Rule



• Phone:

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SDNRAIDC Committee

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to you on behalf of my partner, Cameron, and myself to ask that you reconsider the new vegetation management laws that were recently instated by the Government. These changes will have a devastating effect on our family as primary producers in the rural industry.

We are a young family of three and have planned on raising our family in the bush, just as we were, as it is our passion. The rural industry is all that we know and making a living for our family by managing our land is vital. With the new changes to the vegetation management laws, raising our family 'off the land' and continuing to be successful and contributing primary producers will be almost impossible.

We recently purchased our property 'Tyrone' a few months ago. 'Tyrone' is situated 60km out from the small town of Charleville in South West Queensland and as you should be aware, we have been in major drought for a number of years in this area. Much thought went into our decision to purchase this property and a major contributing factor that assisted our decision was the SAFE amounts of Mulga feed on the property. This knowledge gave us peace of mind that we could keep our cattle alive during the extremely tough times experienced during drought (which has become an all too common experience for us, our family, friends and neighbours). The only viable way for us to do continue to feed our cattle and continue contributing as small, family owned primary cattle producers is to be able given the right to manage the Mulga in appropriate ways.

Prior to our recent property purchase, we have worked in the rural industry our whole lives with the end goal of being able to own and run our very own property that would be big enough to run enough cattle to be viable and sustainable to make a living. With doing that we needed to be able to feed our cattle the Mulga and the right amounts to keep them healthy and strong. If we would have known about such laws coming into play there is no way we would have spent our life savings on purchasing a property out this way. In addition, our property will now not be resalable, as others also could not justify the new laws for this property to be viable. This is our biggest concern and number one argument against the new, unnecessary changes to the vegetation



management laws. Other concerns that we have are the extra costs involved in trying to continue to maintain our cattle, land and most importantly, our livelihood. Namely: the sourcing of alternative fodder (i.e. hay/cottonseed etc); the limitations to the amount of stock we run (which will be well under capacity); the increasing costs of permits through the Government; and the rise in staffing costs required for tending to feeding and mustering (as regrowth will render our regular mustering impossible).

Further to the abovementioned concerns are how these laws will affect our small towns and communities. The loss of jobs will begin an inevitable decline in the number of small businesses, not to mention the population and so education and healthcare will ultimately suffer also.

Please don't let Australia's livelihood suffer with these unnecessary management laws being passed. Primary producers such as ourselves know how to manage best the wonderful land that we live on; for our cattle, our environments and of course for our next generation.

We thank you for taking the time to read our submission and understand our concerns.

Regards,

Tara Rule