

From:
To: [SDNRAIDC](#)
Subject: SDNRAIDC Committee
Date: Thursday, 22 March 2018 7:10:02 AM

Dear whom it may concern,

With reference to your tree clearing laws:

We are in an area that relies on Mulga to keep our cattle industry alive. Western QLD properties such as ours situated just east of the small town of Quilpie, are almost drought proofed with this fantastic tree variety called Mulga. It feeds our cattle, keeps our cattle alive during the tough seasons so the beef production is consistent to feed our country and others. With these new laws introduced, there is so much paperwork involved that we won't have time to feed our cattle. I have been told every seven days we have to submit a report/map of where we are managing mulga for fodder, take photos and even GPS co-ordinates. Now we don't do this for the fun of it, believe me, we could save ourselves a hell of a lot of time and diesel expenses if we didn't have to deal with drought. But these new laws make a tough job tougher. I am here on the property growing beef, I am not sitting in some office playing on my GPS, or my ipad, or my mapping systems, in fact I do not have time for that, nor do I have the technological knowledge, which is why I produce beef not ipads. It is a big enough job to keep your head out of the water, keeping cattle alive and managing a property efficiently without all the paperwork now involved. By introducing these laws, not only do you make our lives more difficult than they already are, people will have to sell up (if they can on sell now everyone knows the repercussions and the rigmarole that you have to go to feed your cattle), then let's watch the small communities die slowly. We keep the businesses going in town, it is a huge domino effect.

If these laws are enforced, we might as well just sell the cattle and walk away. And hope that one day it rains soon, so we can re-stock. You leave us no option, with tightening up on these vegetation management laws, with a species of tree that reproduces twice as quick. In a few years time, we won't be able to ride a motorbike, let alone walk through these paddocks as the mulga will be that thick without management. What happens when a big fire comes through, there will be no way in hell a little fire break will stop it when the Mulga is overgrown.

These laws affect so many people in western Queensland – not just one grazier. Listen to them, they have been nurturing this country for years and supply some of the best beef/sheep production you will see. Do you really want to see that disappear? Do we want to import more meat from overseas? Do you want small communities to disappear off the map? Keep going, and that is what will happen. There will be no such thing as Quilpie/Charleville/Cunnamulla etc. Reject the laws, look after your fellow Australians who are only trying to do what is best for the eco-system, this country. As typical Australians, we look after everyone else first then ourselves. How about the politicians start doing the same. I urge you to stand up for your fellow Australians battling along in the bush!

Kind Regards

Dale Stevenson

Just Grazing

