

**From:**  
**To:** [SDNRAIDC](#)  
**Subject:** Submission regarding Vegetation Management and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2018  
**Date:** Thursday, 22 March 2018 11:06:49 AM

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## Sona Trivedi-Ginn

Dear State Development, Natural Resources & Agricultural Industry Development Committee

I moved to the Gold Coast 18 months ago after having spent two years in Canberra. What attracted me to the Gold Coast, particularly Coomera Waters, is how different the State/suburb are to the rest of the East Coast. It's natural beauty and abundance of wildlife was the reason I relocated my family despite a secure job with the ACT Government. To see so many koalas in their natural habitat is something you can not find in any other city. This makes Queensland unique from the other States!

However, since moving to Coomera Waters, I have been shocked at the rate of tree clearing taking place. Whilst i understand that development is necessary given our growing population, the rate at which tree clearing is taking place is appallingly alarming. There is little to no opportunity afforded to wildlife to relocate and koalas, in particular, are well known to make one tree their home hence relocating them can be traumatising for them. I am disappointed that Coomera Waters could potentially lose the appeal it has over other suburbs within a year. The greenery means one does not have to travel to Mount Tamborine for example, to see the beautiful wildlife.

There are a multitude of shops within 10-15 minutes driving distance from Coomera and therefore it is not necessary for every single suburb to have shops. The distance from one suburb to the next is not great.

Tree clearing needs to slow down or even stop for a number of years to allow the wildlife to relocate naturally. We are losing natural defence systems to the volatile weather we often experience during storm season. Stormwater drains do not do the job that trees and greenery do naturally and without cost to the taxpayer.

I will to express my support for the passing of Vegetation Management and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2018, although I wish to see some amendments to the Bill first.

I strongly endorse the Bill in seeking to scrap high value agriculture as a relevant clearing purpose, protect high conservation value regrowing woodlands, scrap the thinning code, extend Reef riparian areas, and to terminate current Area Management Plans.

I strongly endorse amendments to the Bill to totally remove 'managing thickened vegetation' provisions, to guarantee no new self-assessable code for thinning or new Area Management Plans were possible in the future.

I am disappointed that government is not proposing to substantially tighten up fodder harvesting provisions, including major restrictions and tying any clearing to official drought declaration.

I respectfully ask that the Committee examine options for recommending changes to the

Bill and codes accordingly, and to ensure that the above reforms are fully translated into practice.

Even with these reforms, I believe there will be more work to be done in bringing about an end to remnant clearing in Queensland, to better protect threatened species including koalas and their habitats, and to comprehensively protect native woodlands.

Yours Sincerely,

Sona Trivedi-Ginn

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Sent from my iPhone