

From:
To: [SDNRAIDC](#)
Subject: Vegetation laws.
Date: Thursday, 22 March 2018 7:10:41 AM

Hi committee members,

Like many rural Queenslanders I am concerned about the tightening of our veg. laws. No one denies that parts of Qld's remnant vegetation needs to be protected, but we live in a big state, vastly different from one corner to the other. It is grossly unfair to apply the same rules on all farms, regardless of where in the state they are.

Western Qld has to survive on a lower end rainfall, with many years not even reaching this already low average. Put simply, grass and trees cannot co exist in low rainfall areas.

Yes, coastal country, high rainfall, it is possible to have a timbered landscape and also produce food for the people.

As a 5th generation on the same farm, we have always had remnant vegetation mixed with improved pastures, but regrowth is a constant hurdle. Through the early 2000's we had a vegetation permit, which locked in 25% of our Remnant timber, an amount that is still present on our property and many others that developed under the same permit system.

The regrowth management is just a routine activity for us, some country will always have timber present, it just has to be dealt with every 10-15 years.

So why now, after 99% of the Qld landholders have adhered to these laws, are you going to further squeeze them by taking more land in the form of high value regrowth?

Regrowth is just that, regrowth. It will never be remnant timber, it becomes that thick with stunted undergrowth that in dry times, the country is useless. Not even a native animal chooses to live in these thick patches.

The old self assessable codes did work, the new version won't.. The option is still there on paper, but is totally unworkable. No one has issues with thinning and leaving the larger trees, but to leave the proposed 100 trees per hectare, why bother starting? Looks good for you on paper, but totally unworkable..

Fodder harvesting likewise, much of Qld is unviable without the ability to feed mulga to stock. Farmers are passionate about their jobs, and nothing hurts more than seeing animals in your care, dying of starvation. Just remember, animal welfare guidelines say that the poor livestock cannot be transported, so what option do we have when it turns dry, mulga..

There seems to be a focus in the media at present, with regards to bullying leading to self harm.. I see these proposed laws as the Government being the bully, the farmers as the vulnerable individuals with nowhere to hide. Please think about that for a while, we have invested heavily in our land, we don't want to have to leave it behind. We need farmers to be productive,

Regards Anthony Marsh

Sent from my iPad