

## 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 believe that the changes to the vegetation managment will have a huge impact on all Australian's, Land holders & the many people that are reliant on rural jobs & the local communitys that are also effected. To beable to run an efficient business, each property holder must be able to have the best productivity possible, to do this we must beable to maintain our propertys.

Keeping regrother under control is a huge part of the general property planning & maintance & is the only way to maintain productivity, if all the re growth is let to grow back, we will have less grass for cattle which means less income, less rural jobs, less money spent in our small communities. It also means more errosion of our lands, which then impacts further.

You only need to look into timbered paddocks compared to the developed country to see the difference of grass growth. This grass is what feeds our cattle, we need to be suplying this meat to Australian people. Regrowth control is not land clearing.

If the regrowth & land clearing laws keep getting changed on the whim of government without consulation with us the land holders & the generations of people that have provided food for this country, it shows a huge disrepect for the country people that are doing the hard work, providing food for both rural & city people.

As a land holder the way the laws keep changing it make's it very hard to plan or to want to even invest more money into our propertys or ever encourage future generations to work in the rural sector.

Landholders are all running business's and doesn't it make sense that each business will be looking after & treating their business right so that it grows, meaning that we look after our land & do not mistreat it. For the people that need to cut mulga for their cattle, would you have them produce cattle (meat) to then let them stave before their eyes? No way we care for our animals & take caring of our livelihood. We are all ready getting bogged down with lots of un productive red tape & do not see how having to get more permits & aprovals will be helping to have food on our plates??? These laws will eventually make us releant of 3rd world foods, grown with no health standards to survive. Which is disgusting & shameful.

Signed:

Wendy Barlow

Address:

Date:

22/03/2018