

We strongly oppose any changes to the vegetation management policy.

We farm and graze three adjoining blocks in the North Burnett. The property is forest grazing country prominently blue gum and narrowleaf ironbark with a mix of Moreton Bay ash, bloodwood and apple tree. Our family has owned some of this country since selection (1924), we added a block in 1973 and again in 2001.

Periodically we have employed contractors to do tordoning and timber control. Our country is all freehold and we went through the PMAV process – had our country assessed and locked in. Our country is now covered by a trigger map. We received no notification that this was happening – no one visited the property to inspect. There are neighbouring properties of the same land type that are not covered by any trigger map.

As we are now unable to do timber control and with the recent run of good seasons, regrowth is increasing at a rapid rate. The stocking rate is reducing and feral animals are on the increase.

We believe our country will become worthless in time and it is discriminatory and totally unfair to randomly place trigger maps over certain properties.

Whilst we have always been against broad scale land clearing we believe we should have the right to tordon our country when we see it necessary. We have always respected our environment and recognise the need to keep it foremost.

A & L Gardiner