

SDNRAIDC

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Subject: Land Clearing Submission

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To Queensland Government
Submission re new land clearing laws

It takes a special type of madness for a species to systematically destroy the producers of an essential component of the air it needs for life.

That being said I recognize that land is needed in specific places for industry, accommodation, transportation and farming to list a few important ones.

As a way to stop further reduction of vegetation, I propose some sort of law be introduced which could be called 'THE TREE FOR A TREE' law.

In essence anyone wanting to cut down trees would pay the Government a calculated amount that would cover the cost of planting trees elsewhere to replace the ones cut down. (Old growth should not be touched.)

Queensland has a huge and growing salinity problem. The "Tree For A Tree" solution could solve 2 problems. It would give the government funds to halt the salt degradation thus saving trees in that area from further destruction, plus it would replace the trees land owners want to clear to use their land for other purposes.

The salinity problem is killing millions of hectares of oxygen-producing CO2 absorbing vegetation, but it can be fixed.

To do nothing means we are losing trees in two ways, one from clearing and one from saline degradation.

For information on how it can be done, every decision maker should become familiar with the work of Peter Andrews. His book "Back From The Brink" covers the problem in chapters 2, 9 and 10. He explains the causes of the salt problem and offers solutions. He has the runs on the board and should be listened to. His former property, "Tarwyn Park" is strong evidence that he knows what he is talking about when it comes to land management in Australia. More about him can be seen in a documentary shown by the ABC in its FOUR CORNERS program. It was first shown about 2005 to wide acclaim and has had several follow up programs.

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