

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.

The impacts to the business coming in the form of everyday maintainance and running of the business.

the fact that you need to get a permit to clear a new fenceline put in a pipeline to provide necessary water to livestock.

these servely impact the business due to the delay in been able to put them in while waiting for the long process of applying for a permit.

The same goes for putting in acess roads to control pests and fire breaks so that large areas of country are not burnt when it is bush fire season or when there are electrical storms that start fires.

If the business losses feed due to fire because you can put in fire breaks and help to reduce the area burnt then there a loss of production that affects not only our profitability but also the amount of food produced to feed Australiaians and the world.

Again if you can't put in fire breaks the risk to neighbouring properties is huge as not only will the fire affect one property but has the potential to affect up to 10

Businesses and again affect the profitability of these business and also the amount of food produced for the country.

Signed:

F Wheeler

Address:

Date:

21/03/2018