

THE IMPACT AT  
"WALHALLOW"  
OF THE  
VEGETATION  
MANAGEMENT ACT

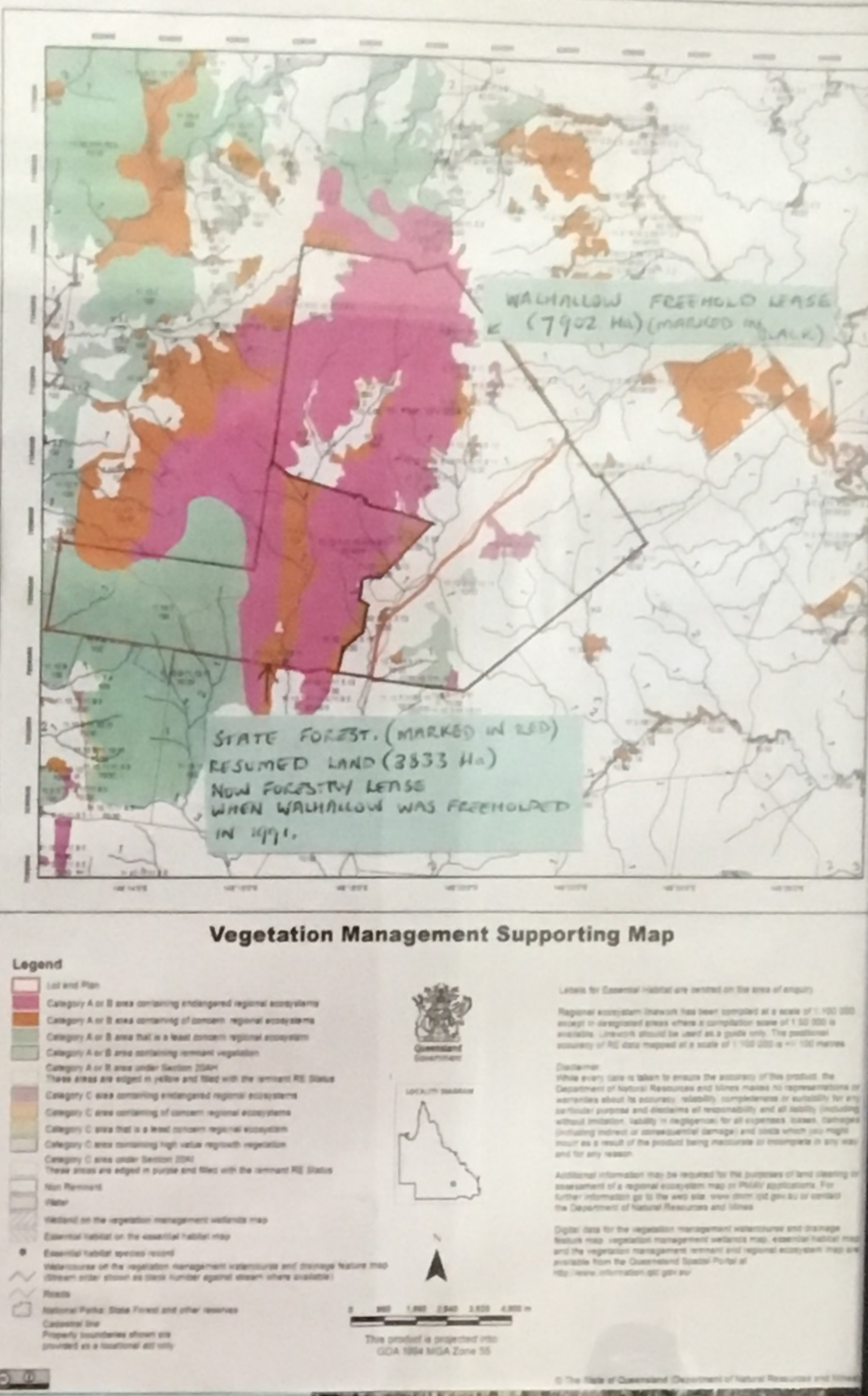
We are Peter & Sue Joliffe & we own the property, "Walhallow". It is our livelihood, our home, our life. We raised our 3 children there & have been through good seasons as well as droughts, fires & floods & we love it. "Walhallow" is situated 42 km North of Ambly. It is 11 735 ha comprising of 3833 ha Forestry Lease & 7902 ha of Freehold Lease in mostly undulating country which has a variety of soils & it is always stocked sensibly. Peter has lived & worked there for 41 yrs. The purpose of our presentation is to illustrate the adverse impact that the Vegetation Management Act has had on us, as it has for many other farmers & consequently the local communities/ towns as well as the Qld economy.

Our property was first settled in 1937 by Peter's Grandfather, Mort Hamilton. The land was mostly open country with scattered trees. There was no permanent water until he put in 10 watering points, 6 of which were permanent. We have put in another 32 watering points since buying the property which allows all the native animals & birds in the area & our livestock to use all year round. On seeing the problems Mort had with Govt Depts we decided to Freehold it for sound management practices. Mort had the Lands Dept wanting him to improve the land yet Forestry Dept wanted him to leave all Cyprus pine seedlings that were invading his improved pasture. In the process of Freeholding, The Forestry Dept decided to resume 1/3 of "Walhallow" and we have a 50yr lease in which we are supposed to be able to graze, however we have found it no longer viable. The other 2/3 of the place was converted to Freehold & we paid unimproved value of the land & bought the commercial timber. This process took 19yrs. Within 9yrs of it being a Freehold tenure, the Beattie Govt had brought in the Vegetation Management Act, which meant 1/2 of the freehold land was shaded, making it illegal to improve our land to its full potential.

The photos we've taken show the substantial thickening of vegetation on our land since people settled here. The coloured areas on the supporting Vegetation Management map are where it is most prevalent that the trees are choking out the grasses leaving bare earth, where no animals could survive, making it virtually waste land. We only have a 600mm average rainfall, which in most years only waters the trees. There is not enough precipitation to grow any volume of grass as well.

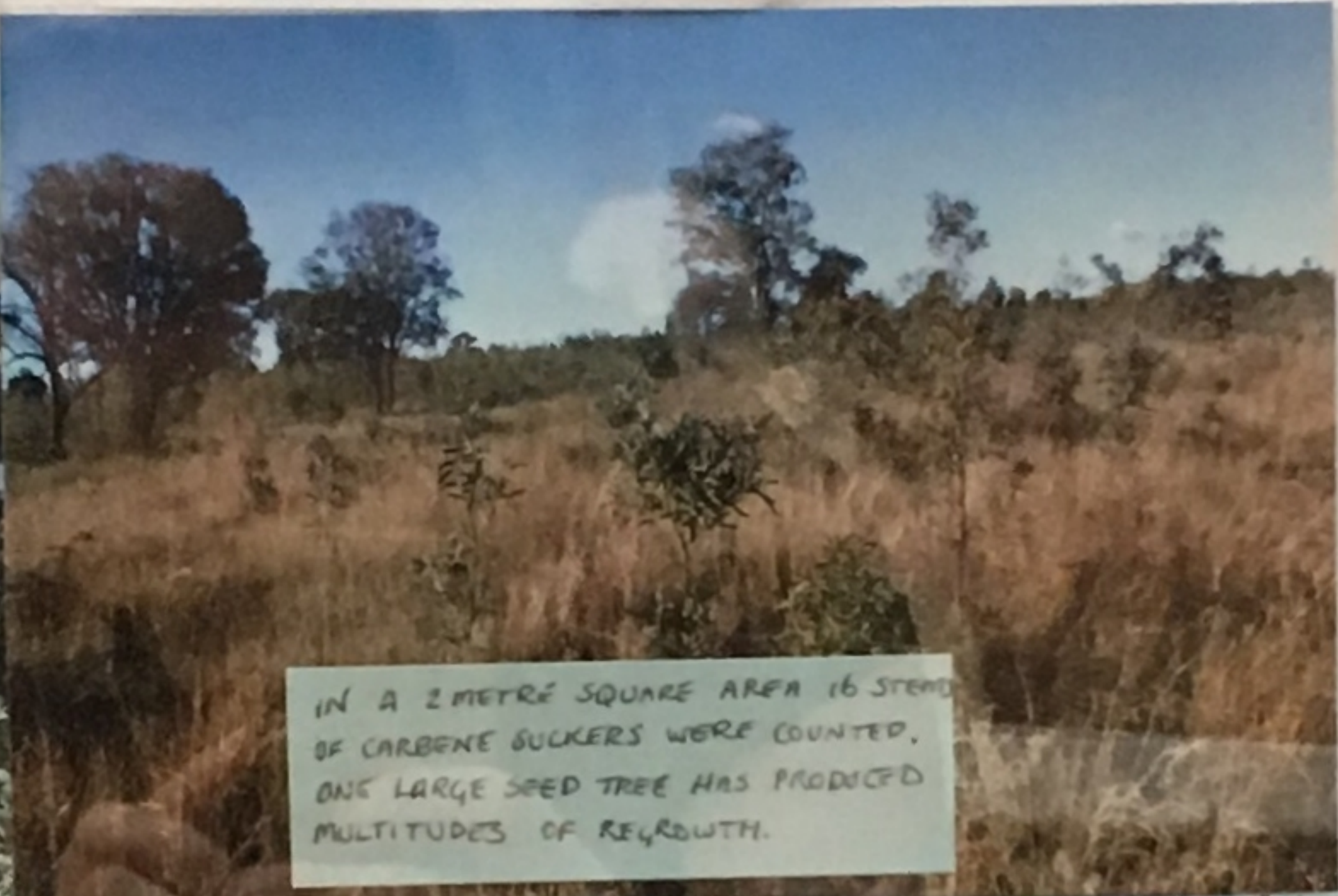
Mort had to repeatedly clear what was potentially the best grazing land for 34 years, yet there were more trees when he sold it to Peter then when he first settled. We also have been continually improving the pastures since then to keep it productive, in order to graze cattle (produce beef/food) for an ever increasing population. We also notice that all our neighbouring properties have the same regrowth problem, as do many areas around Qld.

The Vegetation Management Act will continue to have an adverse impact on Queensland's capacity to grow food for the future, for generations to come. The majority of farmers are passionate about their land. They clear it in order to improve the pastures & keep it valuable, useful & productive.



TO ENABLE US TO BE PRODUCTIVE THIS PARTICULAR Paddock IN LOAMY SOIL HAS BEEN PULLED, BURNED, FERTILIZED, PULLED WITH DOZER, PULLED AGAIN, STICKERED BURNED JUST 5 YEARS AGO.

THIS IS THE REGROWTH ON IT TODAY!

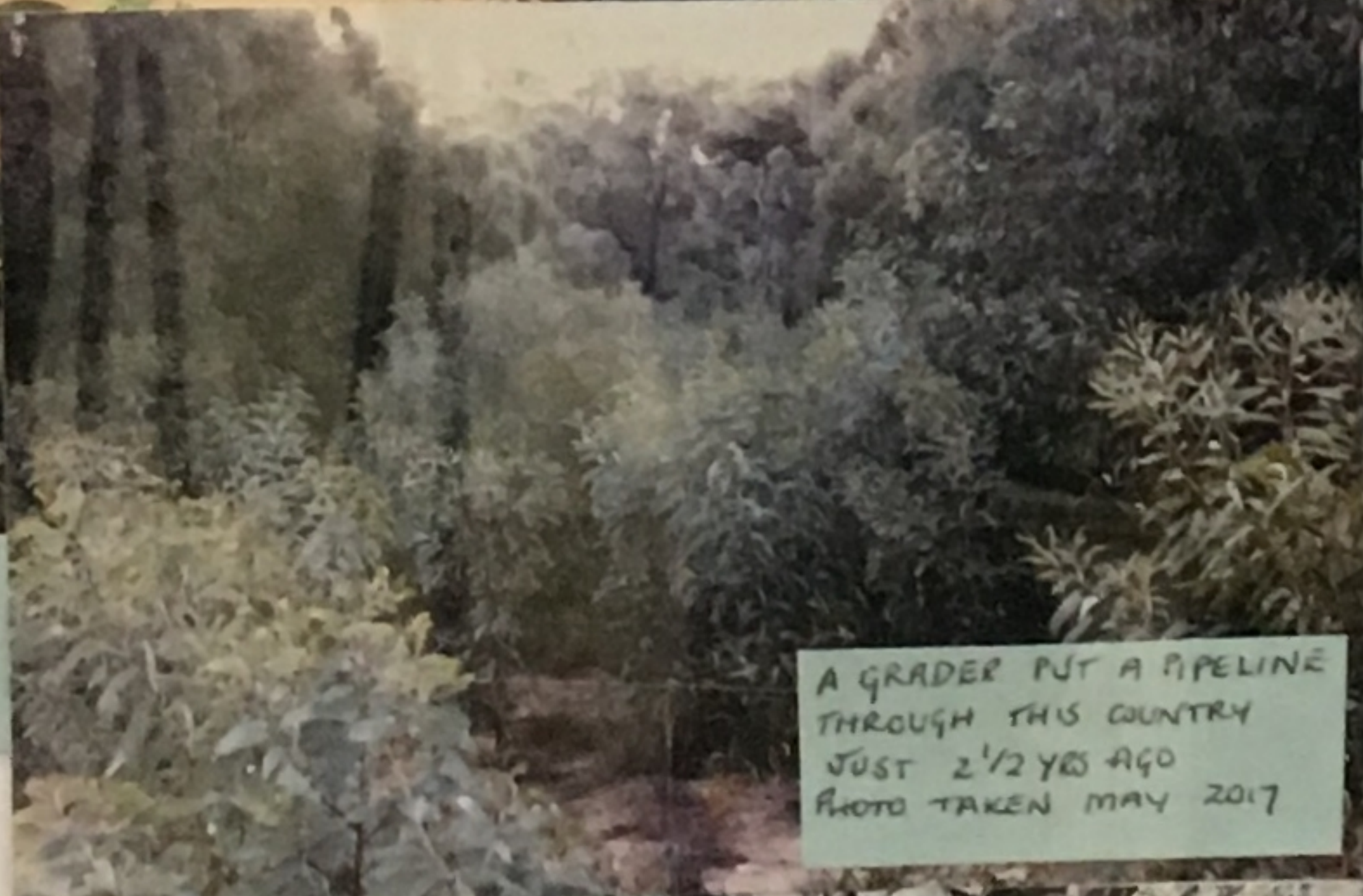


IN A 2 METRE SQUARE AREA 16 STEPS OF CARBONE BULKERS WERE COUNTED, ONE LARGE DEED TREE HAS PRODUCED MULTITUDES OF REGROWTH.

THE THICKENING OF NATIVE VEGETATION HAS CHOKED OUT ALL GRASSES IN THIS Paddock. IN THIS COUNTRY IT WILL GROW ABUNDANT VOLUME OF GRASS IF WE COULD KEEP TREES OFF IT.



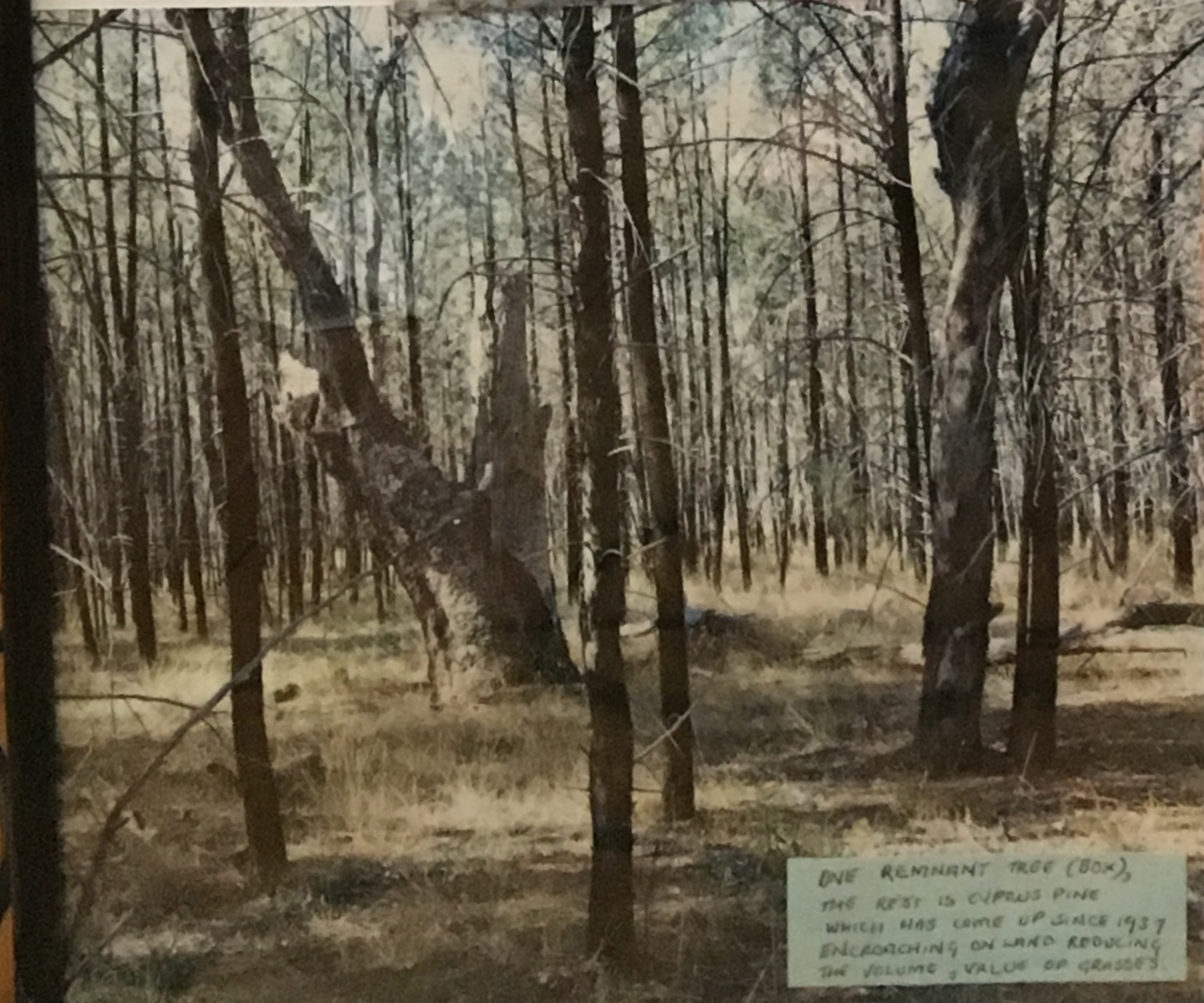
IN 3 YRS THIS VEGETATION (MOSTLY BLACK WATTLE) WAS GROWN UP ON WHAT WAS A CLEARED TANK SITE



A GRADER CUT A PIPELINE THROUGH THIS COUNTRY JUST 2 1/2 YRS AGO PHOTO TAKEN MAY 2017



THIS PIPELINE WAS CLEARED 2 1/2 YRS PRIOR TO THIS PHOTO BEING TAKEN.



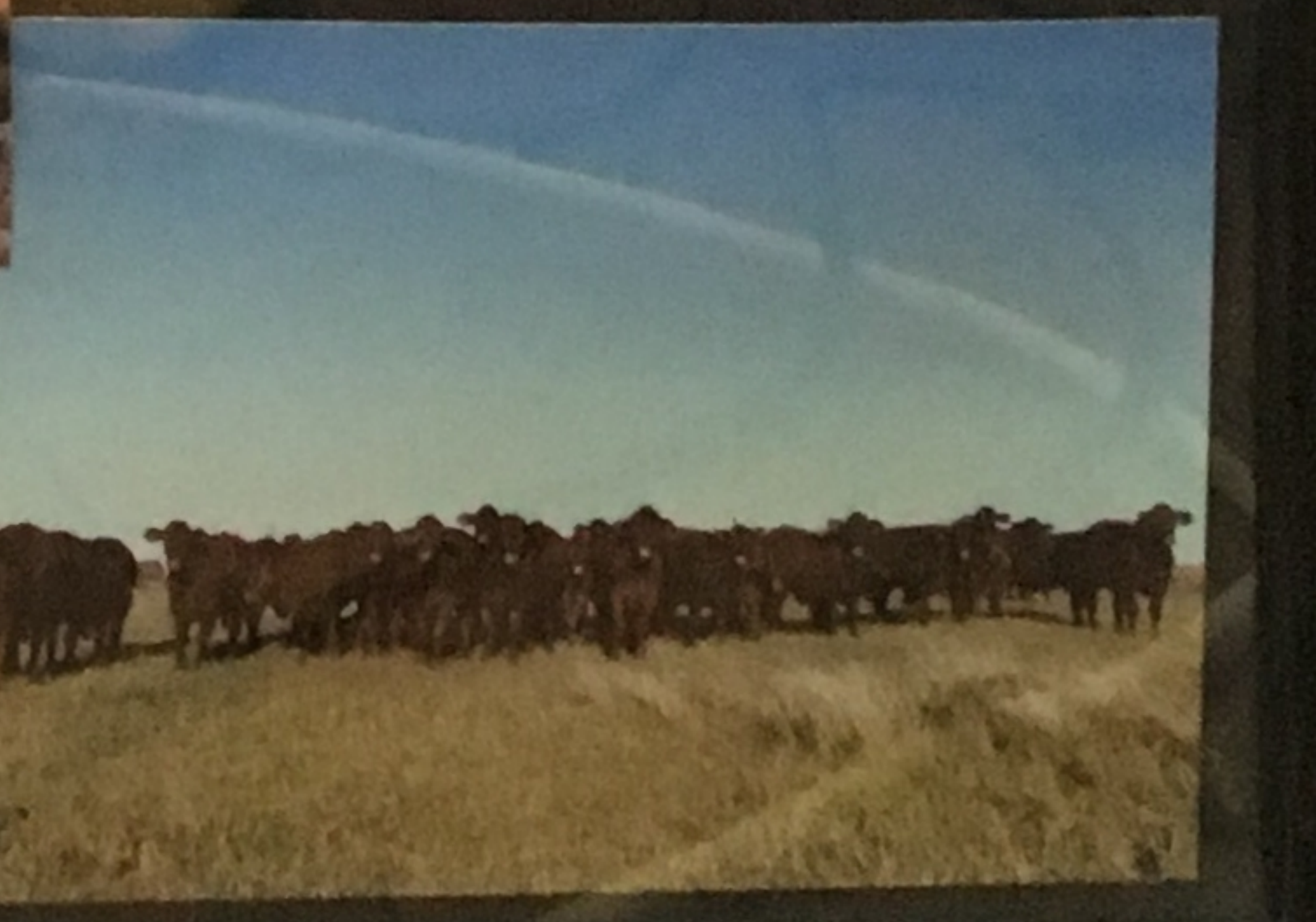
ONE REMINANT TREE (BOX), THE REST IS CYPRUS PINE WHICH HAS COME UP SINCE 1937 ENLARGING ON LAND REDUCING THE VOLUME & VALUE OF GRASSES



CATTLE IN FORESTRY LEASE OCT 2014, RELYING ON MUCH SUPPLEMENT FEEDING INCLUDING MOLASSES LICKERS & BEACHPORT MINERALS IN TROUGH

AT THIS TIME THERE WERE 22 COWS & 1 BULL IN THE Paddock WHICH HAS AN AREA OF 1800 HECTARES

SANTA STEERS AV. AGE 19 MTHS AV. KG 440 KG AV. BMD \$16248 RUNNING ON OUR IMPROVED COUNTRY MAY 2017



WHY HAS TREE CLEARING ON AGRICULTURAL LAND BECOME ILLEGAL ???