

Name: Dan Moran

Position: Cattle Grazier – Owner/Manager

Summary:

This submission addresses the impact of Native Vegetation Laws and subsequent diminution of land asset values of our property [redacted] Central Queensland.

[redacted] have been locked up under the Vegetation Management Act, equating to a loss of approximately \$100,000 in income per year.

On present values, this decreases the value of the property by approximately \$1million.

In these timbered areas there is a complete loss of grazing ability where no grass grows because of thickening of these timbers. The paddocks on [redacted] have been designed with shade shelters and conservation corridors.

Government legislation makes it impossible to continue to develop our property as sustainably as we have in the past. This legislation has a significant impact on the environment because of extra pressure put on grazing land which isn't affected, to make up for loss of income elsewhere.

Background:

Dan Moran grew up and worked on family properties in Southern Queensland. In 1973 he entered a Queensland Government Land Ballot for Brigalow blocks in Central Queensland and was successful in drawing a 10,660 hectare block which he & his wife named [redacted]. They have raised a family of 3 children and now their son and his wife and young family are continuing the hard work of the never ending development of the property which had minimal infrastructure when it was acquired as a ballot block almost 37 years ago.

Submission

History:

When these land ballot blocks were drawn, the Queensland Government had set conditions that the property owner had do a certain amount of development each year for the first 7 years.

Residing on the block, clearing timber, erecting fences and establishing waters were these conditions.

The main emphasis was on clearing timber but there were no guidelines on how it was to be done.

Departmental officers regularly came out to check on our progress and to see that we were abiding by the rules. If these conditions weren't met, the ballot block could be forfeited.

We consider ourselves to be conservative in protecting our environment for future generations, as is the case with most landholders. It seems we are the ones being penalized for the minority of landholders who are overgrazing and over clearing.

We are on Freehold Tenure which means we own the trees but with the Queensland Native Vegetation Laws we have lost our rights to manage our property viably for future generations.

Conclusion

The present Vegetation Management Laws make it impossible to manage our property viably the way we have in the past and for future generations to carry on on the land. It certainly gives them nothing to look forward to in the future.

Government needs to get out and look at the people who are desecrating the land and penalize them and reward the ones who are taking good care of it for future generations.