

Removal of tree clearing restrictions is ill-advised. Look what happened in Queensland when restrictions were eased - the clearing rate blew out to 300,000 ha/year. There is ample evidence that self-regulation does not work, and leads to land degradation, threatens habitat, destroys biodiversity and tree clearing in the Fitzroy and Burdekin catchments has led to runoff from grazing land being the greatest polluter of the southern GBR. This is directly relevant to NSW because the same silt runoff clogs waterways and downstream habitat, leading to river health suffering. For example, the world has three times as much fishing fleet capacity as fish, so some industries such as grazing just cannot be left to the market, to self-regulation.