

Good News !!

3rd May, the Queensland Parliament passed deforestation laws restoring pre-Premier Campbell Newman protections which his government took away. In some places the new laws provide more protection to regenerating forest.

A Queensland government estimate is that current emissions from land clearing are 45 Mt / annum, equivalent to *roughly* 1/3rd (or a bit under) of Australia's domestic coal-fired power emissions.

Not to mention the 45 million native animals killed each year, damage to rivers, The Reef and other impacts.

Some loopholes will still permit some clearing but the expectation is that it will reduce substantially, particularly in relation to the most mature forest and bushland where the laws are strongest. In annual emission terms his development is akin to shutting down 1-2 Hazelwood scale coal plants.

Responding to Wilderness Society advocacy, the Queensland Government had also committed at the last election to a \$500m Land Restoration Fund for biodiversity and climate outcomes via landholder regeneration projects. Hopefully further carbon drawdown benefits from that too.