

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Native Title](#)  
**CC:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Proposed Changes to Native Title Act  
**Date:** Thursday, 10 July 2025 7:41:40 AM

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To Whom it may concern,

I oppose the introduction of an impact-based assessment model under the Native Title Act, as proposed in Question 14 of the discussion paper.

Indeed I propose that the ALRC should be reviewing the Native Title Act with a view to limiting further impacts and removal of rights of pastoral lease holders rather than continuing the political & legal creep of what Native Title confers on Title Holders at the expense of the people managing and caring for the county.

We have operated a pastoral lease in the Northern Territory since before the enactment of the Native Title Act.

I clearly remember the original preamble of the Act stating that Pastoral leases would extinguish Native Title.

That didn't last long.

We willingly entered into native title determinations and settled on it.

I thought we had a deal??

Despite never seeing a "native title holder" for our property either before or since the introduction of the Act you are now suggesting that the people who have managed and cared for this land for the last 40 years should be applying to people who have no connection or interest in the land, except that determined by your law, to carry out the most basic and intrinsic needs of running a pastoral operation in the NT.

Furthermore it would mean having to deal through the bureaucracies of the Land Council and the government to get anything approved. Neither of these bodies have any history or prospect of performing these tasks in a timely or productive manner.

Your proposed changes will only benefit the bureaucracy and legal fraternity and cause even more detriment to pastoral operations.

The proposed changes would significantly impact routine activities like clearing for pasture improvement, currently covered by a notice and comment process. This would introduce huge delays and uncertainty and does not reflect the scale or context of pastoral operations in northern Australia.

The existing legislation already provides sufficient oversight and protections.

I support the Northern Territory Cattlemen's Association's submission and urge the Australian Law Reform Commission to reject this proposed model.

**Tom Stockwell**

**Sunday Creek Station**

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