

Hon Bill Byrne MP Minister for Agriculture and Fisheries and Minister for Rural Economic Development

Reference: CTS 31790/16

- 3 JAN 2017

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Mr Neil Laurie
The Clerk of the Parliament
Queensland Parliamentary Services
Parliament House
George Street
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Dear Mr Laurie

Thank you for your letter of 2 December 2016 about enclosing a copy of Petition No. 2671-16 lodged in the Queensland Legislative Assembly on 30 November 2016 regarding urgent action against Navua sedge.

Navua sedge is an insidious weed threat to grazing land productivity. The Department of Agriculture and Fisheries has previously undertaken research trials to support Navua sedge control.

The Queensland Government recognises the potential serious regional impact of Navua sedge on livestock grazing systems. We will work with the Tablelands Regional Council and others towards a Navua sedge management program. The prevention of its further spread is a long-term strategy that needs commitment from government, at all levels, industry and the community. The department recently reaffirmed its commitment to collaborate with the council and regional stakeholders to develop a project proposal to seek funding from industry and the Federal Government for research to support integrated Navua sedge management. The department also recognises the regional support from a variety of local governments and regional parties and will commit funding towards a Navua sedge initiative conditional on matching funding from the local government in the area and from industry sources being available.

I also wish to advise that the ongoing allocations to Navua sedge control on state-controlled roads is a matter for the Honourable Mark Bailey MP, Minister for Main Roads, Road Safety and Ports and Minister for Energy, Biofuels and Water Supply.

If you require any further information regarding this matter, please contact my office on telephone 07,3719,7560.

Yours sincerely

The Honourable Anthony Lynham MP

Acting Minister for Agriculture and Fisheries and Acting Minister for Rural Economic Development