BOB KATTER

Katter's Australian Party
Federal Member for Kennedy

MEDIA RELEASE



8 August 2019

Katter applauds feds for fronting up Prickly Acacia funds

BOB Katter, KAP Leader and Federal Member for Kennedy has applauded the Federal Government for announcing an additional \$5 million to deal with the Prickly Acacia infestation and is urging the Government to release the funds through the Department of Agriculture directly to two natural resource groups positioned on the ground in western Queensland; Southern Gulf NRM and Desert Channels.

Mr Katter welcomed the Prime Minister's announcement in Townsville, commending the Government for looking after the best interests of North Queenslanders and the environment and pursuing with the Prickly Acacia funding despite the State Government reneging on their promised \$5 million.

Mr Katter said, "We have made continuous representations since there was agreement between the Queensland ALP Government and the Federal Government prior to the election on eradication of Prickly Acacia.

"We had meetings as late as last week before Parliament broke up with the Minister for Agriculture and the Deputy Prime Minister.

"We will be writing a letter again today to the Department of Agriculture urging that the funding is handed over to experienced local bodies such as Southern Gulf Catchments and Desert Channels who are already accredited to receive federal funding, are experienced and well established to administer quality control of Prickly Acacia.

"We want to thank the Federal Government for their input but once again we curse the Premier and the Deputy Premier for being the most incompetent, ignorant Queensland Government in history.

"They agreed to fund the control of Prickly Acacia before the federal election. After the federal election they said they are not doing it and I don't think they have any intention of funding it.

"The Prickly Acacia has been described as shaping up to be the worst environmental apocalypse in Australian industry and it would be getting close to the rabbit plagues, but then again, wild pigs would be as well.

"The Prickly Acacia loses its leaves for most of the year. All that is left is a thorn bush which provides little or no nutritional value and so it destroys all flora and fauna in the regions that it is growing – over a million hectares.

"The Queensland Government continues to do untold damage to the tourism and agriculture industry especially with their constant carping about dangers to the Great Barrier Reef which justifies them torturing every poor farmer in North Queensland.



BOB KATTER

Katter's Australian Party

Federal Member for Kennedy

MEDIA RELEASE



"This region, known as the black soil plains of the mid-west, was once described as the best natural grasslands in Australia. Now it is a Prickly Acacia wasteland."

-ENDS-

