

Natural Resources Commission

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Submission regarding the management of the Brigalow & Nandewar
Conservation areas.

While not having read any of the drafts which might exist regarding this subject, I am of the opinion that these areas should not be closed to activities that some sections of the community consider harmful. I own land joining a National Park, some of my land has reverted to what people would like to think is its natural state. The times when I am in this area it is obvious that no surface fauna inhabit this area, reptiles & insects, maybe, apart from that the only activity is the occasional currawong taking a short rest from its travels in the treetops. Even the macropods travelling from the Park to the developed country nearby avoid this area, preferring to make their tracks around it, even though this is a longer journey.

Recently, an information day was held in the district to protest about the opening of the Maule's Creek mine & an environmental expert spoke deploring the purchase of "set-off" country to facilitate the mine, his opinion being that what was purchased was in no way replacing what was being cleared: pine growing country replacing grassy box woodland. While the Pilliga Scrub was closed to logging as a trade-off for mining in the Leard Forest, my experience of the Pilliga is of expanses of pine & I see no reason for unrealistic blanket protection of this sort of country.

A J Hallman,

