

Jacquie Tracey

From:
Sent: Wednesday, 23 July 2014 11:56 AM
To: Jacquie Tracey

Dear Jacquie,

I write in support to the proposed scheme to create an industry involving the thinning of White Cypress Pine in the Pilliga Forest.

The Thinning of White Cypress Pine in the Pilliga Forest.

My name is David Johnston. I was born in 1928 and have lived in close association with this Forest all my life, and have had evidence of its character, through my wife's grandfather as far back as 1880\90 period. He lived with his Parents Shepherding sheep at the Alloes in those years.

My wife's father was a pioneer Saw miller in the Pilliga (Jack Underwood) For the best part of my life I have been a practicing Ornithologist. In 2001 I produced the Bird Brochure The Bird Routes of Baradine and the Pilliga. Since I have instigated the formation of the Local bird club The Pilliga Forest Bird Watchers. I am a critical observer of the environment, and its management in the Pilliga Forest I bitterly opposed Bob Carrs determination to "protect " half of the Pilliga through the formation of National parks etc. This was not on grounds of finance, because I knew that the district would rise above this problem, as they have had to do on numerous times in the past .I was aware that the virtual closing down of the timber industry, would eventually destroy large portions of the Pilliga as a Forest. The royalties from the sale of Pine logs was financing the thinning of whipstick pine. The thinning of this pine was creating forest out of useless scrub.

The Forest that attracted Bob Carr and his Green partners (at this stage) was forest that had been formed by the thinning of Cypress Pine into a grassy woodland, by the action of State Forests. To destroy the Timber industry was to virtually kill the Goose that laid the golden egg. We had a rare example of man and nature both being beneficiary of the same management Policy.

To create an industry that would reintroduce the thinning of Cypress Pine, is to not only restore the Economy, but to restore the environment to the forest. It has nothing but plusses to offer this district, and the Forest. Such a move would necessarily need to cover all portions of the Forest apart from Nature Reserves. The presence of both major stake holders in Baradine in the form of The National Parks and Wild Life, and Forest Corporation would make such a move relatively simple.

I would like to offer my enthusiastic support to the creation of such an industry. I believe the government should see an obligation to aid this action in every way possible

Yours Faithfully David M Johnston