

SUBMISSION

Active and Adaptive Cypress Management in the Brigalow and Nandewar State Conservation Areas

I strongly oppose any logging in the above areas as the purpose of State Conservation Areas is to protect and conserve representative ecosystems, landforms, natural phenomena or places of cultural significance.

The Western Regional Assessment included a scientific study plus consultation with all stakeholders and resulted in protection of some lands including Brigalow and Nandewar State Conservation Areas, some National Parks and Aboriginal Areas. Other areas were retained for logging, firewood collection and grazing. The State paid \$51 million in 2005 for these areas to be protected. Now we are faced with a proposal to give logging and grazing rights away again. What sort of governance is this?

The science used to justify thinning is strongly disputed and it is obvious to all that the machinery that would be used in thinning work would cause extensive damage to non target natural vegetation, soil compaction and erosion. There is no evidence that thinning, grazing or firewood harvesting would provide ecological benefits or maintain conservation values.

The proposal to allow thinning and grazing in the above conservation areas is politically motivated, likely to be illegal and should not have been initiated by a supposedly independent government department.

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