

From:
To: [NRC](#)
Subject: Submission on The NRC's draft report: active and adaptive cypress management in the Brigalow and Nandewar state conservation areas.
Date: Saturday, 9 August 2014 1:46:17 PM

Please accept this as a submission on The Natural Resources Commission's draft report: active and adaptive cypress management in the Brigalow and Nandewar state conservation areas.

I strongly oppose the draft report's recommendations that logging operations be permitted in the Brigalow and Nandewar State Conservation Areas, and that the timber be sold to commercial sawmills, for the following reasons:

- State conservation areas have been set aside to protect and conserve significant or representative ecosystems, landforms, natural phenomena, or places of cultural significance and I am concerned that the recommendations set a dangerous precedent for commercial exploitation of these areas.
- When the Brigalow and Nandewar conservation areas were declared in 2005, the timber and logging industry received a multi-million dollar pay-out as compensation. To open these areas for logging now isn't just bad for nature, it is double dipping on an asset already paid for by NSW taxpayers.
- Unsurprisingly the four priority areas targeted for the commercial logging trial are the largest conservation areas and contain the best stands of mature white cypress. Commercial logging should not be allowed in these areas as they are high in biodiversity, supporting large populations of threatened woodland fauna and flora. Dense cypress pine stands provide the cover needed for plant species such as orchids and heat refuges for animals, such as the 15,000 koalas reported to be in the area.
- The federal government identified Brigalow State Conservation Area as one of Australia's 15 national biodiversity hotspots. It is vital that this area is protected.
- The draft report fails to credibly establish the scientific need for ecological thinning of white cypress pine.

Regards,
Jennifer Brewer