

From: [John Bennett](#)
To: [NRC](#)
Cc:
Subject: The Brigalow and Nandewar Conservation Areas.
Date: Thursday, 31 July 2014 9:46:42 AM

To: Natural Resources Commission

July 31 2014

RE: Recommendations to allow commercial thinning in the Brigalow and Nandewar Conservation Areas.

To whom it may concern

Australia and NSW does not have a good record in the last 200 years or so of managing its natural resources prudently. I believe that this is because as a relatively 'new' country with no sense of its ancient past. We live for the present and with no regard for the future, especially biodiversity (at all levels), a rich inheritance and one vital for the basic eco-processes that allow life to flourish, is under great pressure.

Our current system of reserves and protected areas is a significant step in the right direction to protect what we have been losing. The 1996 State of the Environment report estimated that since 1788 over 40% of forests, 75% of rainforests and almost 90% of temperate woodlands and mallee has been cleared. I do not know the current estimates.

For the life of me I have no idea why the NRC would contemplate, let alone, recommend ecological thinning (logging) in conservation areas. It is not as if vast fortunes are to be made, but what it does do is:

1. set a dangerous precedent.
2. the NSW taxpayers have already forked out a large sum to the logging/timber interests in return for the protection of these areas.
3. The area has been identified as a rare biodiversity hotspot.

Please reconsider this dangerous present you are setting.

Yours faithfully,
John Bennett