

Our Reference: WRB:WRB  
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The Commissioner  
Natural Resources Commission  
GPO Box 4206  
**SYDNEY NSW 2001**

7 August 2014

Via Email: [nrc@nrc.nsw.gov.au](mailto:nrc@nrc.nsw.gov.au)

Dear Sir/Madam,

**Re: Draft Report Submission on Active and Adaptive Cyprus Management in the Brigalow and Nandewar State Conservation Areas**

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Narrabri Shire Council has considered the Draft Report Submission on Active and Adaptive Cyprus Management in the Brigalow and Nandewar State Conservation Areas and would like to offer the following points:

- Council endorses the options outlined in the paper for active management intervention
- Council favours the conservation areas being re-designated as State Forest
- Council notes that a review (and potentially funding) is required of the supporting infrastructure (e.g. bridges and roads) that will provide access for the proposed interventions

In addition to the above dot points Council would like to acknowledge the economic benefits and employment (both direct and indirect) that would be created through the re-opening of the State Forestry within Narrabri Shire. A positive economic and population boost would be given to the towns of Gwabegar and Pilliga with the advent of the forestry industry re-opening in the area.

In conjunction with the economic benefit that is stimulated with increased forestry activity, a parallel and equally important aspect of active management of an area is enhanced environmental outcomes. By initiating ecological thinning, grazing and pest management, positive outcomes will include the maintenance and expansion of ground cover, regeneration of trees and native flora and fauna that will ultimately reduce bush fire risks.

It is envisaged that with an increase in heavy vehicle movements a condition assessment report be undertaken to assess road and bridge infrastructure within the vicinity. This could also include the main destination routes trucks will take to distribute their timber.

It should also be acknowledged that the proposed Melbourne Brisbane Inland Rail route runs just to the south of Gwabegar and close to proposed re-designated State Forest areas and will provide new track connections between Melbourne, Brisbane and inland New South Wales. The Inland Rail Implementation Group has acknowledged the importance of Narrabri Shire in this nation building programme by stating the following:

*"Inland Rail builds on the strength of Narrabri as a key regional transport and service centre, supporting a region full of primary producers in the heart of the rich Namoi Valley."*

Council thanks you for this opportunity to provide a submission in relation to the Active and Adaptive Cyprus Management in the Brigalow and Nandewar State Conservation Areas.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Diane Hood', written in a cursive style.

*per*

Diane Hood  
**GENERAL MANAGER**