

**From:**  
**To:** [NRC](#)  
**Subject:** Commercial logging in National Parks  
**Date:** Wednesday, 23 July 2014 6:22:38 PM

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Dear Sir / Madam,

### **Submission**

I am very concerned that the Natural Resources Commission (NRC) in its draft report recommends that logging operations be permitted in the Brigalow and Nandewar State Conservation Areas, and that the timber be sold to commercial sawmills. These Conservation Areas need protection, not logging.

To use the term 'ecological thinning' of trees is just a whitewash for 'logging', and there is little enough White Cypress Pine left in NSW. To add to that 'grazing' in the Conservation Areas is to ensure that the area will be degraded. These moves would set a dangerous precedent for commercial exploitation of areas of conservation.

To have made such recommendations by a so called independent organisation smacks of political interference.

We, the taxpayers of NSW paid \$51 million in restructuring relief in 2005 for these areas as a way of compensation for the loss of areas now protected from logging and grazing. It is therefore highly likely that commercial logging is illegal. I find it inexplicable that the NRC is now recommending changes to law to make it possible. Laws should be environmental good laws, not profit based. This means profits are driving change to conservation law.

Experts tell us that the alleged benefits of ecological thinning are very questionable. The scientific "evidence" used to justify the practice is hotly disputed.

Dr Peggy Goldsmith