

Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission to the Natural Resources Commission's assessment of "active and adaptive management of cypress forests in Brigalow and Nandewar State Conservation Areas (Zone 3 of the Brigalow and Nandewar Community Conservation Area).

Firstly I would like to state that I have a concern with the definition of "active and adaptive management" in the terms of reference, I feel this could have different meanings to different users of the forests. This needs to be clearly defined for the purpose of this review.

As a new resident to the town of Baradine, I look forward to any proposal that could bring long term stability to the region, but I moved to the area based on its conservation areas, and abundant bird and wildlife. The two priorities need to be carefully considered.

I'm concerned that local news is reporting that this is a "new lease of life" on the region's timber industry, with quotes in the local papers saying that mills will have access to more viable timber, one quote being "We want to take the bigger saw-log quality trees and leave the medium and small trees to grow bigger" which after reading the rather lengthy report I came away with the impression that only new smaller growth timber was being looked at in the "active and adaptive management". I think a clear and decisive conclusion needs to be given as I personally am not sure what this means.

Also the idea of using timber to generate electricity within the region should be given some further merit, as the fires in the Warrumbungles severing the electricity to the town of Baradine. With no alternative the concept of local generation would make sense, if it meets environment and economic standards. More innovative ideas like this need to be forthcoming on reuse of the forest resources, not enough thought is being done.

I feel that this study hasn't taken the economic and significant environmental impacts on forestry, of the proposed coal seam gas field developments in the region. I think further study on the impacted regions should be undertaken with any management changes to the forest.

Given my reservations on some aspects of this report, I support the key recommendations outlined.

Troy Rosenberg