

Twynam Agricultural Group Pty Limited
ACN 000 573 213 ABN 12 000 573 213

Mr David Wright
Executive Director
Twynam Agricultural Group
Level 10 17-19 Bridge Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

26th March 2010

Cypress Forest Assessment
Natural Resource Commission
GPO Box 4206
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Re: Summary of Available Information and Call for Submissions: Regional Forest Assessment South Western Cypress State Forest

Twynam Pastoral Company Pty Ltd (Twynam), a member of the Twynam Agricultural Group, are holders of an Occupation Permit (No: 13713) for the purpose of grazing the Wilbertroy State Forest, Forbes New South Wales.

The permit has been held since 1st October 1982.

The permit applies over an area of 1,294 hectares of the Wilbertroy State Forest.

This area has been grazed by cattle for a period of two to three months commencing March of each year. The extent of the grazing is dependant upon the prevailing seasonal conditions.

It is a condition of this permit that Twynam effectively eradicates all plants that are declared noxious and also takes effective steps to control rabbits, wild dogs, dingoes, pigs, foxes and other noxious animals. Twynam are also required to take every reasonable precaution to prevent damage by fire.

An annual permit fee of \$3,247 is paid to Forests NSW providing an economic value to the state government.

The value of the grazing is minimal as the quality of vegetation grazed is poor.

The availability of stock water throughout the permit area is restricted to rainfilled depressions and two shallow dams. Twynam have installed at it's own expense, a water tank and a stock trough which is an extension to the property stock water system to improve the utilisation of the natural vegetation within the forest.

The economic and environmental benefit to Twynam and the local community, of this management arrangement, derives from the on site management of bushfire load, response to bushfire events, feral animal control and weed control.

Should the current management arrangements be rescinded and control be placed with entities located more distant from the Wilbertroy Forest it would be reasonable to presume that response time to bushfire incidents and the level of management of feral animals and noxious weeds would decline. The result would be an increased economic

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burden with spikes of activity and costs to local property owners and the community generally.

The interests and impacts on local landholders and communities should be considered in the mix of factors leading to a decision on how Cypress State Forests are managed in the future.

It is the view of Twynam that there is both economic, environmental and social benefit in managing these resources locally and the current grazing permit system be maintained.

Regards,



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Executive Director

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