

Submission to the Regional Forest Assessment for the South-Western Cypress State Forests

The towns of Narrandera and Condobolin have over 50 people employed within the timber industry alone. A lot of these employees have young families and are paying off a mortgage so they have a secure environment for their children. If there is any cut backs in the forest industry and jobs are lost it will be devastating for these towns that are battling due to the drought and the financial crisis and due to government bodies “decentralising” to bigger cities that are mostly on the coast. Any reduction in the forest industry would be devastating to towns such as Narrandera and Condobolin, as it has been to the towns with industry involved with the river red gums in the south and the cypress from the Brigalow.

If there are cut backs other business and social groups would also be affected not only in Narrandera and Condobolin but also surrounding towns.

I am sure if the equivalent jobs were lost in the larger centres especially Sydney there would be a lot of noise made.

I also note that Grants Holdings Co Pty Limited have a 20 year Wood Supply Agreement with the NSW State Forests and the NSW State Government for the supply of White Cypress and wonder what the outcome will be in regard to that.

Yours truly

Wayne Mathieson