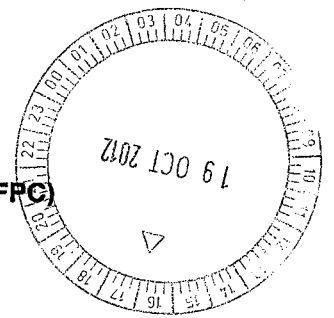


**Submission For Petition No. 152 – Forest Products Commission (FPC)**



We write to support the submission calling for an investigation into the FPC's management of the Sandalwood industry.

At Edjudina Station we have a number of concerns regarding FPC and sandalwood policy.

We have a very long term view of the pastoral industry and see it as a sustainable industry that can support families on the land for generations to come. As such we are required to manage the rangeland that we graze. Sandalwood is currently excluded from our management. Pastoral leaseholders are in the ideal position to manage sandalwood as we are resident on the rangelands.

Currently the pastoralist is excluded from any involvement with sandalwood management. This raises issues with disputes with FPC the current manager with issues such as consultation and use of station assets by FPC without any contribution and camping on the station by FPC contractors. Clear felling policy and pulling sandalwood around watering points (a high stress area) where the chance of regrowth is small, causes many stressful moments for pastoralists, the rangeland manager.

This raises the question why shouldn't the pastoralist who is resident on the land, be responsible for the management of the sandalwood resource on his pastoral lease. His reward for proper management would be to reap the benefit of sandalwood sales. The Department of Environment and Conservation is ideally equipped to be the governing body overseeing this. This would ensure that the resource is managed correctly.

We also have concerns about the marketing and sales of sandalwood by FPC. We cannot understand how black market sandalwood is sold at a much higher price than what FPC achieves. There should not be such a disparity in pricing. Is our sandalwood resource being sold too cheap? If this is so why?

It is our belief that a total overhaul of sandalwood harvesting, marketing and sales is necessary.

The role of the pastoralist in sandalwood management must be addressed.

The right time to do this is now with changes being implemented in 2016.

Yours Sincerely

Bart Jones  
Edjudina Station

**PUBLIC**