



**Dr Ted Christie  
has been  
involved in the  
climate change discussion  
since the early 1980s**

(i) On graduating from University, the formative period for Ted's professional career development, was the 11 years spent in research and extension with the Department of Primary Industries in Queensland's pastoral zone. Initially, based at Blackall in western Queensland - and then as a Foundation Member of the Charleville Pastoral Laboratory, SW Queensland.

For the latter period of this appointment, as a **Senior Scientist**, Ted completed four years of field research into ecosystem processes in **C<sub>3</sub>** and **C<sub>4</sub>** semiarid grasslands in South-West Queensland: Two natural grasslands - one of which, the Mitchell (*Astrebla spp.*) grasslands is the most extensive in Northern Australia; and one, an introduced grassland (Buffel grass, *Cenchrus ciliaris*) in SW Queensland. This formed the framework for a net primary production model and livestock carrying capacity for semi-arid grasslands.

All this research was published in international, refereed journals.



**RESEARCH FOCUS: Ecosystem Processes**

**Net Primary Production (above-ground green biomass) rates;**

**NPP (below-ground) root production & turnover rates;**

**litter production & decomposition rates;**

**mineral cycling and soil water balance**

**Land condition class, rainfall, NPP & sustainable land use:**

***Elements that are now recognized as the key for carbon sequestration.***



(ii) Whilst an **Associate Professor (Applied Ecology)** at Griffith University, Brisbane Australia, Ted was an invited contributor to an international Workshop, convened by Professor Bert Bolin, on Climate Change - “**SCOPE 21**”- held at Stockholm, Sweden in 1981.

SCOPE is an interdisciplinary body of natural science expertise which addresses constraints of society on the environment as well as the human response to environmental issues:

*Scientific Committee on Problems of the Environment - “SCOPE 21”- The Major Biogeochemical Cycles [C, N, P, and S] Cycles: Major Reservoirs and Fluxes] and Their Interactions’: Stockholm, Sweden*

**RESEARCH FOCUS: The goals of the SCOPE 21 Workshop were to provide an up-to-date critical review of the existing knowledge of biogeochemical cycles and their interactions; which then provided the framework to consider their implications for many scenarios in the context of increasing CO<sub>2</sub> levels and climate change.**

(iii) On becoming admitted to professional legal practice as a **Barrister (“Trial Lawyer”)** specializing in environmental law in 1988, Ted published some of the earliest articles in international law journals on science and

regulatory control of carbon dioxide emissions to address climate change; and also, legal liability related to professional negligence for advice related to sea level rise and climate change given by coastal town planners and environmental professionals:

• ***The Greenhouse Gases and Environmental Law; and***

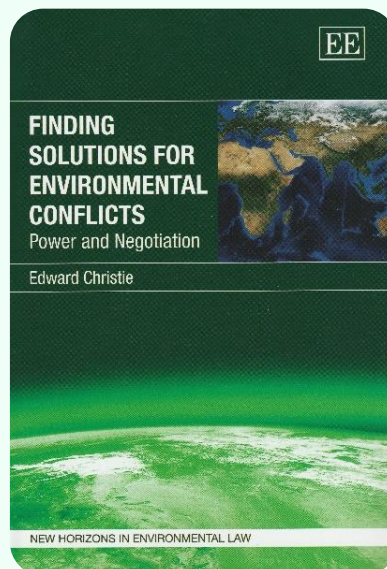


- ***Legal Implications of the Greenhouse Effect for Coastal Engineers and Town Planners***

(iv) Following the publication of the first cross-disciplinary book (*Science/Law/Conflict Resolution-Negotiation*) on [environmental dispute resolution](#) in 2008, for which Ted was the sole author, Ted has posted a series of articles on his web site – 40 at this stage - on global climate change issues.

***The web site's focus in posting all these articles has been to outline problem-solving pathways for taking real action for climate change; and how can sustainable solutions for moving to a low carbon economy be found?***

***The linkage between the climate treaty obligations of emissions reduction, the CBDR principle, equity and sustainable development, is the cornerstone for ensuring the central aim and the long-term temperature goals for the Paris Agreement to be achieved.***



**Ted's web site,**

**[www.environment-adr.com](http://www.environment-adr.com), is licensed under a**

***Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivs 3.0 Unported licence.***

***(Article posted 06 May 2019)***