



About Dr Ted Christie

Environmental interests: -

- ✓ ***dispute resolution***
- ✓ ***environmental law***
- ✓ ***relevant, reliable science***

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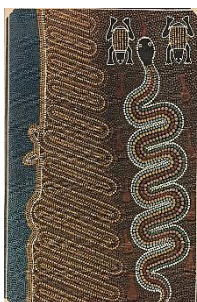
Ted links the concepts and principles from these environmental interests to a cross-disciplinary, problem-solving approach to conflict resolution in order to find viable sustainable solutions for environmental and land use conflicts; conflicts where divergent expert scientific opinion and scientific uncertainty prevails.

Apart from his legal qualifications,

Ted Christie has a *B.Agr.Sc (Qld)*, a *M.Agr.Sc (Qld)* and a *Ph.D (Macquarie)*

TED'S PROFESSIONAL LEGAL PRACTICE was acquired from practice as a Barrister and Mediator, the Environmental Member (and Presiding Member) of the Commonwealth Administrative Appeals Tribunal. As a Commissioner on the Commonwealth Government's Shoalwater Bay Commission of Inquiry, and as Principal Adviser to the Queensland Government's Fraser Island Commission of Inquiry Chairman, Tony Fitzgerald QC – where finding a sustainable solution was the Inquiry's focus of each Commission of Inquiry.

➤ *The central issue of the Federal Government's Shoalwater Bay Commission of Inquiry was co-existence between the existing land uses for the 454,000ha Military Training Area used for national and international air/land/sea training defence exercises - and proposed land uses e.g., mineral sand mining developments of sand dunes; Traditional land rights of the Darumbal people.*



➤ *The Commission of Inquiry's Findings for the Indigenous Values and Land Use Term of Reference were that "The Military Training Area was part of the Traditional lands of the Darumbal Aboriginal people whose dispossession in the late 19th early 20th centuries was brutal, ferocious, and comprehensive. Against all odds, the descendants of the Darumbal people have maintained core cultural knowledge and interest in their Traditional lands and the important archaeological sites which they contain...*

➤ *The Commission of Inquiry's Recommendation to the Federal Government was for the Darumbal Aboriginal people to be granted freehold title to that part of the Military Training Area as set out in their submission to the Inquiry - including conditions to promote co-existence between Traditional and Military land use.*

➤ *The central issue of the State Government's Fraser Island Commission of Inquiry was a proposal to list the world's largest sand island and its outstanding universal natural values for World Heritage Listing and its co-existence with logging, the primary land use.*

DR CHRISTIE'S PROFESSIONAL CAREER CHANGED OVER TIME: *From field ecological research and extension in the semiarid pastoral zone of western Queensland, with the State Government over a 11-year period, based in Blackall and the Charleville Pastoral Laboratory as a Senior Scientist; to academe as an Associate Professor (Applied Ecology) in the Faculty of Environmental Sciences, Griffith University, Queensland; then in professional legal practice as a Barrister and Mediator. This career development was the foundation for recognizing environmental problem-solving required a cross-disciplinary approach.*

- *Dr Ted Christie was awarded a Centenary Medal "for long and distinguished voluntary services to the community related to education and the law". The Centenary Medal commemorates Australia's 100 years of federation and recognizes those who contributed to Australian society or government.*

- *Ted is a past USA Fulbright Professional Scholar (Awarded as a practising Lawyer).*
- *Ted's detailed ecological field research into net primary production and mineral cycling of C₃ and C₄ natural grassland communities are cornerstones for understanding the role of natural ecosystems in carbon sequestration and GHG mitigation in Australia.*

- *Ted was an invited contributor to a United Nations Environment Program SCOPE Climate Change Workshop that focussed on Ecosystem Processes and Natural Resources - convened by (the Late) Professor Bert Bolin - held in Stockholm, Sweden.*

- *Ted introduced and taught two new Griffith University courses: Environmental Law (Faculty of Law) and Environmental Dispute Resolution (Environmental Sciences).*

- *Ted was a Member of the CSIRO Wildlife and Ecology Research Advisory Committee for a four-year period. Later Ted was a Member, then Chair of the CSIRO Meat, Dairy and Aquaculture Sector Research Advisory Committee for four years: Eleven CSIRO divisions operated in this Sector, with a comprehensive research capacity and strong links with major collaborators: the State governments, the Commonwealth Department of Primary Industry and Energy, and several CRCs (Co-operative Research Centres).*

- *Ted is the author of the first cross-disciplinary book – Law (Australia-UK-USA) /Science/Negotiation – on environmental dispute resolution: "Finding Solutions for Environmental Conflicts: Power and Negotiation" (Edward Elgar Publ., UK, 2008).*

- *During his tenure at Griffith University, Ted proposed, planned, and convened an International Training Course: "Desertification and Management of Arid and Semiarid Grazing Lands" for the Australian Development Assistance Bureau as part of Australia's Foreign Aid program. Twenty-four delegates from Lesotho, Swaziland, Malawi, Kenya, Ghana, Nigeria, Sudan, Ethiopia, Egypt, India, Mexico, and Brazil, participated.*

Ted's professional career and interests in sustainability commenced whilst living and employed in the semiarid rangelands of Australia's pastoral zone – over a 11-year period encompassing prolonged drought and “good seasons”- as illustrated in the following photos of his natural grassland research sites In Australia's pastoral zone.



Mitchell grasslands in Central-Western Queensland, Australia, and resilience:

- (i) Response to Disturbance - prolonged drought/grazing pressure, 1965 -1972;***
- (ii) Recovery from Disturbance - end of drought following summer rainfall 1973-74***