



## 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 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.*

- *The central issue of the Shoalwater Bay Commission of Inquiry was co-existence between the existing land use: A 454,000ha Military Training Area used for national and international air/land/sea training defence exercises - and proposed mineral sand mining developments of sand dunes along the Training Area's coastline.*
- *The central issue of the 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.*
- *Finding a sustainable solution was a focus of each 12-month Inquiry.*

*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 made a contribution 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 C<sub>3</sub> and C<sub>4</sub> 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 and later a Member, then Chair of the CSIRO Meat, Dairy and Aquaculture Sector Advisory Committee for four years.*
- *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.*



*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*