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Murchison WA 6630

Committee Secretary  
Senate Environment , Communications, Technology and the Arts References  
Committee  
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Parliament House  
Canberra ACT 2600  
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I put this submission on behalf of Murchison District Committee of PGA  
and as a neighboring Lessee to CALM land

### Submission

Conservation and Land Management (CALM ) had in its original charter , to acquire 15% of the rangelands to put into the nature estate , and for that 15% to be representative of the land systems across the rangelands . I ask this committee to question as to how that figure of 15% was derived ~~at~~ . Was it through detailed mapping and scientific research or was it a figure plucked from the air to appease certain groups or International Agreements .

In 1998 the Gascoyne Murchison Strategy (GMS) was formed , and from the \$ 45 million Strategy CALM had access to over \$15 million to acquire land and today have acquired some 29 pastoral properties and other land parcels representing 5.5million ha of the rangelands .

In the GMS , (CALM stated they would actively manage the lands they acquired ),

To me actively manage means occupation of the homesteads and putting in place ongoing funds and resources to maintain that infrastructure .

Sadly I have seen instances where homesteads and infrastructure have been bulldozed and occupation is now not an option .

There is a willingness in CALM to preserve Aboriginal culture and sights of significance , however to date at least , there is a distinct~~ed~~ lack of interest in preserving European culture .The Homesteads, Sheds ,Yards , Wells ect that CALM have inherited should also be maintained as part of our Australian Heritage for future generations .

As a Pastoral Lessee I am answerable to the Pastoral Lands Board and responsible for pest and weeds on my pastoral lease , on a resent inspection I located a declared plant in the form of cactus , I duly remove and destroy the plant .

I submit photo A of a cactus plant on CALM land adjacent to what was a Homestead that has been bulldozed some 5 years ago , of particular interest are the young plants circled , the accompanying photos are of the outbuildings that structurally are still in good condition .

Without due attention one can only imagine what might happen to this declared plant .

CALM has a social and economic responsibility to maintain its people and its infrastructure in rural and remote Western Australia and should change its policy from land acquisition to properly maintaining the acquisition it has .

I would like to thank the committee for their~~re~~ time and in taking my submission .

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