

Accepted development vegetation clearing code

Managing fodder harvesting

Effective 22 November 2023

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Table of contents

Glossary	3
1 Introduction	6
1.1 Purpose	6
1.2 Scope	7
1.3 Objective	7
1.4 Commencement date.....	8
1.5 Assistance.....	8
2 Notification requirements	8
2.1 Notification process	9
2.2 Notification limitations	9
3 Compliance requirements	10
4 Fodder harvesting practices	10
4.1 Limitations	11
4.2 Selective harvesting.....	12
4.3 Strip harvesting and block harvesting	12
4.3.1 Strip harvesting	12
4.3.2 Block harvesting.....	14
4.4 Soil and water quality protection	15
4.5 Exchange areas	15
Appendix 1—Regional ecosystems within which fodder harvesting may occur	17
Appendix 2—Other relevant legislation	18
Appendix 3 – Exchange area requirements	20

Landholders are encouraged to familiarise themselves with the Acts and regulations relevant to their operations, and to seek advice from the relevant agency if required.

Glossary

The following table of technical terms and their definitions are essential to understanding this accepted development code (code). Any terms used in this code not included in the below Glossary table have the meaning provided for in the [Vegetation Management Act 1999](#)¹.

Term	Definition
Block harvesting	Is fodder harvesting in blocks or clumps (block harvest areas) while retaining undisturbed areas of vegetation (block retention areas) on all sides of the block harvest area.
Block harvest area	Is the block or clump where block harvesting is undertaken.
Block retention area	Is an undisturbed area of vegetation required to be retained on all sides of a block harvest area when undertaking block harvesting.
Dedicated road	See section 93 of the Land Act 1994 . <u>Note:</u> This includes roads declared as a stock route.
Defining bank	Is the bank that confines the seasonal flows, but which may be inundated by flooding from time to time, and can be either: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the bank or terrace that confines the water before the point of flooding or where there is no bank, the seasonal high water line that represents the point of flooding.
Impact area	Is the total area to be cleared in a category C area or category R area that requires an exchange area to be legally secured under section 4.5 of this code.
Landholder	Is (where relevant): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the registered proprietor of freehold land a lessee of freehold land, subject to the consent of the freehold owner to make a notification a lessee of a lease under the Land Act 1994 provided the clearing is consistent with the purposes of the lease a sub-lessee of a lease under the Land Act 1994 subject to the consent of the lessee to make a notification and provided the clearing is consistent with the purposes of the lease a licensee or permittee under the Land Act 1994 provided the clearing is consistent with the conditions of the licence or permit the holder of the title or tenure to the land.
Mechanical clearing	Is the clearing of vegetation using any of the following methods: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Slashing Brush cutting Machinery which disturbs the soil surface or uproots woody vegetation

¹ A list of terms defined in the [Vegetation Management Act 1999](#) is available in the General guide to the vegetation clearing codes: Accepted development vegetation clearing codes. The general guide is available online at www.qld.gov.au (search 'General guide to the vegetation clearing codes').

Term	Definition
Recognised best practice methods	Is a method recognised by a State or Federal government agency to prevent increased soil erosion and instability, stabilise soil erosion and instability and prevent increased sediment run-off. This includes a guide such as the Soil Conservation Guidelines for Queensland (3rd edition) , a fact sheet or other advice published or provided by a State or Federal government agency.
Retained area	Is a block retention area or a strip retention area.
Salinity expression area	Is an area containing <u>more than one</u> of the following salinity indicators: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plant species tolerant of saline conditions, shallow water tables or poor drainage (waterlogging)² • Wet areas in lower parts of the landscape or bare soil (soil scalding) • Dieback of larger trees in low, wetter parts of the landscape (outside drought conditions or the effects of fire) • Salt accumulations on the surface (often white and powdery, sometimes crystalline) • Areas of shallow groundwater³
Seasonal high water line	Is a zone that represents the usual peak seasonal flow level, identifiable by deposition, debris or characteristic vegetation zonation.
Selective harvesting	Is the felling of individual fodder trees using a chainsaw, or selectively pushing individual fodder trees using a tractor or dozer.
Self-audit	Is an assessment made either by the landholder, a person who cleared under the code on behalf of the landholder, or a third party to evaluate whether the clearing is consistent with this code, using the department's self-audit form for Managing Fodder Harvesting, which is available at www.qld.gov.au (search 'self-audit form').
Soil erosion and instability	Is the occurrence of gully erosion greater than 30 centimetres in depth, landslips, a scarp, soil scalding or stream bank slumping.
Strip harvesting	Is fodder harvesting in strips (strip harvest areas), while retaining undisturbed areas of vegetation (strip retention areas) on both sides of a strip harvest area.
Strip harvest areas	Is a strip where strip harvesting is undertaken.
Strip retention area	Is an undisturbed area of vegetation required to be retained on all sides of a strip harvest area when undertaking strip harvesting.
Superseded code	Is the 'Managing fodder harvesting' (effective 21 June 2019) accepted development vegetation clearing code.

² For example—*Melaleuca* spp. (in particular *Melaleuca bracteata* and *Melaleuca quinquenervia*), *Sporobolus* spp. (in particular saltwater or marine couch), *Salsola kali* (soft roly-poly), *Sclerolaena* spp. (in particular prickly roly-poly), *Cyperus* spp. (sedges), *Juncus* spp. (rushes), *Atriplex* spp. (saltbushes), *Halosarcia* spp. (samphires), *Chloris* spp. (Rhodes grasses), *Cynodon dactylon* (common couch), *Enchylaena tomentosa* (ruby saltbush), *Sesuvium portulacastrum* (purslane), *Tecticornia* species (samphires), *Phragmites* spp.

³ A water table less than five metres from the surface would generally be considered as shallow for this purpose. One mechanism to identify this is from a nearby bore.

Term	Definition
Threatening process	<p>Is a process that includes but is not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • fragmentation • climate change • weather events • weed and pest (animal and plant) infestations • fire • disease • land degradation (e.g. erosion, acid sulfate soil or salinity issues) • predation.
Weed ⁴	<p>Is any of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restricted or prohibited matter declared under the Biosecurity Act 2014 • A non-native plant • A “Native and naturalised” plant that is not native to the bioregion.

⁴ The Census of the Queensland Flora and Fungi, which is updated annually by the Queensland Herbarium, identifies plants considered “Native in Queensland”, or “Native and naturalised” for particular bioregions in Queensland. The Census will include non-native plants as either: “Formerly naturalised”, “Doubtfully naturalised” or “Naturalised in Queensland”. Plants that are “Native and naturalised” for particular bioregions in Queensland, are non-native for the remaining bioregions. Further information can be found on the Queensland Government website at www.qld.gov.au (search for ‘flora and fungi census’).

1 Introduction

The [Vegetation Management Act 1999](#) (the Vegetation Management Act), in conjunction with the [Planning Act 2016](#) (the Planning Act) and subordinate legislation, regulates the harvesting of remnant vegetation and regulated regrowth vegetation where necessary to provide fodder for stock. This code, which was made by the Minister on 5 September 2023 (effective 22 November 2023) in accordance with Section 19O of the Vegetation Management Act and the State Policy for Vegetation Management⁵, is approved as an accepted development vegetation clearing code under Section 3 of the [Vegetation Management Regulation 2023](#).

Fodder harvesting conducted in accordance with this code is accepted development under schedule 7, part 3, section 12 of the [Planning Regulation 2017](#).

Note: Other legislation may also affect fodder harvesting activities. Before you notify the Department of Resources of your intention to harvest fodder under this code, it is strongly recommended that you contact the relevant agencies listed in [Appendix 2](#) to determine whether your proposed fodder harvesting activity is allowable under other local, state and federal laws.

1.1 Purpose

The purpose of this code is to regulate clearing of remnant vegetation (category B areas) and regulated regrowth vegetation (category C areas and category R areas) for fodder harvesting purposes in accordance with practices designed to meet the objectives outlined in [section 1.3](#). If fodder harvesting does not comply with all of the requirements of this code, it is classified as either assessable or prohibited development under the Planning Act and may be subject to the relevant offence provisions⁶.

Note: All sections of this code are mandatory and to ensure you are compliant with this code, you must satisfy the requirements in all sections.

⁵ The State Policy for Vegetation Management is available at www.qld.gov.au (search 'state policy for vegetation management')

⁶ The Department of Resources uses satellite imagery to monitor compliance with vegetation management legislation.

1.2 Scope

This code applies to fodder harvesting in category B areas, category C areas and category R areas only⁷.

This code authorises fodder harvesting on land that is situated in any of the following local government areas—Balonne, Barcaldine, Barcoo, Blackall Tambo, Bulloo, Diamantina, Goondiwindi, Longreach, Maranoa, Murweh, Paroo, Quilpie, Western Downs, Winton, and is any of the following:

- Freehold land
- Indigenous land
- State-owned leasehold land granted for agricultural or grazing purposes under the [Land Act 1994](#) (the Land Act).

This code does not apply to any of the following:

- fodder harvesting in category B areas, category C areas or category R areas on:
 - dedicated roads
 - state-owned leasehold land granted under the Land Act for purposes other than agriculture or grazing
 - other state land tenures such as a state lease, licence, permit to occupy, trustee lease or trustee permit issued under the [Land Act 1994](#)
- fodder harvesting that is inconsistent with a condition of a development approval under the Planning Act that remains enforceable.

Note: The lopping of fodder species, where the removal of tree branches does not result in the death of the tree, is not regulated by the Vegetation Management Act and may be undertaken without approval under the vegetation management framework.

1.3 Objective

The objective of this code is that fodder harvesting achieves the following environmental outcomes:

- Sustainably manages fodder resources
- Provides necessary fodder for stock only
- Conserves regional ecosystems within areas harvested for fodder
- Prevents land degradation
- Maintains the remnant status of the vegetation

⁷ Any areas cleared for fodder harvesting under this code will remain mapped the same vegetation category area on the regulated vegetation management map.

- Maintains bank stability, water quality and habitat of wetland, watercourse and drainage features
- Conserves essential habitat
- Conserves endangered regional ecosystems.

1.4 Commencement date

This code became effective on 22 November 2023, replacing the following superseded code:

- *Managing fodder harvesting* (effective 21 June 2019)

Notifications made under the superseded code continue to be valid and allow you to clear in accordance with the superseded code.

Note: If you notified under the superseded code, you do not need to re-notify unless you want to do additional clearing to that already notified, or the notification has expired. However, for all notifications made from 22 November 2023, clearing must be undertaken in accordance with the requirements of this code.

1.5 Assistance

Queensland Government staff are available to help you understand your obligations, so if, after reading this code, you have questions or want to make sure you're doing the right thing, contact the Department of Resources by calling 135 VEG (135 834) or emailing vegetation@resources.qld.gov.au.

2 Notification requirements

Before any fodder harvesting is undertaken under this code, the Department of Resources must be notified of your intended activity by either of the following:

1. the landholder⁸
or
2. a third party.

Note: If you are a third party making a notification over someone else's land, you need landholder's consent to enter, access and undertake fodder harvesting on their land.

⁸ This includes a person authorised to notify on the landholder's behalf, such as someone who holds a power of attorney.

2.1 Notification process

1. If your intended fodder harvesting requires legally securing an exchange area in accordance with [section 4.5](#), before notifying, you must first legally secure the exchange area.
2. Complete the online or hard copy notification form, which requires that you provide certain information, including:
 - a. contact details
 - b. the lot on plan on which the activity is proposed
 - c. the tenure of the property (i.e. whether freehold, leasehold, or other)
 - d. information that clearly identifies the location of the intended clearing.
3. Lodge the completed form with the Department of Resources.
4. Receive confirmation of your notification from the Department of Resources before commencing fodder harvesting.

Note: If you are notifying online, you should receive an email within 10 minutes that confirms receipt of your notification.

2.2 Notification limitations

1. A notification is limited to a single lot. Each notification is limited to 500 hectares, including both harvested and retained areas.
2. A notification remains in effect for two years from the date the Department of Resources issues confirmation of your notification⁹.
3. If your property consists of multiple lots, you may lodge a notification for each lot.

For example: Your property is comprised of two lots, and both lots have regional ecosystems in which fodder harvesting can occur. It is possible to notify the department that you intend to fodder harvest on each lot, up to a maximum of 500 hectares (including both harvested and retained areas) on each lot.

4. You may make a subsequent notification for fodder harvesting. However, before lodging the notification, you must undertake a self-audit to ensure that the fodder harvesting already undertaken has satisfied the code requirements. If the results of the self-audit indicate that

⁹ Notifications do not transfer on title. If you have recently purchased the property and intend to undertake fodder harvesting activities in remnant vegetation or regulated regrowth vegetation, you must first notify the Department of Resources.

your fodder harvesting is consistent with practices in this code, you may renotify. Otherwise, you should contact the Department of Resources.

For example: You notified the department of your intention to fodder harvest 75 hectares on 14 April 2024. You fodder harvested the 75 hectares over the months from July to November 2024. You undertook a self-audit, and the results indicate your fodder harvesting was consistent with the code practices. In August 2025 you need to harvest mulga to feed your stock. Because you have undertaken a self-audit, and the results indicate the area fodder harvested satisfies the code, you can notify the Department of Resources of your intention to fodder harvest another area of your lot.

3 Compliance requirements

To comply with this code, you must do all of the following:

1. Notify the Department of Resources in accordance with the notification requirements (see [section 2](#)).
2. Conduct your fodder harvesting in accordance with all of the practices (see [section 4](#)).
3. Keep all of the following records, and make these records available to the Department of Resources upon request:
 - a. Appropriate records detailing the progress and effectiveness of all exchange area works and management actions, if relevant.
 - b. if you have contracted another person to undertake the harvesting on your behalf:
 - i. contractor details (name, address, contact details)
 - ii. instructions to contractors, detailing location, date, time and species.
4. Keep all self-audit results, where relevant, and make them available to the Department of Resources upon request.

4 Fodder harvesting practices

When fodder harvesting, all of the following apply:

1. Fodder harvesting is only permitted in areas where both of the following apply:
 - a. least concern regional ecosystems or of concern regional ecosystems listed in [Appendix 1](#) in which fodder species occur; and
 - b. areas where stock are located and have access to sufficient water.
2. Fodder harvesting **must** comply with all of the following:
 - a. Limitations in [section 4.1](#)
 - b. Methods in [section 4.2](#) or [section 4.3](#)

- c. For regional ecosystems listed in Table A1-2 of Appendix 1, only selective harvesting methods are permitted
- d. Soil and water quality protections in [section 4.4](#)
- e. Exchange area requirements in [section 4.5](#), if you are required to secure an exchange area to comply with [section 4.1\(2\)\(a\)](#)

4.1 Limitations

When fodder harvesting, all of the following apply:

1. For each notification, on a single lot, the total of the harvested area and the retained area must not exceed 500 hectares.
2. Fodder harvesting is not permitted in any of the following areas:
 - a. an area of essential habitat, unless the area is a category C area or a category R area and an exchange area is legally secured in accordance with [section 4.5](#)
 - b. a regional ecosystem on land zone 7, unless all other fodder resources have been used.
3. Within any 10-year period, commencing from the date of clearing under a development approval or the expiry date of a notification under an accepted development vegetation clearing code for fodder harvesting or managing thickened vegetation, fodder harvesting must not be undertaken:
 - a. in more than 50 per cent of the area of the regional ecosystem listed in Table A1-1 and Table A1-2 on the lot
 - b. in retained areas.
4. Fodder harvesting must not result in any of the following:
 - a. removal of non-fodder species with a height of 4 metres or more
 - b. wastage of fodder because the rate of harvest exceeds the amount necessary to feed the number of stock on the lot
 - c. raking or otherwise moving harvested vegetation from where it falls except where its removal is required for essential management or routine management¹⁰.
5. Mechanical clearing is not permitted in any of the following areas:
 - a. in an area where slopes are greater than five per cent
 - b. within 50 metres of an area of soil erosion and instability
 - c. inside the defining bank of any wetland, watercourse or drainage feature when undertaking selective harvesting, strip harvesting or block harvesting (see [section 4.2](#) and [section 4.3](#))
 - d. within 20 metres of the defining bank of any wetland, watercourse or drainage feature when undertaking selective harvesting (see [section 4.2](#))

¹⁰ Essential management and routine management is as defined in the [Planning Regulation 2017](#).

- e. within 100 metres of the defining bank of any wetland, watercourse or drainage feature when undertaking strip harvesting (see [section 4.3.1](#)) or block harvesting (see [section 4.3.2](#)).

4.2 Selective harvesting

When selective harvesting, all of the following apply:

1. Where fodder harvesting has previously occurred in an area of a lot, selective harvesting may only occur if all of the following apply:
 - a. Fodder harvesting has not occurred in the area in the last 10 years.
 - b. The average height of the fodder trees is at least 70 per cent of the height of the tallest stands of fodder species in the regional ecosystem.
2. Retain all non-fodder species, except where damage is an unavoidable consequence of harvesting the selected fodder tree.
3. In a least concern regional ecosystem listed in Table A1-1 or A1-2 (see Appendix 1) retain at least one fodder tree for each fodder tree harvested.
4. In an of concern regional ecosystem listed in Table A1-2 (see Appendix 1) retain at least two fodder trees for each fodder tree harvested.
5. Retain the full range of plant sizes and species typical of the regional ecosystem in the area, distributed evenly over the harvested area.

4.3 Strip harvesting and block harvesting

When strip harvesting or block harvesting, all of the following apply:

1. Where fodder harvesting has previously occurred in an area of a lot, harvesting may only occur if all of the following apply:
 - a. The vegetation has not been harvested or cleared in the last 10 years.
 - b. The average height of the fodder trees is at least 70 per cent of the height of the tallest stands of fodder species in the regional ecosystem.
 - c. The fodder trees that were previously harvested have now attained an average height of at least 4 metres.
2. Align strip harvest areas or block harvest areas along the contour, where practical.
3. Harvesting is not permitted in patches of regional ecosystems that are less than 10 hectares in area or less than 500 metres wide.

4.3.1 Strip harvesting

When strip harvesting (see Figure 1 and Figure 2), all of the following apply:

1. A strip harvest area must not exceed 50 metres wide.
2. A strip retention area must:

- a. be preserved along the length of strip harvest areas to a width of at least 1.5 times that of the adjacent strip harvest area (see Table 1)
- b. contain fodder species with an average height of at least 4 metres.

For example: a strip harvest area that is 40 metres wide must be bordered on both sides by strip retention areas that are 60 metres wide.

- 3. Clearing within strip retention areas to provide machinery access between strip harvest areas must not exceed 15 metres in width.

Table 1: Examples of harvest and retained area widths for strip harvesting

Strip harvest area width (metres)	Minimum required width of strip retention area (metres)
5	7.5
10	15
20	30
50	75

Figure 1: Strip harvesting—retained areas and harvest areas

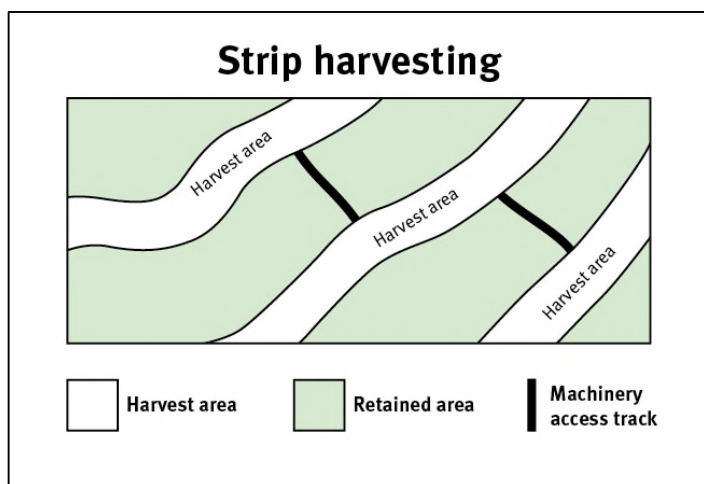
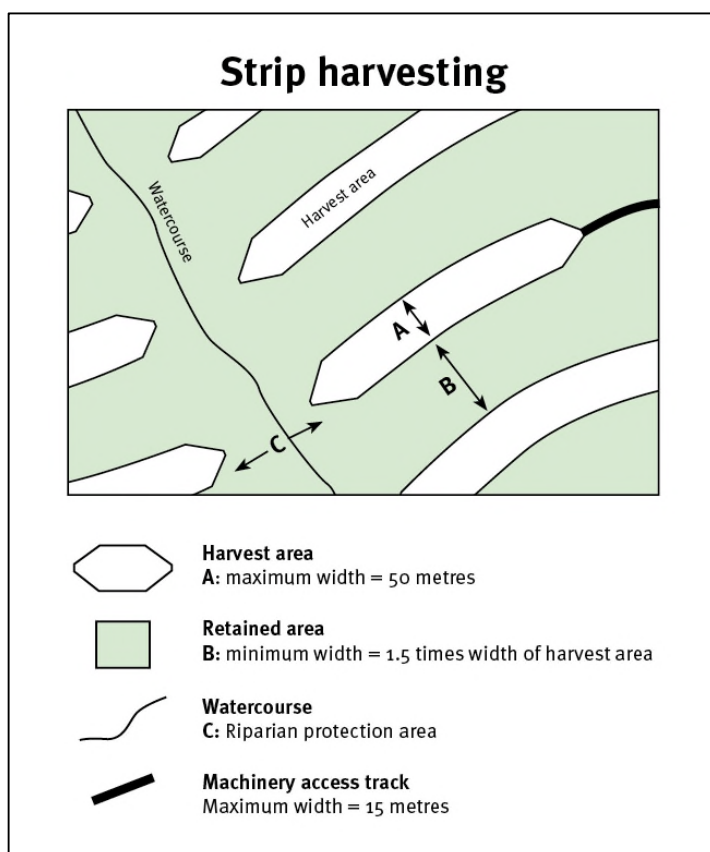


Figure 2: Configuration of harvest areas and retained areas



4.3.2 Block harvesting

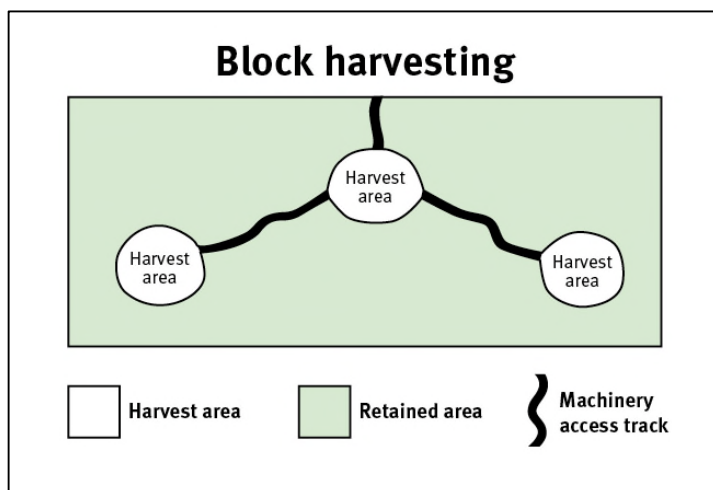
When block harvesting (see Figure 3), all of the following apply:

1. A block harvest area must not exceed one hectare.
2. A block retention area must:
 - a. be preserved between block harvest areas, in accordance with the widths specified in Table 2
 - b. contain fodder species with an average height of at least 4 metres.
3. Clearing within block retention areas to provide machinery access between block harvest areas must not exceed 15 metres in width.

Table 2: Minimum block retention area widths required for block harvesting

Block harvest area	Minimum width of block retention area (metres)
Less than 0.5 ha (approx. 70 m × 70 m)	75
0.5 to 1 ha (100 m × 100 m)	150

Figure 3: Block harvesting—block retention areas and block harvest areas



4.4 Soil and water quality protection

When fodder harvesting or clearing, all of the following apply:

1. Recognised best practice methods must be employed to:
 - a. prevent increased soil erosion and instability resulting from clearing or fodder harvesting
 - b. stabilise soil erosion and instability which has resulted from clearing or fodder harvesting
 - c. prevent increased sediment run-off entering a wetland, watercourse or drainage feature as a result of the clearing or fodder harvesting.
2. Clearing or fodder harvesting must not occur within 100 metres of a salinity expression area.

4.5 Exchange areas

An exchange area must be legally secured where required by [Section 4.1\(2\)\(a\)](#).

Exchange areas must comply with all of the following:

1. The exchange area must be located in a category X area, category C area, category R area, or category B area.
2. The exchange area must contain a predominant woody vegetative layer which is at least two metres in height.
3. The exchange area must be consistent with one of the three options listed in A3-1 (Appendix 3).
4. The exchange area must be legally secured using the relevant mechanism outlined in Table A3-1 (Appendix 3), before commencement of clearing the impact area.
5. The exchange area must be located within the same bioregion as the impact area, or where it is not reasonably possible, located in an adjacent bioregion.
6. The exchange area must be located and configured in a way that ensures it remains in the landscape despite threatening processes.

7. The exchange area must be shown as a category A area on the regulated vegetation management map until the area becomes remnant vegetation and is mapped as a category B area on the regulated vegetation management map.
8. The exchange area must be managed in accordance with a management plan.
9. The management plan¹¹ for the exchange area must include all of the following:
 - a. Property owner's details.
 - b. Description of the area/s the subject of the exchange area, including a map showing the location and extent.
 - c. The management objective, which must be either of the following:
 - i. If the exchange area is located in a category X area, category C area or category R area - to return the exchange area to remnant vegetation (a category B area on the regulated vegetation management map) as soon as possible and within 20 years.
 - ii. If the exchange area is located in a category B area – to achieve the nominated substantial conservation outcome or address the nominated significant land degradation issue as soon as possible.
 - d. Description of the works / management actions that will be undertaken to achieve the management objective, including the methods, timing, frequency, intended benefits etc.
 - e. The conservation outcomes that will be achieved by the works / management actions.
 - f. Description of the management actions that will be undertaken to ensure that the effects of the works do not result in land degradation.
 - g. Details of who is responsible for all works and management actions, and the estimated length of time the area/s will be managed.
 - h. Monitoring and auditing processes including adaptive management approaches to rectify negative results from the monitoring and auditing processes.
 - i. Record keeping process for retaining appropriate records for monitoring and auditing processes.

¹¹ The level of detail required in a management plan will depend on the nature and scale of the activity being undertaken.

Appendix 1—Regional ecosystems within which fodder harvesting may occur

Fodder harvesting under this code is only permitted in the regional ecosystems listed in the following tables grouped according to the fodder harvesting practice that applies. Refer to each of the following tables to determine whether the regional ecosystems in your proposed clearing area may be harvested for fodder and, if so, whether any practice limitations apply.

Table A1–1: Regional ecosystems in which fodder species are dominant—suitable for selective, strip or block harvesting methods

Regional ecosystems suitable for selective, strip or block harvesting methods					
4.5.2	5.5.3	5.7.5	6.5.7	6.5.13	6.6.1
4.5.3	5.5.4	5.7.14	6.5.8	6.5.14	6.7.9
4.5.4	5.5.5	6.3.21	6.5.9	6.5.15	6.7.10
5.5.1	5.5.6	6.5.1	6.5.10	6.5.16	6.7.11
5.5.2	5.6.4	6.5.6	6.5.11	6.5.18	6.7.12

Table A1–2: Regional ecosystems in which fodder species are not dominant—suitable for selective[†] harvesting only

Regional ecosystems limited to selective harvesting methods only				
Least concern regional ecosystems	6.3.16	6.7.6	6.7.15	11.7.2
	6.3.18	6.7.13	6.7.16	11.11.2
	6.7.1	6.7.14	6.7.17	
Of concern regional ecosystems	6.5.2	6.5.3	6.5.17	11.5.13

Note: [†] For a least concern regional ecosystem, at least one fodder tree must be retained for every fodder tree harvested. For an of concern regional ecosystem, a least two fodder trees must be retained for every fodder tree harvested.

Appendix 2—Other relevant legislation

Activity	Legislation	Agency	Contact details
Interference with overland flow Earthworks, significant disturbance	<i>Water Act 2000</i>	Department of Regional Development, Manufacturing and Water (Queensland Government)	Ph: 13 QGOV (13 74 68) www.rdmw.qld.gov.au
Earthworks, significant disturbance	<i>Soil Conservation Act 1986</i>	Department of Resources (Queensland Government)	Ph: 13 QGOV (13 74 68) www.resources.qld.gov.au
Indigenous cultural heritage	<i>Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2003</i> <i>Torres Strait Islander Cultural Heritage Act 2003</i>	Department of Treaty, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships, Communities and the Arts (Queensland Government)	Ph. 13 QGOV (13 74 68) www.dsdsatsip.qld.gov.au
Mining and environmentally relevant activities Infrastructure development (coastal) Heritage issues	<i>Environmental Protection Act 1994</i> <i>Coastal Protection and Management Act 1995</i> <i>Queensland Heritage Act 1992</i>	Department of Environment and Science (Queensland Government)	Ph: 13 QGOV (13 74 68) www.des.qld.gov.au
Protected plants and protected areas ¹²	<i>Nature Conservation Act 1992</i>	Department of Environment and Science (Queensland Government)	Ph: 1300 130 372 (option 4) palm@des.qld.gov.au www.des.qld.gov.au
Koala mapping and regulations	<i>Nature Conservation Act 1992</i>	Department of Environment and Science (Queensland Government)	Ph: 13 QGOV (13 74 68) Koala.assessment@des.qld.gov.au www.des.qld.gov.au
Interference with fish passage in a watercourse, mangroves Forest activities ¹³	<i>Fisheries Act 1994</i> <i>Forestry Act 1959</i>	Department of Agriculture and Fisheries (Queensland Government)	Ph: 13 25 23 www.daf.qld.gov.au
Matters of National Environmental Significance including listed Threatened Species and Ecological Communities	<i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i>	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water, (Australian Government)	Ph: 1800 803 772 www.dcceew.gov.au
Development and planning processes	<i>Planning Act 2016</i>	Department of State Development,	Ph: 13 QGOV (13 74 68) www.statedevelopment.qld.gov.au

¹² In Queensland, all plants that are native to Australia are protected plants under the [Nature Conservation Act 1992](#), which endeavours to ensure that protected plants (whether whole plants or protected plants parts) are not illegally removed from the wild, or illegally traded. Prior to clearing, you should check the flora survey trigger map to determine if the clearing is within a high-risk area by visiting www.qld.gov.au (search 'flora survey trigger map'). For further information or assistance on the protected plants flora survey trigger map for your property, please contact the Department of Environment and Science on 13QGOV (13 74 68) or email palm@des.qld.gov.au.

¹³ Contact the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries before clearing:

- any sandalwood on state-owned land (including leasehold land)
- on freehold land in a 'forest consent area'
- more than five hectares on state-owned land (including leasehold land) containing commercial timber species listed in parts 2 or 3 of schedule 1 of the [Vegetation Management Regulation 2023](#) and located within any of the following local government management areas-Banana, Bundaberg Regional, Fraser Coast Regional, Gladstone Regional, Isaac Regional, North Burnett Regional, Somerset Regional, South Burnett Regional, Southern Downs Regional, Tablelands Regional, Toowoomba Regional, Western Downs Regional.

Activity	Legislation	Agency	Contact details
	<i>State Development and Public Works Organisation Act 1971</i>	Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning (Queensland Government)	
Road corridor permits	<i>Transport Infrastructure Act 1994</i>	Department of Transport and Main Roads (Queensland Government)	Ph: 13 QGOV (13 74 68) www.tmr.qld.gov.au
Wet Tropics World Heritage Area	<i>Wet Tropics World Heritage Protection and Management Act 1993</i>	Wet Tropics Management Authority	Ph: (07) 4241 0500 www.wettropics.gov.au
Local government requirements	<i>Local Government Act 2009</i> <i>Planning Act 2016</i>	Your relevant local government office	

Appendix 3 – Exchange area requirements

Table A3–1: Requirements for exchange areas

Exchange area requirements	Size of exchange area	Required mechanisms to legally secure & manage the area ¹⁴
<p>Option 1: The area to be used as the exchange area is a category X area, is dominated by native vegetation more than 10 years of age, is a functioning regional ecosystem which occurs in the same bioregion as the impact area, and is at least one of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The same pre-clear regional ecosystem/s as the impact area • A higher pre-clear regional ecosystem status (e.g. endangered or of concern) than the values of the impact area • Within 50 metres of the defining bank of a watercourse • Within 50 metres of the defining bank of a wetland • In a location that creates a corridor of at least 100 metres in width between regional ecosystems that are mapped as either a category A area and/or a category B area on the regulated vegetation management map, which are each at least 4 hectares in size and 100 metres in width • An area that adjoins either an area mapped as a category A area and/or a category B area on the regulated vegetation management map which is at least 4 hectares in size • Another area of environmental significance to flora or fauna under other State or Commonwealth legislation. 	<p>Equal to the impact area, or 1 hectare, whichever is the greater</p>	<p>Property Map of Assessable Vegetation (PMAV) that shows the area to be used as the exchange area as a category A area and management plan or Declared area (voluntary)¹⁵ and management plan</p>

¹⁴ Note that both— a declaration made under section 19F of the [Vegetation Management Act 1999](#) and its associated management plan; and a Property Map of Assessable Vegetation (PMAV) that contains a category A area— transfer on title.

¹⁵ A Guide to voluntary declarations under the [Vegetation Management Act 1999](#) is available at www.qld.gov.au (search 'voluntary declaration guide').

Exchange area requirements	Size of exchange area	Required mechanisms to legally secure & manage the area ¹⁴
<p>Option 2: The area to be used as the exchange area is a category X area and is at least one of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The same pre-clear regional ecosystem/s as the impact area or a higher pre-clear regional ecosystem status (e.g. endangered or of concern) than the values of the impact area • Within 50 metres of the defining bank of a watercourse • Within 50 metres of the defining bank of a wetland • In a location that creates a corridor of at least 100 metres in width between regional ecosystems that are mapped as either a category A area and/or a category B area on the regulated vegetation management map, which are each at least 4 hectares in size and 100 metres in width • An area that adjoins either an area mapped as a category A area and/or a category B area on the regulated vegetation management map, which is at least 4 hectares in size • Another area of environmental significance to flora or fauna under other State or Commonwealth legislation. 	<p>Double the impact area, or 1 hectare, whichever is the greater</p>	<p>Declared area (voluntary) and management plan</p>
<p>Option 3: The area to be used as the exchange area is a category X area, category B area, a category C area or a category R area, and with specific management actions will achieve all of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a substantial conservation outcome or address a significant land degradation issue • remnant vegetation status. <p>An example of a 'substantial conservation outcome' includes restoring:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • key habitat for an endangered species listed under State or Commonwealth legislation • an area that is severely weed infested and is an endangered regional ecosystem • the ecological integrity of a Ramsar listed wetland¹⁶ • a threatened ecological community listed under State or Commonwealth legislation • an area within or adjacent to a World Heritage property or listed on the National Heritage List for natural values. <p>An example of addressing a significant land degradation issue includes stabilizing and restoring the stream bank of a watercourse that has evidence of mass failure.</p>	<p>Three times the impact area, or 1 hectare, whichever is the greater</p>	<p>Declared area (voluntary) and management plan</p>

¹⁶ A list of Ramsar wetlands is available at www.dcceew.gov.au