

# Self-audit form - managing encroachment

This form is for clearing vegetation under the Managing encroachment accepted development vegetation clearing code.

It is a requirement of this code that you undertake a self-audit of your managing encroachment activities prior to notifying for a second or subsequent notifications. You do not need to send this self-audit to the department but it may be requested in the future.

Date/s of managing encroachment activities: \_\_\_\_\_

**Note:** Some aspects of this audit can be assessed by undertaking a desktop assessment, however most will need to be assessed infield or onsite.

## Managing encroachment code requirements

No Yes

### Property details

- Clearing has occurred in category B, category C and category R areas only.  No  Yes
- The property tenure is either: freehold land, indigenous land or leasehold land for agricultural or grazing purposes or, is land subject of an occupation licence under the Land Act.  No  Yes
- Clearing has only occurred in regional ecosystems listed in Table 1, section 4 of the code.  No  Yes

### Notification requirements and limitations

- DNRME has been notified for encroachment management.  No  Yes
- The landholder, a person authorised by the landholder or a third party with the consent of the landholder is the notifier.  No  Yes
- You have completed the online or hard copy notification form, which requires you to provide certain information.  No  Yes
- Notifications were given for the single lot and where the area notified for was limited to 400 ha.  No  Yes
- Confirmation of notification received from DNRME prior to clearing.  No  Yes
- Only operated under the notification for two years from the date DNRME issued confirmation of your notification.  No  Yes
- Self-audit undertaken prior to renotifying – and satisfied code requirements (where relevant).  No  Yes

### Compliance requirements

Keep all of the following records and make them available to DNRME upon request:

- GPS coordinates or map identifying the proposed clearing area.  No  Yes
- Pre-clearing photographs noting the date and associated GPS coordinates.  No  Yes
- Historical imagery and recent imagery used to demonstrate encroachment.  No  Yes

- The name of the invading native woody species causing the encroachment issue.
- For chemical clearing methods, the herbicide used and details on how and where it was applied
- Self-audit results, where relevant, and make them available to DNRME upon request.
- Contractor details e.g. name, address and contact details (where relevant).
- Instruction to contractors, detailing location, date, time and species (where relevant).

### Clearing requirements

- Under a single notification, the total area of any lot that has been cleared to manage encroachment has not exceeded 400 ha.
- Clearing only occurred in the correct regional ecosystems – listed in Table 1 of the code.
- A native woody species has invaded the regional ecosystem, to an extent that it is no longer consistent with the description of the regional ecosystem.

### Demonstrating encroachment

- Provide historical imagery and recent imagery that exhibits:
  - evidence of image scale
  - identifiable areas of woody vegetation, grasses and/or bare earth.
- Encroachment was identified by locating woody vegetation present in recent imagery that was absent in historical imagery.
- Prior to clearing, four sites were established around the perimeter of the encroachment on the ground and GPS coordinates were recorded at each site, noting the site and coordinates on the recent imagery. Two pre-clearing photographs were taken at each site in the following sequence:  
  - Photo one—taken facing away from the encroachment
  - Photo two—taken facing towards the encroachment

### General clearing limitations

- Clearing has targeted the native woody species causing the encroachment.
- Clearing has resulted in the retention of mature trees and habitat trees.
- Clearing has not resulted in debris being pushed up against mature or habitat trees.
- Clearing has not occurred within a grove, unless it was undertaken by controlled burning methods in accordance with section 4.5 of the code.

<b>Mechanical clearing</b>	<b>This section is N/A</b> <input type="checkbox"/>
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- Mechanical clearing was excluded from riparian protection zones as per Table 2 of the code.
- Mechanical clearing was excluded from within 10 m of the trunk of a mature tree or habitat tree.
- Mechanical clearing was excluded from within 50 m of soil erosion or instability.
- Mechanical clearing was excluded on slopes greater than 5%.
- Mechanical clearing was excluded from regional ecosystems that occur on land zones 1.

<b>Chemical clearing</b>	<b>This section is N/A</b> <input type="checkbox"/>
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- Aerial application of any herbicide has not occurred.
- Chemical clearing has not occurred within five m from the trunk of a mature tree or habitat tree.
- Root-absorbed broad spectrum herbicides have been applied in accordance with the approved product label, and the safety and use conditions specified by the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority.
- Root-absorbed broad spectrum herbicides application has not occurred in Regional ecosystem 11.4.11 or 11.8.11.
- Root-absorbed broad spectrum herbicides application has not occurred within 10 m from the trunk of a mature tree or habitat tree or at least two times the height of the mature tree or habitat tree, whichever is the greatest.
- Root-absorbed broad spectrum herbicides application has not occurred within 30 meters of a grove.
- Root-absorbed broad spectrum herbicides application has not occurred within 100 m of the defining bank of a wetland, watercourse or drainage feature, or any distance specified on the approved product label, whichever is the greater.

<b>Encroachment management burning</b>	<b>This section is N/A</b> <input type="checkbox"/>
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- Prior to undertaking encroachment management burning, all necessary fire permits were obtained.
- Encroachment management burning has been managed in terms of timing, intensity and lighting pattern to limit the likelihood of damage to mature trees and habitat trees.
- Encroachment management burning has been undertaken in accordance with the fire guideline for the regional ecosystem, as outlined by either the Regional Ecosystem Description Database or the Queensland National Parks and Wildlife Service.

## Soil and water protection

- Recognised best practice methods have been undertaken to prevent increased soil erosion and instability resulting from the clearing.
- Recognised best practice methods have been undertaken to stabilise soil erosion and instability which has resulted from the clearing.
- Have recognised best practice methods been undertaken to prevent increased sediment run-off entering a wetland, watercourse or drainage feature as a result of the clearing.
- Clearing has not occurred within 100 m of a salinity expression area.
- Clearing in land zone 3 where the elevation is less than five m above sea level, top soil has not be mechanically disturbed to a depth greater than 30 cm.

Where an activity is assessed as “No” i.e. non-compliant, landholders should cease operations to reassess code requirements, refer to the relevant landholder guide or to seek advice from the department if required.

### Contact us

For more information call **135 VEG** (135 834), email [vegetation@dnrme.qld.gov.au](mailto:vegetation@dnrme.qld.gov.au), or search ‘Vegetation Management’ on [www.qld.gov.au](http://www.qld.gov.au)