

Self-audit form - necessary environmental clearing (for land restoration and flood preparation)

This form is for clearing vegetation under the necessary environmental clearing accepted development vegetation clearing code.

It is a requirement of this code that you undertake a self-audit of your necessary environmental clearing activities, prior to notifying for a second or subsequent notifications noting the code's area limitations. You do not need to send this self-audit to the department but it may be requested in the future.

Date/s of necessary environmental clearing activities: _____

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

Necessary environmental clearing code requirements

No Yes

Property details

- Clearing has occurred in Category B, category C and/or category R areas only. No Yes
- The property tenure is either: freehold land, Indigenous land or leasehold land granted under the Land Act, a dedicated road, unallocated state land, trust land (other than indigenous land), land subject of an occupation licence or land that is property of the State under the *Land Act 1994*. No Yes
- Necessary environmental clearing was for land restoration, flood preparation, contaminant removal or channel diversion (in category C areas and category R areas). No Yes

Notification requirements

- Department of Natural Resources Mines and Energy (DNRME) has been notified for necessary environmental clearing. No Yes
- You have received confirmation of notification from DNRME before commencing clearing. 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
- Each notification has been limited to the area limits specified in section 4.2 of the code. No Yes
- Notifications were only used to conduct necessary environmental clearing for two years from the date DNRME issued confirmation of the notification. No Yes
- Where a subsequent notification for necessary environmental clearing has been made, a self-audit was undertaken to ensure the clearing already undertaken was compliant with code requirements. No Yes
- An exchange area was legally secured prior to clearing (where relevant). No Yes

Compliance requirements		
Keep all of the following records and make them available to DNRME upon request:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pre-clearing photographs and GPS location coordinates of the pre-clearing photographs. 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appropriate records detailing the progress and effectiveness of all exchange area works, management actions and outcomes in accordance with the management plan (where relevant). 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contractor details e.g. name, address and contact details (where relevant). 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Instruction to contractors, detailing location, date, time and species (where relevant). 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In areas to be rehabilitated in accordance with section 4.5 of the code, annual photographs and associated GPS coordinates of the rehabilitation and revegetation outcomes. 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Land restoration requirements		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clearing has only been undertaken where the land degradation issue is threatening, or will threaten human health, land productivity, landscape integrity, ecosystem structure and function, habitat for protected wildlife or infrastructure condition. 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The land degradation issue and vegetation preventing land restoration is identified by pre-clearing photographs and GPS coordinates. 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Flood preparation requirements	This section is N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clearing for flood preparation has only occurred where the area has been subject to previous flood events which have threatened human health, land productivity or infrastructure condition. 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clearing for flood preparation has only occurred where vegetation within the defining banks of a watercourse or drainage feature was causing the accumulation of silt and/or debris, or preventing flood preparation. 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clearing for flood preparation has only occurred where a future flood risk was increased by the accumulation of silt and/or debris. 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clearing for flood preparation has only occurred where future flood events will threaten human health, land productivity or infrastructure condition. 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clearing for flood preparation has only occurred where the vegetation causing the increased flood risk, or preventing flood preparation was identified by pre-clearing photographs and GPS coordinates of the location that the pre-clearing photographs were taken. 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Contaminant removal requirements	This section is N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clearing for contaminant removal was only undertaken where a contaminant was threatening, or would threaten human or animal health, land productivity, landscape integrity, ecosystem structure and function, habitat for protected wildlife or infrastructure condition. 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clearing for contaminant removal was only undertaken where vegetation was preventing contaminant removal. 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clearing for contaminant removal was only undertaken where the contaminant, and the vegetation preventing contaminant removal, is identified by pre-clearing photographs and GPS coordinates. 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Channel diversion requirements	This section is N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clearing for channel diversion has not occurred in a category B area. 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clearing is located in category X areas or existing cleared areas as reasonably possible. 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All possible steps were taken to avoid, or if avoidance was not possible, minimise to the greatest extent possible, clearing in essential habitat. 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All possible steps were taken to avoid, or if avoidance was not possible, minimise to the greatest extent possible, clearing of habitat trees. 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All possible steps were taken to avoid, or if avoidance was not possible, minimise to the greatest extent possible, clearing of immature koala habitat trees. 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All possible steps were taken to avoid, or if avoidance was not possible, minimise to the greatest extent possible, clearing in a koala habitat area. 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The watercourse or drainage feature in its present location was no longer functioning, or would no longer function in the future. 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There was a high likelihood that the watercourse or drainage feature remaining in its current location would lead to, or was leading to, an adverse environmental outcome. 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The watercourse or drainage feature requiring diversion, and the vegetation which needed to be cleared to allow for the diversion was identified by pre-clearing photographs and GPS coordinates. 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The new channel has replicated the existing physical form of the diverted section of watercourse or drainage feature. 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The new channel will be vegetated with species typical of the diverted section of watercourse or drainage feature. 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The new channel returns water to a watercourse or drainage feature. 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Clearing limits for land restoration	This section is N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clearing was only undertaken where land restoration was reasonable, given the extent of the issue and the surrounding terrain. 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clearing has not occurred using a chain or cable linked between two machines. 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clearing in category B did not exceed the limits in Table 1 of the code. 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clearing in a category B area was not undertaken within the riparian protection zones specified in Table 2 of the code, unless it was less than 0.5 hectares in size. 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Clearing limits for contaminant removal	This section is N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clearing was only undertaken where contaminant removal was reasonable, given the extent of the issue and the surrounding terrain. 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clearing has not occurred using a chain or cable linked between two machines. 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clearing has not exceeded the limits in Table 1 (of the code), unless the clearing was within a category C area or category R area and an exchange area that complied with section 4.6 of the code was legally secured. 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clearing within the riparian protection zones specified in Table 2 (of the code) have not exceeded 0.5 hectares unless the clearing was within a category C area or category R area and an exchange area that complies with section 4.6 of the code was legally secured. 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Clearing limits for flood preparation	This section is N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clearing was only permitted where flood preparation was reasonable, given extent of the issue and the surrounding terrain. 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clearing was undertaken by felling only. 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clearing has not exceed 100 square meters. 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clearing has not occurred outside the defining banks of a watercourse or drainage feature. 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Clearing for channel diversion	This section is N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clearing was only permitted where channel diversion was reasonable, given the extent of the issue and the surrounding terrain. 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clearing has not occurred in a category B area. 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clearing has not occurred using a chain or cable linked between two machines. 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clearing has not exceeded the width limits in Table 1 of the code unless an exchange area that complies with section 4.6 of the code was legally secured or the clearing is in a koala habitat area and a koala offset is secured for the extent of the clearing. 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Clearing for access		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clearing for access has not exceeded 10 meters in width. 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clearing for access has not occurred within 10 meters of the defining bank of a wetland, watercourse or drainage feature, unless it was required to provide necessary access across the wetland, watercourse or drainage feature. 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Vegetation retention requirements		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clearing has resulted in the retention of all mature trees and habitat trees unless retention prevented land restoration other than the restoration of an area degraded by scalding or a salinity expression area. 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clearing retained all mature trees and habitat trees unless retention prevented contaminant removal. 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clearing retained all mature trees and habitat trees unless retention prevented flood preparation. 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clearing retained all mature trees and habitat trees except where a dead habitat tree poses a safety risk. 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clearing has not resulted in damage to, or debris pushed up against, mature trees or habitat trees. 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Soil and water quality protections		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recognised best practice methods were employed to prevent increased soil erosion and instability resulting from the clearing. 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recognised best practice methods were employed to stabilise soil erosion and instability which resulted from the clearing. 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recognised best practice methods were employed to prevent increased sediment run-off entering a wetland, watercourse or drainage feature as a result of clearing. 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In land zones 1, 2 or 3 where the elevation was less than 5 meters above sea level, top soil was not mechanically disturbed to a depth greater than 30 centimetres, unless acid sulfate soils were managed consistent with the State Planning Policy, Department of Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning, 2017. 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>In land zones 1, 2 or 3 where the elevation was less than 5 metres above sea level, top soil was not mechanically disturbed to a depth greater than 30 centimetres, unless acid sulfate soils were managed consistent with the Soil Management Guidelines in the Queensland Acid Sulfate Soil Technical Manual, Department of Science Information Technology Innovation and the Arts 2014.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rehabilitation requirements	This section is N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> After the clearing and associated works, the area cleared was rehabilitated by stabilising the area to prevent soil erosion or instability. 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> After the clearing and associated works, the area cleared was rehabilitated by preparing the area so it is in a state that is conducive to the re-establishment of native vegetation. This may have involved excluding browsing animals, controlling weeds, establishing appropriate soil moisture level, ripping, mulching or covering with topsoil. 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> After the clearing and associated works, the area cleared was rehabilitated by revegetating with species that make up the natural floristic composition of the regional ecosystem. This may have involved planting seedlings, natural regeneration, or direct seeding. 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For any clearing of immature koala habitat trees, the area was managed in a way that was conducive to the natural regeneration of the number of immature koala habitat trees cleared. 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> After the clearing and associated works, the area cleared was rehabilitated by maintaining the area in a state that is conducive to achieving the revegetation outcomes outlined in Table 3 of the code. This may have involved excluding browsing animals, controlling weeds, maintaining an appropriate soil moisture level or mulching. 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> After the clearing and associated works, the area cleared was rehabilitated by achieving the groundcover percentage and immature tree density in the timeframes outlined in Table 3 of the code. 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For channel diversion, both the diverted section of the original channel and the new channel were rehabilitated. The new channel was vegetated with species typical of the diverted section of watercourse or drainage feature. 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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, or search ‘Vegetation Management’ on www.qld.gov.au