List of exempt clearing work under the Vegetation Management Framework

A guide to Schedule 21 of the Planning Regulation 2017



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Version History

Version	Date	Comments
1.00	27/5/2019	New document
1.1	21/08/2024	Document updated to provide explanatory information on the vegetation management framework. Additional information has also been added throughout the document to assist in interpretation of key exemptions.
1.2	08/01/2025	The update includes a departmental rebrand to the Department of Natural Resources and Mines, Manufacturing, Regional and Rural Development, along with minor amendments and revised references to align the Fire and Emergency Services Act 1990 with the Fire Services Act 1990.

Approval

Position	Name	Date
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IMPORTANT:

This document lists exempt clearing work under Schedule 21 of the Planning Regulation 2017 for the Vegetation Management framework, and guidance to determine the regulated vegetation mapping associated with applying the exemptions.

Some clearing work may be made assessable development by a local government planning scheme or may require approval under another Act or a local law. Landholders are encouraged to familiarise themselves with the Acts and regulations relevant to their operations, and to seek advice from Commonwealth, State and local governments.

For more information on the Planning framework in Queensland please contact the Department of State Development, Infrastructure and Planning – call 13 QGOV (13 7468), or visit https://www.planning.qld.gov.au/

Introduction

The Vegetation Management Act 1999 (VMA), the Vegetation Management Regulation 2023, the *Planning Act 2016* (Planning Act) and the Planning Regulation 2017 (Planning Regulation), in conjunction with associated policies and codes, form the Vegetation Management framework.

The VMA does not apply to all land tenures or vegetation types. State forests, national parks, forest reserves and some tenures under the *Forestry Act 1959* and *Nature Conservation Act 1992* are not regulated by the VMA. Managing or clearing vegetation on these tenures may require approvals under these laws.

Only native vegetation clearing is regulated in Queensland. The following native vegetation is not regulated under the VMA but may require authorisation(s) under other laws:

- grass or non-woody herbage;
- a plant within a grassland regional ecosystem identified in the Vegetation Management
 Regional Ecosystem Description Database (VM REDD) as having a grassland structure; and
- a mangrove.

Schedule 21 of the Planning Regulation lists various exemptions for the purposes of the VMA framework, either with or without reference to the land tenure of the site to be cleared. If an exemption applies, then the clearing of that native vegetation is not assessable development requiring a development permit under the Planning Act for the Vegetation Management framework. However, a development permit may still be required for other frameworks under the Planning Act, or other authorisations may be required under other local, State, or Commonwealth government laws (Appendix 1).

The tables within this document provide a list of exempt clearing work. The following three steps will assist you to determine if your proposed activity is exempt clearing work:

- 1. Locate the applicable table below that relates to your land tenure (e.g. freehold, leasehold etc.) Note: Table 1 applies to all land tenures generally.
- 2. Find an applicable clearing activity / purpose in the first column of the table.
- 3. Check the regulated vegetation management map and mapped regional ecosystem found on the vegetation management supporting map to determine if the mapped vegetation category or regional ecosystem class for the proposed clearing area is listed in the second column of the table. Section 2 of this document provides guidance on mapping under the Vegetation Management framework and how you can access and interpret the mapping on your property. These maps are available to download from the by Department of Natural Resources and Mines, Manufacturing, and Regional and Rural Development website at: https://www.qld.gov.au/environment/land/management/vegetation/maps/map-request.

For further information please contact the Vegetation (Veg) Hub:

Call: 135 VEG (135 834)

Email: vegetation@resources.qld.gov.au

Search: 'Vegetation Management' on www.qld.gov.au

Mapping

The Vegetation Management framework is supported by several statutory maps, which are updated periodically. These maps include:

- Regulated Vegetation Management (RVM) map showing vegetation categories;
- Vegetation Management Supporting Maps showing regional ecosystem classifications, wetlands, watercourses and drainage features, and essential habitat.

Vegetation management property report

A vegetation management property report provides information and maps to help determine clearing requirements and available clearing options at a property scale. The report can be obtained from the Department of Natural Resources and Mines, Manufacturing, and Regional and Rural Development website and is free of charge. It includes the regulated vegetation management map and vegetation management supporting map, as well as:

- Protected plants flora survey trigger map needed to determine if any part of the proposed clearing is within a high-risk area defined under the *Nature Conservation Act 1992*.
- Koala priority area, koala habitat area and identified koala broad-hectare area map needed to
 determine if any part of the proposed clearing is within a Koala Priority Area or Koala Habitat
 Area under the Koala Protection framework for the Nature Conservation Act 1992.

The protected plants flora survey trigger map and the Koala Protection framework mapping do not form part of the Vegetation Management framework but rather included to assist landholders to understand other mapped features on their properties. The Department of Environment, Science and Innovation regulate these maps.

For further information contact the Department of Environment, Tourism, Science and Innovation – call 13 QGOV (13 7468), or visit www.desi.gld.gov.au

Download a free vegetation management property report by using this link: https://www.gld.gov.au/environment/land/management/vegetation/maps/map-request

Vegetation management data on Queensland Globe

Once you have downloaded your report, you may want to view regulated and supporting vegetation management maps using Queensland Globe. Queensland Globe makes it easier to identify and plan your vegetation management activities. Within the map's interface, you can reduce the visibility of the vegetation management layers to see underlying infrastructure, roads and terrain.

- 1. Access a preloaded Vegetation Management Topic on Queensland Globe.
- 2. Zoom in to the area of interest on the map or use the search function on the left-hand side of the screen to search for a street address or a lot and plan number.
- 3. The Vegetation management topic will load the regulated vegetation management layers without selecting the category X layer so you can see the satellite imagery below.
- 4. On the left-hand side of the screen, click **Layers** and you can select the layers you want to display by turning the eye icon on and off.

View the <u>Queensland Globe Tutorial – Using the Vegetation Management Topic</u> for information on how to find specific vegetation categories, print maps and download data for GPS devices.

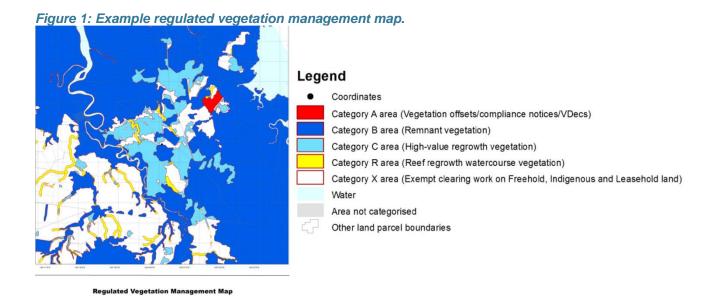
Regulated vegetation management map

The RVM map shows vegetation categories needed to determine clearing requirements under the Vegetation Management framework. The vegetation categories are described in Table A below and an example RVM map is shown in Figure 1.

Table A: Vegetation categories shown on the RVM map.

Category	Colour on map	Description	
Α	Red	Compliance areas, environmental offset areas, and voluntary declaration	
		areas.	
В	Dark blue	Remnant vegetation areas containing an Endangered regional ecosystem;	
		an Of Concern regional ecosystem; or a Least Concern regional	
		ecosystem.	
С	Light blue	High value regrowth vegetation areas on freehold land, Indigenous land, or	
		land subject to a lease issued under the Land Act 1994 for agriculture or	
		grazing purposes, or an occupation licence under the Land Act 1994. High	
		value regrowth vegetation areas are regional ecosystems were vegetation	
		has not been cleared for at least 15 years.	
R	Yellow	Regrowth watercourse and drainage feature areas located within 50	
		metres of a watercourse or drainage feature located in Great Barrier Reef	
		catchment areas (Burdekin, Burnett-Mary, Eastern Cape York, Fitzroy,	
		Mackay-Whitsunday or Wet Tropics catchments) represented on the	
		Vegetation Management Watercourse and Drainage Feature map.	
Х	X White Vegetation that generally does not require a development ap		
		most private tenures under the Planning Act for the Vegetation	
		Management framework.	

The RVM map covers all of Queensland and is updated monthly to incorporate and show new property maps of assessable vegetation (PMAVs). For more information go to www.qld.gov.au (search 'vegetation management maps').



Vegetation management supporting map

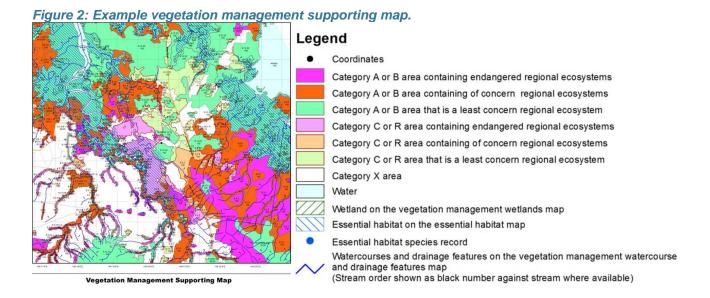
The vegetation management supporting map provides information on regional ecosystems, wetlands, watercourses and drainage features, and essential habitat. The map is made up of the:

- Vegetation management regional ecosystem map shows the regional ecosystem classification ie. Endangered, Of Concern and Least Concern regional ecosystems;
- Essential habitat map shows areas of habitat for critically endangered, endangered, vulnerable, and near threatened protected wildlife prescribed under the *Nature Conservation Act 1992*:
- Vegetation management wetlands map; and
- Vegetation management watercourse and drainage feature map.

The vegetation management supporting map is used when clearing is proposed in areas that are not category X areas and helps to determine what clearing requirements apply under the Vegetation Management framework. The information shown on the vegetation management supporting map is described in Table B below and an example map is shown in Figure 2.

Table B: Information shown on the vegetation management supporting map.

Colour on map	Description	
Bright pink	Category A area or category B area containing endangered regional ecosystems	
Bright orange	Category A area or category B area containing of concern regional ecosystems	
Bright green	Category A area or category B area containing least concern regional ecosystems	
Pale pink	Category C area or category R area containing endangered regional ecosystems	
Pale orange	range Category C area or category R area containing of concern regional ecosystems	
Pale green	Category C area or category R area containing least concern regional ecosystems	
White	Category X area	
Green hatching	Wetland on the vegetation management wetlands map	
Blue hatching	ue hatching	
Blue line Watercourses and drainage features on the vegetation management watercourse and drainage		
	feature map	



Clearing Exemptions

Table 1: Exempt clearing work on land generally

Cle	earing activity / purpose	Applicable vegetation category / status or clearing requirement / limitation
•	Clearing under a development approval for a material change of	Category A area unless
	use or reconfiguring a lot, if the approval is given for a	stipulated by the
	development application and:	department on a notice issued under the
	a. for which the chief executive is a referral agency for clearing vegetation; or	Vegetation Management Act 1999 or Planning Act
	b. relates to a lot of less than 5 ha – for which a local	2016
	government is the assessment manager.	Category B areaCategory C area
•	Clearing vegetation in an area declared under the Vegetation	Category R area
	Management Act 1999, section 19F if the clearing is carried out	
	under the management plan for the area and for either:	
	a. one or more of the following purposes listed in section 22A of	
	the Vegetation Management Act 1999:	
	 controlling non-native plants or declared pests; 	
	ensuring public safety;	
	fodder harvesting;	
	managing thickened vegetation;	
	clearing for encroachment;	
	 necessary environmental clearing; or 	
	b. establishing a necessary fence, firebreak, road or vehicular	
	track and the clearing cannot reasonably be avoided or	
	minimised.	
•	Clearing vegetation under a land management agreement for a	
	lease under the Land Act 1994, and for one or more of the	
	following purposes listed in section 22A of the Vegetation	
	Management Act 1999:	
	controlling non-native plants or declared pests;	
	ensuring public safety;	
	 relevant infrastructure activities where the clearing 	
	cannot reasonably be avoided or minimised;	
	fodder harvesting;	
	managing thickened vegetation;	
	clearing for encroachment;	
	necessary environmental clearing.	
•	A traditional Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander cultural activity,	
	other than a commercial activity.	

Applicable vegetation Clearing activity / purpose category / status or clearing requirement / limitation A resource activity as defined under the Environmental Protection Act 1994, section 107. Development for geothermal exploration carried out under a geothermal exploration permit under the Geothermal Energy Act 2010. Clearing vegetation, for an airport-related purpose, on airport premises. An activity under the Fire Services Act 1990, section 145F, 145G, 149I or 149K(3)(a). An activity under: a. the Electricity Act 1994, section 101 or 112A; or b. the Electricity Regulation 2006, section 17. An activity authorised under the Forestry Act 1959. Clearing vegetation on premises in an area for which an area management plan under the Vegetation Management Act 1999, section 20J is in force at the time of the clearing if: a. the owner of the premises, within the meaning of the Vegetation Management Act 1999, or a person authorised by the owner, does the clearing; and b. the clearing complies with the area management plan, including any condition of the plan requiring the owner to give notice of the clearing to the chief executive of the department in which the Vegetation Management Act 1999 is administered. Clearing vegetation on land stated in the Forestry Act 1959, section 55 (1) (b), (c) or (d) to the extent the clearing is for accessing and extracting quarry material for road works under the Transport Infrastructure Act 1994. Clearing vegetation for the construction or maintenance of infrastructure stated in schedule 5 of the Planning Regulation 2017. if: a. The clearing is on designated purposes; or b. the infrastructure is government supported transport infrastructure. Clearing vegetation in an area for which a disaster situation declaration has been made if the clearing: a. is necessary to prevent or minimise:

Clearing activity / purpose	Applicable vegetation category / status or clearing requirement / limitation
 loss of human life, or illness or injury to humans; or 	
property loss or damage; or	
 damage to the environment; and 	
b. happens during the period that started when the disaster	
situation declaration was made and ends on the later of the	
following days:	
the day that is one year after the day on which the	
disaster situation declaration was made;	
 another day decided by the chief executive by written 	
notice.	
Clearing vegetation that is necessary to carry out a cadastral	
survey of an existing property boundary, a geotechnical survey, or	
a geological survey if the area cleared is:	
a. for an area in which a survey is conducted—a maximum area	
of 100m ² ; and	
b. for an area necessary for reasonable access to an area in	
which a survey is conducted—a maximum of 10m wide.	
Clearing vegetation that is necessary to remediate contaminated	
land recorded in the environmental management register or	
contaminated land register.	
Clearing vegetation that is necessary to carry out activities	
authorised to be carried out at land on which an abandoned mine	
exists under the Mineral Resources Act 1989, section 344A.	
Clearing vegetation to which the Vegetation Management Act	
1999 does not apply to or affect.	
Clearing vegetation for the construction or maintenance of	
infrastructure stated in schedule 5 of the Planning Regulation	
2017 if:	
a. the clearing is on designated premises; or	
b. the infrastructure is government supported transport	
infrastructure.	
Clearing an area of vegetation within a watercourse or lake for an	Clearing under an
activity (other than an activity relating to a material change of use or	accepted development vegetation clearing code
reconfiguring a lot) if the clearing is:	other than Category A
a. subject to an approval process, and is approved under the Act	area OR
or another Act;	Less than 0.5ha of
	Category B area (Least

Clearing activity / purpose	Applicable vegetation category / status or clearing requirement / limitation
 b. a necessary or unavoidable consequence of an activity allowed by a permit given under section 221 of the Water Act 2000; or c. a necessary and unavoidable consequence of an activity carried out under the 'Riverine Protection Permit Exemption Requirements'. 	Concern regional ecosystems only) OR • Less than 0.5ha of Category X area, category C area or category R area.

Table 2: Exempt clearing work on freehold and Indigenous land

Clearing activity / purpose	Applicable vegetation category / status or clearing requirement/ limitation	
For any purpose.	Category X area	
 For a forest practice Note: 1. See the VMA for definition of a forest practice. 2. This does not include clearing vegetation for the initial establishment of a plantation. 3. A forest practice in a native forest must be consistent with the accepted development vegetation clearing code for Managing a Native Forest Practice. 	Category A area unless stipulated by the department on a notice issued under the Vegetation Management Act	
 For residential clearing, where: a. the clearing is necessary for building a single dwelling on a lot, and any reasonably associated building or structure; and b. there is no other dwelling on the lot; and Where either of the following applies: c. the building work for the dwelling that necessitates the clearing is carried out: under a development permit; or by, or for, the State or a public sector entity; or d. the dwelling that necessitates the clearing is for public housing. For residential clearing on Indigenous land if: a. the clearing is necessary for building one or more dwellings, and any reasonably associated building or structure, for: Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander inhabitants of the land; or persons providing educational, health, police, or other 	1999 or Planning Act 2016 Category B area Category C area Category R area	
community services for the inhabitants; and Where either of the following applies: b. the building work for the dwelling that necessitates the clearing is carried out: under a development permit; or by, or for, the State or a public sector entity; or the dwelling that necessitates the clearing is for public housing. Note: 1. See definitions for "residential clearing", "prescribed clearing" and "dwelling" under Schedule 24 of the Planning Regulations 2017. "Reasonably associated building or structures" means a building or structure reasonably associated with the ordinary use and occupation of the premises for the purpose of a self-contained private residence. This may include a residential garage, garden shed, septic system, driveway, or residential swimming pool. This exemption would also apply to clearing		

necessary for connecting service utilities, for example, electricity, water, and sewage. Conversely, a building or structure not typically ancillary to a self-contained private residence, or a building or structure partly or solely for a commercial nature, would not be a "reasonably associated building or structure" within this exemption. For example, a vineyard, an equestrian facility, and tourism cabins are not exempt "residential clearing".

 For establishing or maintaining a necessary firebreak to protect infrastructure*, other than a fence, road, or vehicular track, if the maximum width of firebreak is 1.5 times the height of the tallest vegetation next to the infrastructure, or 20m, whichever is the wider.

Note: Firebreaks are areas that are cleared and maintained in a low fuel state to stop or steady a wildfire, or to back-burn against.

For establishing a necessary fire management line up to 10m wide.

Note: Fire management lines are pathways, roads, fence line clearings or tracks (including existing property tracks) used to access water for firefighting or divide the property for fuel reduction burning or back-burning.

 For reducing hazardous fuel loads by fire under the Fire Services Act 1990.

Note:

- 1. A permit from a Local Fire Warden within the Queensland Fire Department may be required. Fire Wardens can be located through the Rural Fire Service website, using the Fire Warden Finder go to www.qld.gov.au (search 'rural fire service').
- 2. For more information regarding firebreaks, fire management lines and hazardous reduction burn, contact your Local Rural Fire Service Area Office or your Local Fire Warden go to www.qld.gov.au (search 'rural fire service').
- Necessary to remove or reduce the imminent risk that the vegetation poses of serious personal injury or damage to infrastructure*.
- Necessary for maintaining existing infrastructure* including buildings, fences, helipads, roads, stockyards, vehicular tracks, water facilities (including dams) and constructed drains other than contour banks, unless the clearing is for sourcing construction material.
- For maintaining a garden or orchard, provided the predominant canopy trees are retained.
- By the owner of freehold land to source construction timber to maintain infrastructure* on any land of the owner, if:
 - a. the clearing does not cause land degradation; and

b. restoration of a similar type to, and to the extent of, the removed trees, is ensured.

Note: Land degradation includes soil erosion, rising water tables, the expression of salinity, mass movement by gravity of soil or rock, stream bank stability, and a process that results in declining water quality.

For development related to priority development areas (PDAs).

Note: A PDA is an area declared under the Economic Development Act 2012 as PDAs and identified for accelerated development to deliver significant benefits to the community with a focus on economic growth. For more information on PDAs go to www.qld.gov.au (search 'priority development areas').

- To establish a necessary fence, road or vehicle track up to 10m wide.
- To establish necessary built infrastructure* (including dams) other than contour banks, fences, roads, or vehicular tracks if:
 - a. the clearing is not to source construction timber;
 - b. the total area cleared is less than 2ha; and
 - c. the total area covered by the infrastructure is on less than 2ha.

Note: Clearing under this exemption is relevant to the clearing of the infrastructure footprint only. Clearing for the footprint area must not exceed 2ha.

- By the owner of freehold land to source construction timber for establishing infrastructure* on any land of the owner, if:
 - a. the clearing does not cause land degradation; and
 - b. restoration of a similar type to, and to the extent of, the removed trees, is ensured.

Note: Land degradation includes soil erosion, rising water tables, the expression of salinity, mass movement by gravity of soil or rock, stream bank stability, and a process that results in declining water quality.

- Category B area (Least Concern regional ecosystems only)
- Category C area
- Category R area

Clearing conducted under an Accepted Development Vegetation Category B area Category C area Clearing Code. Category R area Note: Check the scope of the relevant vegetation clearing code to ensure the code is relevant to your clearing purpose. For more information on Accepted Development Vegetation Clearing Codes (ADVCCs) go to www.qld.gov.au (search 'accepted development vegetation clearing codes'). On indigenous land only, clearing required for gathering, digging, or removing forest products for use under the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Communities (Justice, Land and Other Matters) Act 1984, section 62. For an urban purpose (e.g. residential, industrial, sporting, recreational or Category B area (Least Concern or commercial) in an urban area (not including rural residential, environmental, Of Concern conservation, rural, natural or wilderness area purposes). regional ecosystems only) Category C area Note: See definitions for "urban purpose" and "urban area" under Schedule 24 of the Planning Category R area Regulation 2017. Clearing for an extractive industry in a Key Resource Area. Category C area Category R area Clearing for a Significant Community Project. Note: 1. Key resource area (KRA) means an identified location that contains extractive resources of state or regional significance as shown on the State Planning Policy Interactive Mapping System. A KRA includes the following: the resource/processing area the separation area the transport route the transport route separation area Significant community projects mean projects the chief executive considers have an aesthetic, conservation, cultural or economic benefit to a local or regional community or the State, includinga project that serves an essential need of the community; and a project that significantly improves the community's access to services.

^{*} Infrastructure includes a building, or other structure, built or used for any purpose.

Table 3: Exempt clearing work on leasehold land for agriculture and grazing

Clearing activity / purpose	Applicable vegetation category / status or clearing requirement/ limitation	
For any purpose.	Category X area	
 For residential clearing, where: a. the clearing is necessary for building a single dwelling on a lot, and any reasonably associated building or structure; and b. there is no other dwelling on the lot; and where either of the following applies: c. the building work for the dwelling that necessitates the clearing is carried out: under a development permit; or by, or for, the State or a public sector entity; or the dwelling that necessitates the clearing is for public housing. 	 Category A area unless stipulated by the department on a notice issued under the Vegetation Management Act 1999 or Planning Act 2016 Category B area Category C area Category R area 	
Note: 1. See definitions for "residential clearing", "prescribed clearing" and "dwelling" under Schedule 24 of the Planning Regulations 2017. 2. "Reasonably associated building or structures" means a building or structure reasonably associated with the ordinary use and occupation of the premises for the purpose of a self-contained private residence. This may include a residential garage, garden shed, septic system, driveway, or residential swimming pool. This exemption would also apply to clearing necessary for connecting service utilities, for example, electricity, water, and sewage. Conversely, a building or structure not typically ancillary to a self-contained private residence, or a building or structure partly or solely for a commercial nature, would not be a "reasonably associated building or structure" within this exemption. For example, a vineyard, an equestrian facility, and tourism cabins are not exempt "residential clearing".		
 For establishing or maintaining a necessary firebreak to protect infrastructure*, other than a fence, road, or vehicular track, if the maximum width of firebreak is 1.5 times the height of the tallest vegetation next to the infrastructure, or 20m, whichever is the wider. 		
Note: Firebreaks are areas that are cleared and maintained in a low fuel state to stop or steady a wildfire, or to back-burn against.		
 For establishing a necessary fire management line up to 10m wide. 		

Applicable vegetation Clearing activity / purpose category / status or clearing requirement/limitation Note: Fire management lines are pathways, roads, fence line clearings or tracks (including existing property tracks) used to access water for firefighting or divide the property for fuel reduction burning or back-burning. For reducing hazardous fuel loads by fire under the Fire Services Act 1990. Note: 1. A permit from a Local Fire Warden within the Queensland Fire Department may be required. Fire Wardens can be located through the Rural Fire Service website, using the Fire Warden Finder - go to www.gld.gov.au (search 'rural fire service'). 2. For more information regarding firebreaks, fire management lines and hazardous reduction burn, contact your Local Rural Fire Service Area Office or your Local Fire Warden - go to www.qld.gov.au (search 'rural fire service'). Necessary to remove or reduce the imminent risk that the vegetation poses of serious personal injury or damage to infrastructure*. Necessary for maintaining infrastructure* including buildings, fences, helipads, roads, stockyards, vehicular tracks, water facilities (including dams) and constructed drains other than contour banks, unless the clearing is for sourcing construction material. For maintaining a garden or orchard, provided the predominant canopy trees are retained. By the lessee to source construction timber to repair infrastructure* on the land, if: a. the infrastructure is in need of immediate repair; b. and the clearing does not cause land degradation; and c. restoration of a similar type to, and to the extent of, the removed trees, is ensured. Note: Land degradation includes soil erosion, rising water tables, the expression of salinity, mass movement by gravity of soil or rock, stream bank stability, and a process that results in declining water quality.

Clearing activity / purpose	Applicable vegetation category / status or clearing requirement/ limitation
 To establish a necessary fence, road or vehicle track up to 10m wide. To establish necessary built infrastructure* (including dams) other than contour banks, fences, roads, or vehicular tracks if: a. the clearing is not to source construction timber; b. the total area cleared is less than 2ha; and c. the total area covered by the infrastructure is on less than 2ha. 	Category B area (Least Concern regional ecosystems only) Category C area Category R area
Note: Clearing under this exemption is relevant to the clearing of the infrastructure footprint only. Clearing for the footprint area must not exceed 2ha.	
By the lessee to source construction timber, other than commercial timber, for establishing necessary infrastructure* on the land, if: a. and the clearing does not cause land degradation; and b. restoration of a similar type to, and to the extent of, the removed trees, is ensured	
Note: Land degradation includes soil erosion, rising water tables, the expression of salinity, mass movement by gravity of soil or rock, stream bank stability, and a process that results in declining water quality.	
Clearing conducted under an Accepted Development Vegetation Clearing Code.	Category B areaCategory C areaCategory R area
Note: Check the scope of the relevant vegetation clearing code to ensure the code is relevant to your clearing purpose. For further information on Accepted Development Vegetation Clearing Codes (ADVCCs) go to www.qld.gov.au (search 'accepted development vegetation clearing codes').	
Clearing for an extractive industry in a Key Resource Area.Clearing for a Significant Community Project.	Category C areaCategory R area
Note: 1. Key resource area (KRA) means an identified location that contains extractive resources of state or regional significance as shown on the State Planning Policy Interactive Mapping System. A KRA includes the following: • the resource/processing area • the separation area • the transport route • the transport route separation area	

Cle	Clearing activity / purpose		Applicable vegetation
			category / status or clearing
			requirement/ limitation
2.	Sig	nificant community projects mean projects the chief executive considers have	
an aesthetic, conservation, cultural or economic benefit to a local or regional		aesthetic, conservation, cultural or economic benefit to a local or regional	
community or the State, including—		nmunity or the State, including—	
	a.	a project that serves an essential need of the community; and	
	b.	a project that significantly improves the community's access to services.	

^{*} Infrastructure includes a building, or other structure, built or used for any purpose.

Table 4: Exempt clearing work on leasehold land other than a lease for agriculture and grazing

Clearing activity / purpose	Applicable vegetation category / status or clearing requirement / limitation
For any purpose consistent with the purposes of the lease.	Category X area
 Consistent with the purposes of the lease, and is one of the following: For residential clearing, where: a. the clearing is necessary for building a single dwelling on a lot, and any reasonably associated building or structure; and b. there is no other dwelling on the lot; and where either of the following applies: c. the building work for the dwelling that necessitates the clearing is carried out: under a development permit; or by, or for, the State or a public sector entity; or d. the dwelling that necessitates the clearing is for public housing. 	Category A area unless stipulated by the department on a notice issued under the Vegetation Management Act 1999 or Planning Act 2016 Category B area Category R area
Note: 1. See definitions for "residential clearing", "prescribed clearing" and "dwelling" under Schedule 24 of the Planning Regulations 2017. 2. "Reasonably associated building or structures" means a building or structure reasonably associated with the ordinary use and occupation of the premises for the purpose of a self-contained private residence. This may include a residential garage, garden shed, septic system, driveway, or residential swimming pool. This exemption would also apply to clearing necessary for connecting service utilities, for example, electricity, water, and sewage. Conversely, a building or structure not typically ancillary to a self-contained private residence, or a building or structure partly or solely for a commercial nature, would not be a "reasonably associated building or structure" within this exemption. For example, a vineyard, an equestrian facility, and tourism cabins are not exempt "residential clearing".	
For establishing or maintaining a necessary firebreak to protect infrastructure*, other than a fence, road, or vehicular track, if the maximum width of firebreak is 1.5 times the height of the tallest vegetation next to the infrastructure, or 20m, whichever is the wider.	
Note: Firebreaks are areas that are cleared and maintained in a low fuel state to stop or steady a wildfire, or to back-burn against.	
For establishing a necessary fire management line up to 10m wide.	

Note: Fire management lines are pathways, roads, fence line clearings or tracks (including existing property tracks) used to access water for firefighting or divide the property for fuel reduction burning or back-burning.

For reducing hazardous fuel loads by fire under the Fire Services Act 1990.

Note:

- 1. A permit from a Local Fire Warden within the Queensland Fire Department may be required. Fire Wardens can be located through the Rural Fire Service website, using the Fire Warden Finder - go to www.qld.gov.au (search 'rural fire service').
- 2. For more information regarding firebreaks, fire management lines and hazardous reduction burn, contact your Local Rural Fire Service Area Office or your Local Fire Warden - go to www.qld.gov.au (search 'rural fire service').
- Necessary to remove or reduce the imminent risk that the vegetation poses of serious personal injury or damage to infrastructure*;
- Necessary for maintaining infrastructure* including buildings, fences, helipads, roads, stockyards, vehicular tracks, water facilities (including dams) and constructed drains other than contour banks, unless the clearing is for sourcing construction material; or
- For maintaining a garden or orchard, provided the predominant canopy trees are retained.

Consistent with the purposes of the lease, and is one of the following:

- To establish a necessary fence, road or vehicle track up to 10m wide.
- To establish necessary built infrastructure* (including dams) other than contour banks, fences, roads, or vehicular tracks if:
 - a. the clearing is not to source construction timber;
 - b. the total area cleared is less than 2ha; and
 - c. the total area covered by the infrastructure is on less than 2ha.
- Category B area (Least Concern regional ecosystems only)
- Category R area

Note: Clearing under this exemption is relevant to the clearing of the infrastructure footprint only. Clearing for the footprint area must not exceed 2ha.

Clearing conducted under an Accepted Development Vegetation Clearing Code where the clearing is consistent with the purposes of the lease.

- Category B area
- Category R area

to your clearing purpose. For further information on Accepted Development Vegetation Clearing Codes (ADVCCs) go to www.qld.gov.au (search 'accepted development vegetation clearing codes').

Note: Check the scope of the relevant vegetation clearing code to ensure the code is relevant

For an urban purpose (e.g. residential, industrial, sporting, recreational or commercial) in an urban area (not including rural residential, environmental, conservation, rural, natural or wilderness area purposes).

 Category B area (Least Concern or Of Concern regional ecosystems only)

Note: See definitions for "urban purpose" and "urban area" under Schedule 24 of the Planning Regulation 2017.

^{*} Infrastructure includes a building, or other structure, built or used for any purpose.

Table 5: Exempt clearing work on land dedicated as a road under the Land Act 1994

learing activity/ purposes Applicable vegetation category / status or clear requirement / limitation	
Clearing vegetation that is carried out by a local government, or by or	Category R area
for the chief executive (transport).	Category X area
Note: Clearing conducted under this exemption must be done by local government, the chief executive (transport) or an entity / person contracted by a local government or the chief executive (transport). This exemption does not include circumstances where a landholder merely has the consent of local government or the chief executive (transport) to undertake works on the road however is not undertaking those works on behalf of local government or the chief executive (transport).	
Clearing vegetation that is carried out by a local government, or by or	Category A area unless
for the chief executive (transport), and is necessary to construct or	stipulated by the department on a notice
maintain road transport infrastructure or to source construction	issued under the
material for roads.	Vegetation Management Act 1999 or Planning Act
Note: Clearing conducted under this exemption must be done by local government, the chief executive (transport) or an entity / person contracted by a local government or the chief executive (transport). This exemption does not include circumstances where a landholder merely has the consent of local government or the chief executive (transport) to undertake works on the road however is not undertaking those works on behalf of local government or the chief executive (transport).	2016 • Category B area
Clearing vegetation that is carried out by a local government to	Category A area unless
a. vegetation that is not native vegetation; or b. in accordance with a biosecurity plan made by the local government under the Biosecurity Act 2014. Note: Clearing conducted under this exemption must be done by local government or an entity / person contracted by a local government. This exemption does not include circumstances where a landholder merely has the consent of local government to undertake works on the road however is not undertaking those works on behalf of local government.	stipulated by the department on a notice issued under the Vegetation Management Act 1999 or Planning Act 2016 Category B area
Clearing vegetation that is:	Category A area unless stipulated by the
 Necessary to remove or reduce the imminent risk that the vegetation poses of serious personal injury or damage to infrastructure; For reducing hazardous fuel loads by fire under the Fire Services Act 1990. 	stipulated by the department on a notice issued under the Vegetation Management Act 1999 or Planning Act 2016 Category B area Category R area Category X area

Clearing activity/ purposes	Applicable vegetation category / status or clearing requirement / limitation
Note:	
1. A permit from a Local Fire Warden within the Queensland Fire Department may be	
required. Fire Wardens can be located through the Rural Fire Service website, using the	
Fire Warden Finder – go to www.qld.gov.au (search 'rural fire service').	
2. For more information regarding firebreaks, fire management lines and hazardous	
reduction burn, contact your Local Rural Fire Service Area Office or your Local Fire	
Warden – go to www.qld.gov.au (search 'rural fire service').	
Necessary to maintain infrastructure located on the road, other	
than fences;	
Necessary to maintain an existing boundary fence to the	
maximum width of 3m;	
Necessary for reasonable access to adjoining land from the	
formed road for a maximum width of 10m; or	
Necessary to maintain a firebreak or garden located on the road.	
Clearing conducted under an Accepted Development Vegetation	Category B area
Clearing Code.	Category R area
Note: Check the scope of the relevant vegetation clearing code to ensure the code is	
relevant to your clearing purpose. For further information on Accepted Development	
Vegetation Clearing Codes (ADVCCs) go to www.qld.gov.au (search 'accepted	
development vegetation clearing codes').	

Table 6: Exempt clearing work on trust land under the *Land Act 1994* (other than indigenous land)

Clearing activity / purpose	Applicable vegetation category / status or clearing requirement / limitation
Consistent with achieving the purposes of the trust, any vegetation	Category R area
clearing carried out, or authorised to be carried out, by the trustee.	Category X area
Consistent with achieving the purposes of the trust, clearing vegetation carried out, or authorised to be carried out, by the trustee:	Category A area unless stipulated by the department on a notice issued under the
 For establishing or maintaining a necessary firebreak to protect infrastructure*, other than a fence, road, or vehicular track, if the maximum width of firebreak is 1.5 times the height of the tallest vegetation next to the infrastructure, or 20m, whichever is the wider. 	Vegetation Management Act 1999 or Planning Act 2016 Category B area
Note: Firebreaks are areas that are cleared and maintained in a low fuel state to stop or steady a wildfire, or to back-burn against.	
For establishing a necessary fire management line up to 10m wide.	
Note: Fire management lines are pathways, roads, fence line clearings or tracks (including existing property tracks) used to access water for firefighting or divide the property for fuel reduction burning or back-burning.	
 For reducing hazardous fuel loads by fire under the Fire Services Act 1990. 	
Note: 1. A permit from a Local Fire Warden within the Queensland Fire Department may be required. Fire Wardens can be located through the Rural Fire Service website, using the Fire Warden Finder – go to www.qld.gov.au (search 'rural fire service'). 2. For more information regarding firebreaks, fire management lines and hazardous reduction burn, contact your Local Rural Fire Service Area Office or your Local Fire Warden – go to www.qld.gov.au (search 'rural fire service').	
 Necessary to remove or reduce the imminent risk that the vegetation poses of serious personal injury or damage to infrastructure*; 	
Necessary for maintaining infrastructure* including buildings, fences, helipads, roads, stockyards, vehicular tracks, water facilities (including dams) and constructed drains other than	

Clearing activity / purpose	Applicable vegetation
	category / status or clearing
contour banks, unless the clearing is for sourcing construction	requirement / limitation
material;	
For maintaining a garden or orchard, provided the predominant	
canopy trees are retained;	
To remove vegetation that is not native vegetation; or	
Is in accordance with a relevant biosecurity plan under the	
Biosecurity Act 2014.	
For an urban purpose (e.g. residential, industrial, sporting, recreational or commercial) in an urban area (not including rural residential, environmental, conservation, rural, natural or wilderness area purposes).	Category B area (Least Concern or Of Concern regional ecosystems only)
Note: See definitions for "urban purpose" and "urban area" under Schedule 24 of the Planning Regulation 2017.	
Consistent with achieving the purposes of the trust, clearing carried out,	Category B area (Least
or authorised to be carried out, by the trustee:	Concern regional
To establish a necessary fence, road or vehicle track up to 10m	ecosystems only)
wide; or	
To establish necessary built infrastructure* (including dams) other	
than contour banks, fences, roads, or vehicular tracks if:	
 a. the clearing is not to source construction timber; 	
b. the total area cleared is less than 2ha; and	
c. the total area covered by the infrastructure is on less than 2ha.	
Note: Clearing under this exemption is relevant to the clearing of the infrastructure footprint only. Clearing for the footprint area must not exceed 2ha.	
Clearing conducted under an Accepted Development Vegetation	Category B area
Clearing Code where the clearing is consistent with achieving the	
purposes of the trust, and the clearing is carried out, or authorised to	
be carried out, by the trustee.	
Note: Check the scope of the relevant vegetation clearing code to ensure the code is	
relevant to your clearing purpose. For further information on Accepted Development	
Vegetation Clearing Codes (ADVCCs) go to <u>www.qld.gov.au</u> (search 'accepted	
* Infrastructure includes a building, or other structure, built or used for any purpo	

^{*} Infrastructure includes a building, or other structure, built or used for any purpose.

Table 7: Exempt clearing work on unallocated State land

Clearing activity / purpose	Applicable vegetation category / status or clearing requirement / limitation
Clearing for any purposes carried out, or authorised to be carried out,	Category R area
by the chief executive administering the Land Act 1994.	Category X area
 Clearing carried out, or authorised to be carried out, by the chief executive administering the Land Act 1994: For establishing or maintaining a necessary firebreak to protect infrastructure*, other than a fence, road or vehicular track, if the maximum width of firebreak is 1.5 times the height of the tallest vegetation next to the infrastructure, or 20m, whichever is the wider. 	 Category A area unless stipulated by the department on a notice issued under the Vegetation Management Act 1999 or Planning Act 2016 Category B area
Note: Firebreaks are areas that are cleared and maintained in a low fuel state to stop or steady a wildfire, or to back-burn against.	
For establishing a necessary fire management line up to 10m wide.	
Note: Fire management lines are pathways, roads, fence line clearings or tracks (including existing property tracks) used to access water for firefighting or divide the property for fuel reduction burning or back-burning.	
 For reducing hazardous fuel loads by fire under the Fire Services Act 1990. 	
Note: 1. A permit from a Local Fire Warden within the Queensland Department may be required. Fire Wardens can be located through the Rural Fire Service website, using the Fire Warden Finder – go to www.qld.gov.au (search 'rural fire service'). 2. For more information regarding firebreaks, fire management lines and hazardous reduction burn, contact your Local Rural Fire Service Area Office or your Local Fire Warden – go to www.qld.gov.au (search 'rural fire service').	
 Necessary to remove or reduce the imminent risk that the vegetation poses of serious personal injury or damage to infrastructure*; Necessary for maintaining infrastructure* including buildings, fences, helipads, roads, stockyards, vehicular tracks, water facilities (including dams) and constructed drains other than contour banks, unless the clearing is for sourcing construction material; 	

Clearing activity / purpose	Applicable vegetation category / status or clearing requirement / limitation
For maintaining a garden or orchard, provided the predominant	
canopy trees are retained;	
To control declared pests or vegetation that is not native	
vegetation; or	
For development related to priority development areas.	
Note: A PDA is an area declared under the Economic Development Act as PDAs and	
identified for accelerated development to deliver significant benefits to the community with a focus on economic growth. For more information on PDAs go to www.qld.gov.au	
(search 'priority development areas').	
Clearing carried out, or authorised to be carried out, by the chief	Category B area (Least
executive administering the Land Act 1994:	Concern regional
To establish a necessary fence, road or vehicle track up to 10m	ecosystems only)
wide; or	
To establish necessary built infrastructure* (including dams) other	
than contour banks, fences, roads, or vehicular tracks if:	
a. the clearing is not to source construction timber;	
b. the total area cleared is less than 2ha; and	
c. the total area covered by the infrastructure is on less than	
2ha.	
Note: Clearing size must be to the extent necessary for the infrastructure and the total area cleared must not exceed 2ha.	
Clearing conducted under an Accepted Development Vegetation	Category B area
Clearing Code carried out, or authorised to be carried out, by the chief	
executive administering the Land Act 1994.	
Note: Check the scope of the relevant vegetation clearing code to ensure the code is	
relevant to your clearing purpose. For further information on Accepted Development	
Vegetation Clearing Codes (ADVCCs) go to www.qld.gov.au (search 'accepted development vegetation clearing codes').	
* Infrastructure includes a building or other structure, built or used for any purpo	

^{*} Infrastructure includes a building, or other structure, built or used for any purpose.

Table 8: Exempt clearing work on a land subject to a licence or permit under the Land Act 1994

Clearing activity / purpose	Applicable vegetation	
	category / status or clearing requirement / limitation	
Clearing for any purpose carried out by the licensee or permittee.	Category R area	
	Category X area	
Clearing carried out by the licensee or permittee:	Category B area	
For establishing or maintaining a necessary firebreak to protect	Category C area	
infrastructure*, other than a fence, road, or vehicular track, if the		
maximum width of firebreak is 1.5 times the height of the tallest		
vegetation next to the infrastructure, or 20m, whichever is the wider.		
Note: Firebreaks are areas that are cleared and maintained in a low fuel state to stop or steady a wildfire, or to back-burn against.		
For establishing a necessary fire management line up to 10m wide.		
Note: Fire management lines are pathways, roads, fence line clearings or tracks (including existing property tracks) used to access water for firefighting or divide the property for fuel reduction burning or back-burning.		
For reducing hazardous fuel loads by fire under the Fire Services Act 1990.		
Note: 1. A permit from a Local Fire Warden within the Queensland Fire Department may be required. Fire Wardens can be located through the Rural Fire Service website, using the Fire Warden Finder – go to www.qld.gov.au (search 'rural fire service'). 2. For more information regarding firebreaks, fire management lines and hazardous reduction burn, contact your Local Rural Fire Service Area Office or your Local Fire Warden – go to www.qld.gov.au (search 'rural fire service').		
 Necessary to remove or reduce the imminent risk that the vegetation poses of serious personal injury or damage to infrastructure*; Necessary for maintaining infrastructure* including buildings, 		
fences, helipads, roads, stockyards, vehicular tracks, water facilities (including dams) and constructed drains other than contour banks, unless the clearing is for sourcing construction material;		
 For maintaining a garden or orchard, provided the predominant 		
canopy trees are retained; or		
For development related to priority development areas.		

	category / status or clearing requirement / limitation
Note: A PDA is an area declared under the Economic Development Act as PDAs and identified for accelerated development to deliver significant benefits to the community with a focus on economic growth. For more information on PDAs go to www.qld.gov.au (search 'priority development areas').	
 Clearing carried out by the licensee or permittee: To establish a necessary fence, road or vehicle track up to 10m wide; or To establish necessary built infrastructure* (including dams) other than contour banks, fences, roads, or vehicular tracks if: a. the clearing is not to source construction timber; b. the total area cleared is less than 2ha; and c. the total area covered by the infrastructure is on less than 2ha. 	Category B area (Least Concern regional ecosystems only) Category C area
Note: Clearing under this exemption is relevant to the clearing of the infrastructure footprint only. Clearing for the footprint area must not exceed 2ha.	
For an urban purpose (e.g. residential, industrial, sporting, recreational or commercial) in an urban area (not including rural residential, environmental, conservation, rural, natural or wilderness area purposes). Note: See definitions for "urban purpose" and "urban area" under Schedule 24 of the Planning Regulation 2017.	 Category B area (Least Concern or Of Concern regional ecosystems only) Category C area
Clearing conducted under an accepted development vegetation clearing code Note: Check the scope of the relevant vegetation clearing code to ensure the code is relevant to your clearing purpose. For further information on Accepted Development Vegetation Clearing Codes (ADVCCs) go to www.qld.gov.au (search 'accepted development vegetation clearing codes').	Category B area Category C area

^{*} Infrastructure includes a building, or other structure, built or used for any purpose.

Appendix 1: Other Relevant Contacts List

Activity	Legislation	Agency	Contact details
Interference with overland flow	Water Act 2000	Queensland Department of Local Government, Water and Volunteers	Ph: 13 QGOV (13 74 68) www.dlgwv.qld.gov.au
Earthworks, significant disturbance	Soil Conservation Act 1986	Queensland Department of Natural Resources and Mines, Manufacturing and Regional and Rural Development	Ph: 13 QGOV (13 74 68) www.nrmmrrd.qld.gov.au
Fire Permits	Fire Services Act 1990	Queensland Fire Department	Ph: 13 QGOV (13 74 68) www.fire.qld.gov.au
Indigenous Cultural Heritage	Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2003 Torres Strait Islander Cultural Heritage Act 2003	Queensland Department of Women, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships and Multiculturalism	Ph. 13 QGOV (13 74 68) www.tatsipca.qld.gov.au
Mining and environmentally relevant activities Infrastructure development (coastal) Heritage issues	Environmental Protection Act 1994 Coastal Protection and Management Act 1995 Queensland Heritage Act 1992	Queensland Department of Environment, Tourism, Science and Innovation	Ph: 13 QGOV (13 74 68) www.desi.qld.gov.au
Protected plants and protected areas	Nature Conservation Act 1992 Planning Act 2016	Queensland Department of Environment, Tourism, Science and Innovation	Ph: 1300 130 372 (option 4) palm@des.qld.gov.au www.desi.qld.gov.au
Koala mapping and regulations	Nature Conservation Act 1992	Queensland Department of Environment, Tourism, Science and Innovation	Ph: 13 QGOV (13 74 68) Koala.assessment@des. qld.gov.au
Interference with fish passage in a watercourse, mangroves Forestry activities	Fisheries Act 1994 Forestry Act 1959	Queensland Department of Primary Industries	Ph: 13 QGOV (13 74 68) www.dpi.qld.gov.au
Matters of National Environmental Significance including listed threatened species and ecological communities	Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (Australian Government)	Ph: 1800 803 772 www.dcceew.gov.au
Development and planning processes	Planning Act 2016 State Development and Public Works Organisation Act 1971	Queensland Department of State Development, Infrastructure and Planning	Ph: 13 QGOV (13 74 68) www.planning.qld.gov.au
Coordinated projects	Planning Act 2016 State Development and Public Works Organisation Act 1971	Office of the Coordinator- General	Ph: 13 QGOV (13 74 68) www.statedevelopment.qld .gov.au/coordinator- general
Wet Tropics World Heritage Area	Wet Tropics World Heritage Protection and Management Act 1993	Queensland Wet Tropics Management Authority	Ph: (07) 4241 0500 www.wettropics.gov.au
Requirements on State controlled road	Transport Infrastructure Act 1994	Queensland Department of Transport and Main Roads	Ph: 13 QGOV (13 74 68) https://www.tmr.qld.gov.au
Local government requirements	Local Government Act 2009 Planning Act 2016	Your relevant local government office	