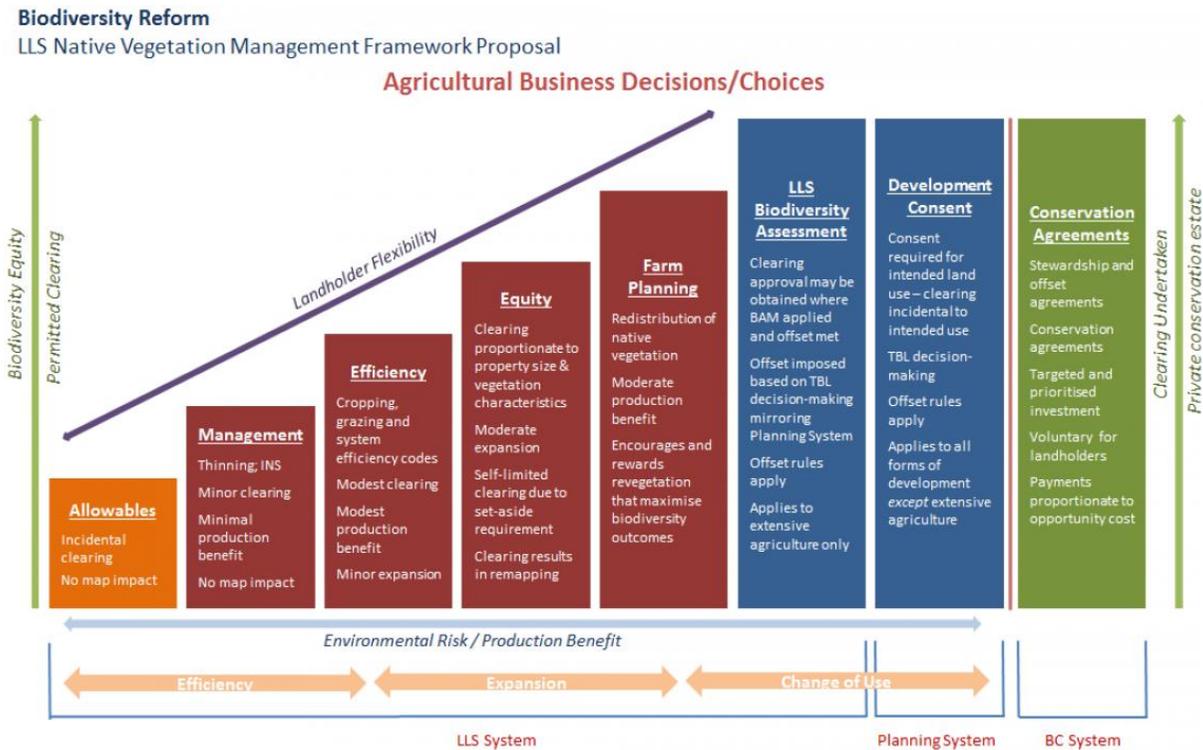


# LLS Codes of Practice

Amendments to the Local Land Services Act will enable the Minister for Primary Industries to establish codes of practice permitting land management and clearing activities on land subject to the Native Vegetation Regulatory Map. The codes will be made with the concurrence of the Minister for the Environment. A range of codes are proposed, permitting varying degrees of clearing flexibility and imposing higher management obligations where higher risk activities are undertaken.

## 1. Codes Overview



An overview of code types is provided below.

Code Type	Description	Codes
<b>Management</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Management codes will enable landholders to manage native vegetation in ways that will have no significant long-term impact on biodiversity values – and that may in fact improve biodiversity values at a property and landscape scale.</li> <li>• Activities permitted under management codes will not impact the native vegetation regulatory map – treated land will continue to be mapped to Category 2.</li> <li>• No set-asides will be imposed for activities under these codes.</li> <li>• Landholders will be required to notify LLS of intended low-impact activities under management codes. Higher impact activities will require LLS certification.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Thinning Code</b></p> <p><b>Invasive Native Species Code</b></p> <p><b>Stock Fodder Code</b></p>
<b>Efficiency</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Efficiency codes will enable landholders to clear vegetation to improve the efficiency of their agricultural enterprise.</li> <li>• Clearing under the cropping efficiency and system efficiency codes will result in cleared land being remapped to Category 1. Activities under the grazing efficiency code will have no impact on the regulatory map.</li> <li>• Other than for clearing of single trees or very small clumps in cultivation, all clearing under efficiency codes will require LLS certification; and set-asides will be imposed under the cropping efficiency and system efficiency codes.</li> <li>• For single trees or very small clumps in cultivation, landholders will be required to notify LLS of intended clearing.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Cropping Efficiency Code</b></p> <p><b>Grazing Efficiency Code</b></p> <p><b>System Efficiency Code</b></p>

<p><b>Equity</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The equity code will provide for clearing of vegetation on land mapped to Category 2, with greater clearing flexibility being afforded to landholders with a higher proportion of native vegetation on their property. This is will be achieved by applying higher set-aside ratios as the proportion of a property mapped to Category 2 decreases.</li> <li>• Clearing will result in cleared land being remapped to Category 1 and all clearing will require LLS certification and set-asides.</li> <li>• Set aside areas will be mapped as Category 2.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Equity Code</b></p>
<p><b>Property Planning</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The farm planning code will enable up to a threshold percentage of Category 2 mapped land on a property to be 'redistributed'. This will encourage revegetation by enabling landholders to access clearing in exchange for targeted planting that improves biodiversity by creating or improving the condition of cores and corridors.</li> <li>• Clearing under the farm planning code will result in cleared land being remapped to Category 1 but the overall proportion on a property mapped to Category 1 and Category 2 will not change.</li> <li>• All clearing under the farm planning code will require LLS certification and set-asides.</li> <li>• Set aside areas will be mapped as Category 2.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Farm Plan Code</b></p>

Unless otherwise stated, more than one code may be applied in a single treatment area and codes may not be applied in set-aside areas unless doing so will improve the quality of the set-aside area and LLS certification is acquired.

Clearing under codes is not permitted if the vegetation proposed to be cleared is:

- a RAMSAR wetland (to protect internationally important wetlands)
- a littoral rainforest (SEPP 26)

- core koala habitat (SEPP 44)
- sites managed under the site-managed species initiative of the Saving Our Species Program
- declared Areas of Outstanding Biodiversity Value

NOTE: The above list of standard exclusions from clearing under codes may be amended as a result of consultation.

## Set-asides

Each code will set out clearing parameters and any set-aside requirements imposed in exchange for clearing. Three types of set-aside will be established under codes: intensive management of remnant vegetation, moderate management of remnant vegetation and rehabilitation/revegetation of Category 1 land.

Set-aside ratios identify how the area of land that must be set aside is calculated relative to the area of land proposed to be cleared. A baseline set-aside ratio is established for each set-aside type, which applies for all set-asides unless otherwise provided in codes (see in particular the equity code and farm plan code). In determining the clearing area for the purposes of calculating the set-aside requirement, clearing is defined as that area of Category 2 land that will be re-categorised to Category 1 if clearing is undertaken.

Landholders may select the set-aside type that will be utilised to discharge a set-aside requirement, provided the land proposed to be set aside is appropriate to the set-aside type selected. Set-aside types and baseline set-aside ratios are set out in the table below.

Set-aside Type	Description	Baseline ratio
<b>Intensive management of remnant vegetation</b>	An area of remnant vegetation that requires regular active management to promote environmental outcomes	1 unit set aside for each unit cleared (1:1)
<b>Moderate management of remnant vegetation</b>	An area of remnant vegetation that requires little ongoing management to promote environmental outcomes	2 units set aside for each unit cleared (2:1)
<b>Rehabilitation/revegetation of Category 1 land</b>	An area of Category 1 land managed to facilitate re-establish of native vegetation including by targeted planting	3 units set aside for each unit cleared (3:1)

All set-asides must be in addition to any current publicly funded initiative, offset or other set-aside. Where set-asides are established on Category 1 land, this land will be re-mapped to Category 2. Set-aside areas must be managed in perpetuity and this obligation travels with the land. Landholders must manage pests and weeds in all set-asides.

Where a set-aside requirement is met by intensive or moderate management of remnant vegetation, LLS is authorised to advise landholders about the best location for set-asides to maximise biodiversity outcomes, including by establishing or improving the condition of cores and corridors. Where a set-aside requirement is met by rehabilitation/revegetation, LLS must set out in the certificate the management actions that are required to facilitate re-establishment of native vegetation on the set aside land.

A set-aside requirement can only be discharged on the landholding (i.e. as identified in a Property Identification Code) on which clearing is proposed to be undertaken. Where a set-aside requirement is discharged in this manner, the applicable set-aside ratio is the ratio that applies to the property on which clearing is undertaken.

## Certification

Codes will set out the circumstances in which LLS certification of intended clearing is required. Certification will be required in all cases where codes impose a set-aside requirement for clearing. Codes will also set out any conditions pertaining to clearing and

set-asides, such as notification requirements and activities permitted in treatment and set-aside areas. Certificates will be registered on title, providing protection for both clearing permissions and set-aside areas.

## Treatment of EECs

Where NSW listed EEC vegetation is proposed to be cleared under a code and the code imposes a set-aside requirement for the clearing, an area of land containing the same EEC must be set aside. Revegetation is not available for EEC clearing. A 50% loading is applied to the relevant set-aside ratio for EEC clearing unless the area proposed to be cleared is less than the threshold area set out in the table below and not contiguous with any other area containing the same EEC, in which case the set-aside is required at the otherwise applicable ratio (i.e. without the 50% loading).

Zone	Area threshold for EEC loading
Western	4ha
Central	3ha
Tablelands	2ha
Coastal	1ha

Notwithstanding the above, the EEC loading is not imposed if, in the opinion of the LLS certifying officer, 50% or more of the vegetation comprising the overstory, midstory or groundcover in the area proposed to be cleared are species not identified in the EEC determination as constituting the EEC.

Where it is proposed to set-aside EEC vegetation for clearing of non-EEC vegetation, set-aside ratios are reduced by 50% if the proposed set-aside area is above the thresholds in the above table and if, in the opinion of the LLS certifying officer, 50% or more

of the vegetation comprising the overstory, midstory and groundcover in the proposed set-aside area are species identified in the threatened species determination as constituting the ecological community.

1. An EEC will be determined by LLS with reference to condition and structure thresholds as described above.
2. An EEC is dealt with under the codes requiring protections of loadings to sets asides for clearing. Set asides must be EEC like for like that must be actively managed for biodiversity.
3. Critically endangered ecological communities (CEEC) are not able to be cleared under these codes. The Biodiversity Conservation Trust may consider entering into a stewardship agreement with a landholder should a code not be able to be applied to an area due to the presence of a CEEC.

## 2. Management codes

### Thinning code

**Objective:** To enable landholders to selectively clear vegetation to increase groundcover and pasture growth and reduce woody vegetation competition to improve agricultural production.

Clearing by notification (level 1)	
<b>Permitted clearing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clearing of native vegetation is permitted to 75% of the benchmark density for the highest density formation occurring in the LLS region in which the vegetation intended to be thinned occurs.</li> </ul>
<b>Application</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Can only be applied where the area of vegetation intended to be thinned is greater than 1 hectare.</li> <li>• Cannot be applied in the Coastal Zone under any circumstances.</li> <li>• In any Zone other than the Western Zone: cannot be applied on landholdings of less than 10 hectares.</li> <li>• In the Western Zone: cannot be applied on landholdings of less than 40 hectares.</li> </ul>
<b>Clearing parameters</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Largest stems must be retained.</li> <li>• Retained stems must be of approximately even spacing.</li> <li>• Stems above 80cm DBHOB cannot be cleared.</li> <li>• Underscrubbing is not permitted.</li> <li>• Thinning must not result in land degradation.</li> </ul>
<b>Clearing method</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chaining and roping are not permitted.</li> </ul>

## Clearing by certification (level 2)

<b>Permitted clearing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• For non-endangered ecological communities: clearing is permitted to 50% of the benchmark density for the formation intended to be thinned.</li><li>• For endangered ecological communities: clearing is permitted to 75% of the benchmark density for the formation intended to be thinned.</li></ul>
<b>Application</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Can only be applied where the area of vegetation intended to be thinned is greater than 1 hectare.</li><li>• Can only be applied to the following plant genera in the Coastal Zone: Acacia, Allocasuarina, Angophera, Callitris, Casuarina, Corymbia, Eucalyptus, Melaleuca*</li><li>• In any Zone other than the Western Zone: cannot be applied on landholdings of less than 10 hectares.</li><li>• In the Western Zone: cannot be applied on landholdings of less than 40 hectares.</li></ul>
<b>Clearing parameters</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Stems above 80cm DBHOB cannot be cleared.</li><li>• The mid/under story may not be impacted in more than 70% of the area thinned.</li><li>• Thinning must not result in land degradation.</li></ul>
<b>Clearing method</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Chaining and roping are not permitted.</li></ul>

\*The list of plant genera is subject to confirmation

## Invasive Native Species code

**Objective:** To enable landholders to clear specified invasive native species to improve the agricultural production capacity of the land.

### Clearing INS by management burning

#### Clearing by notification (level 1)

<b>Permitted clearing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Clearing of invasive native vegetation by management burning.</li></ul>
<b>Clearing parameters</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The species of vegetation to be cleared must be listed on the published invasive native species list for notified clearing by management burning.*</li><li>• The maximum DBHOB of cleared invasive native species must not exceed the maximum allowable limit published in the invasive native species list for notified clearing by management burning.</li><li>• Disturbance of groundcover must be minimal.</li><li>• Non-native vegetation cannot be introduced.</li><li>• A maximum of 90% of the invasive native species occurring in each 1,000 hectare area to be treated may be removed.</li></ul>

\* An INS list will be prepared setting out the species applicable to each level of each INS code and specifying the maximum DBHOB in each case. This work is underway and will be provided as soon as possible. It is expected largely to mirror the existing code.

## Clearing by certification (level 2)

<b>Permitted clearing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Clearing of invasive native vegetation by management burning.</li></ul>
<b>Clearing parameters</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The species of vegetation to be cleared must be listed on the published invasive native species list for certified clearing by management burning.</li><li>• The listed invasive native species must be acting invasively.*</li><li>• The maximum DBHOB of cleared invasive native species must not exceed the maximum allowable limit published in the invasive native species list for certified clearing by management burning.</li><li>• Disturbance of groundcover must be minimal.</li><li>• Non-native vegetation cannot be introduced.</li><li>• A maximum of 90% of the invasive native species occurring in each 1,000 hectare area to be treated may be removed.</li></ul>

\* A definition for 'acting invasively' will be provided in the final code.

## Clearing INS - individual plants

### Clearing by notification (level 1)

<b>Permitted clearing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Clearing of invasive native vegetation by clearing of individual plants.</li></ul>
<b>Application</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Cannot be applied to land that is within 75m* of estuary, wetland or incised watercourse.</li></ul>
<b>Clearing parameters</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The species of vegetation to be cleared must be listed on the published invasive native species list for notified clearing by clearing of individual plants.</li><li>• The maximum DBHOB of cleared invasive native species must not exceed the maximum allowable limit published in the invasive native species list for notified clearing by clearing of individual plants.</li><li>• Disturbance of groundcover must be minimal.</li><li>• Non-native vegetation cannot be introduced.</li><li>• A maximum of 90% of the invasive native species occurring in each 1,000 hectare area to be treated may be removed.</li></ul>

\* This figure, wherever occurring, is a working figure only and is subject to further consideration by agencies.

## Clearing by certification (level 2)

<b>Permitted clearing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Clearing of invasive native vegetation by clearing of individual plants.</li></ul>
<b>Application</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Cannot be applied to land that is within 75m of estuary, wetland or incised watercourse.</li></ul>
<b>Clearing parameters</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The species of vegetation to be cleared must be listed on the published invasive native species list for certified clearing by clearing of individual plants.</li><li>• The listed invasive native species must be acting invasively.</li><li>• The maximum DBHOB of cleared invasive native species must not exceed the maximum allowable limit published in the invasive native species list for certified clearing by clearing of individual plants.</li><li>• Disturbance of groundcover must be minimal.</li><li>• Non-native vegetation cannot be introduced.</li><li>• A maximum of 90% of the invasive native species occurring in each 1,000 hectare area to be treated may be removed.</li></ul>

## Clearing INS at a paddock scale - minimal ground cover disturbance

### Clearing by notification (level 1)

<b>Permitted clearing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clearing of invasive native vegetation at a paddock scale with minimal ground cover disturbance.</li> </ul>
<b>Application</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cannot be applied to land that:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ has a gradient greater than 15 degrees</li> <li>○ contains soil that is less than 6% clay</li> <li>○ is greater than 30% rocky coverage</li> <li>○ is within 75m of estuary, wetland or incised watercourse</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Cannot be applied where the invasive native species constitutes less than 50% of the total vegetation in the area to be treated.</li> <li>• Cannot be applied where the non-invasive native species constitutes more than 10% of the total vegetation in the area to be treated.</li> <li>• Cannot be applied to EEC vegetation.</li> </ul>
<b>Clearing parameters</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The species of vegetation to be cleared must be listed on the published invasive native species list for notified clearing at a paddock scale with minimal ground cover disturbance.</li> <li>• The maximum DBHOB of cleared invasive native species must not exceed the maximum allowable limit published in the invasive native species list for notified clearing at a paddock scale with minimal ground cover disturbance.</li> <li>• The maximum DBHOB of cleared non-invasive native species must not exceed 20cm.</li> <li>• Non-native vegetation cannot be introduced except by sowing of annual or non-persistent perennial crops by zero till.</li> <li>• A maximum of 90% of the invasive native species occurring in each 1,000 hectare area to be treated may be removed.</li> </ul>

## Clearing by certification (level 2)

<b>Permitted clearing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clearing of invasive native vegetation at a paddock scale with minimal ground cover disturbance.</li> </ul>
<b>Application</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cannot be applied to land that:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ has a gradient greater than 15 degrees except if the land is not a water run-on area and there is no evidence of gully erosion in which case the gradient must not be greater than 25 degrees</li> <li>○ contains soil that is less than 6% clay unless the areas has an average annual rainfall greater than 300mm</li> <li>○ is greater than 30% rocky coverage unless the soil depth is greater than 50cm in which case the land must not be greater than 50% rocky</li> <li>○ is within 75m of estuary, wetland or incised watercourse</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Cannot be applied where the invasive native species constitutes less than 50% of the total vegetation in the area to be treated.</li> <li>• Cannot be applied where the non-invasive native species constitutes more than 20% of the total vegetation in the area to be treated.</li> </ul>
<b>Clearing parameters</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The species of vegetation to be cleared must be listed on the published invasive native species list for certified clearing at a paddock scale with minimal ground cover disturbance.</li> <li>• The listed invasive native species must be acting invasively.</li> <li>• The maximum DBHOB of cleared invasive native species must not exceed the maximum allowable limit published in the invasive native species list for notified clearing at a paddock scale with minimal ground cover disturbance.</li> <li>• The maximum DBHOB of cleared non-invasive native species must not exceed 20cm.</li> <li>• Non-native vegetation cannot be introduced except by sowing of annual or non-persistent perennial crops by zero till.</li> <li>• A maximum of 90% of the invasive native species occurring in each 1,000 hectare area to be treated may be removed.</li> </ul>

## Clearing INS at a paddock scale - temporary ground cover disturbance

Clearing by notification	
<b>Permitted clearing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clearing of invasive native vegetation at a paddock scale with temporary ground cover disturbance.</li> </ul>
<b>Application</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cannot be applied to land that:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ has a gradient greater than 3 degrees</li> <li>○ contains soil that is less than 13% clay (e.g. sandy loams, loam sands or loose sands)</li> <li>○ contains soil that is less than 50cm in depth</li> <li>○ is greater than 30% rocky coverage</li> <li>○ is within 75m of estuary, wetland or incised watercourse</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Cannot be applied where the invasive native species constitutes less than 50% of the total vegetation in the area to be treated.</li> <li>• Cannot be applied where the non-invasive native species constitutes more than 20% of the total vegetation in the area to be treated.</li> <li>• Cannot be applied to EEC vegetation.</li> </ul>
<b>Clearing parameters</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The species of vegetation must be a species listed on the published invasive native species list for notified clearing at a paddock scale with temporary ground cover disturbance.</li> <li>• The maximum DBHOB of cleared invasive native species must not exceed the maximum allowable limit published in the invasive native species list for notified clearing at a paddock scale with temporary ground cover disturbance.</li> <li>• The maximum DBHOB of cleared non-invasive native species must not exceed 20cm.</li> <li>• Annual or non-persistent perennial non-native species may be introduced and harvested a maximum of 3 times in each 15 year period.</li> <li>• No more than 90% of the invasive native species may be cleared in each 1,000 hectare area intended to be treated.</li> </ul>

## Clearing by certification

<b>Permitted clearing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clearing of invasive native vegetation at a paddock scale with temporary ground cover disturbance.</li> </ul>
<b>Application</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cannot be applied to land that:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ has a gradient greater than 10 degrees</li> <li>○ contains soil that is less than 13% clay (e.g. sandy loams, loam sands or loose sands) unless planted non-natives will not be harvested in which case the soil must not be less than 6% clay</li> <li>○ contains soil that is less than 50cm in depth unless planted non-natives will not be harvested in which case the soil may be of any depth</li> <li>○ is greater than 30% rocky coverage</li> <li>○ is within 75m of estuary, wetland or incised watercourse</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Cannot be applied where the invasive native species constitutes less than 50% of the total vegetation in the area to be treated.</li> <li>• Cannot be applied where the non-invasive native species constitutes more than 20% of the total vegetation in the area to be treated.</li> </ul>
<b>Clearing parameters</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The species of vegetation must be a species listed on the published invasive native species list for certified clearing at a paddock scale with temporary ground cover disturbance.</li> <li>• The maximum DBHOB of cleared invasive native species must not exceed the maximum allowable limit published in the invasive native species list for notified clearing at a paddock scale with temporary ground cover disturbance.</li> <li>• The maximum DBHOB of cleared non-invasive native species must not exceed 20cm.</li> <li>• Annual or non-persistent perennial non-native species may be introduced and harvested a maximum of 5 times in each 15 year period but not more than in 3 consecutive years.</li> <li>• No more than 90% of the invasive native species may be cleared in each 1,000 hectare area intended to be treated.</li> </ul>

## Stock Fodder code

**Objective:** To enable landholders to harvest native vegetation for the purpose of stock fodder.

Clearing by notification (level 1)	
<b>Permitted clearing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Harvesting of native vegetation for the purposes of stock fodder.</li> </ul>
<b>Application</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Not available in the Coastal Zone or the tablelands Zone.</li> <li>• In the Central Zone: cannot be applied on landholdings of less than 10 hectares.</li> <li>• In the Western Zone: cannot be applied on landholdings of less than 40 hectares.</li> <li>• Cannot be applied to land that:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ has a gradient greater than 18 degrees unless harvesting will result in no soil disturbance</li> <li>○ is within 30m of estuary, wetland or incised watercourse</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Clearing parameters</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Harvesting permitted of up to 50% of the total area of mulga and its variants on any landholding within any 10 year period.</li> <li>• Harvesting permitted of prescribed species other than mulga by any method that will not kill the vegetation.</li> <li>• Cleared vegetation must remain where it falls or be windrowed along contour.</li> <li>• Harvesting cannot be undertaken in an area in which harvesting has been undertaken at any time in the preceding 10 year period.</li> </ul>

### 3. Efficiency codes

#### Efficiency codes – Cumulative Use Limit

- Aggregate clearing under efficiency codes may not exceed two percent of category 2 land on a single property.
- Any clearing proposed in excess of two percent of category 2 land must be assessed as clearing under the Equity Code.

#### Cropping Efficiency code

**Objective:** Clearing of paddock trees, islands and peninsulas in a cultivation area to increase cropping efficiency.

Clearing by notification	
<b>Permitted clearing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Clearing of unencumbered Category 2 mapped land in a cultivation area.</li></ul>
<b>Application</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Can only be applied to land wholly surrounded by Category 1 mapped land.</li></ul>
<b>Clearing parameters</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The area the vegetation to be cleared must be no more than 500m<sup>2</sup> (i.e. canopy radius less than 15m) OR</li><li>• The diameter of a single tree to be cleared must be 80cm DBHOB or less.</li></ul>
<b>Regulatory map impact</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Cleared area will be re-mapped to category 1.</li></ul>

Clearing by certification	
<b>Permitted clearing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clearing of unencumbered Category 2 mapped land in a cultivation area.</li> </ul>
<b>Application</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Can only be applied to land wholly or mostly surrounded by Category 1 mapped land.</li> </ul>
<b>Clearing parameters</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In the Coastal Zone: the area of land to be cleared must not exceed 1 hectare.</li> <li>• In the tablelands Zone: the area of land to be cleared must not exceed 2 hectares.</li> <li>• In the Central Zone: the area of land to be cleared must not exceed 3 hectares.</li> <li>• In the Western Zone: the area of to be cleared must not exceed 4 hectares.</li> </ul>
<b>Set-aside requirements</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Baseline set-aside ratios apply.</li> <li>• The EEC loading and reduction are imposed where applicable.</li> </ul>
<b>Regulatory map impact</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cleared area will be re-mapped to category 1.</li> </ul>

## Grazing Efficiency code

**Objective:** Clearing of woody vegetation to promote groundcover growth for grazing purposes.

Clearing by notification	
<b>Permitted clearing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Clearing of single trees and small clumps in grazing pastures.</li></ul>
<b>Application</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Can only be applied to trees/clumps wholly surrounded by grazing pasture.</li><li>• Cannot be applied to EEC vegetation.</li></ul>
<b>Clearing parameters</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The canopy cover of the vegetation to be cleared must be no more than 500m<sup>2</sup> (i.e. canopy radius less than 15m) OR</li><li>• The diameter of a single tree to be cleared must be 80cm DBHOB or less.</li></ul>
<b>Regulatory map impact</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• None.</li></ul>

Clearing by certification	
<b>Permitted clearing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clearing of limited woody vegetation in a treatment area.</li> </ul>
<b>Application</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cannot be applied to properties that are mapped less than 30% to Category 2.</li> <li>• Treatment areas can together comprise no more than 30% of a property.</li> <li>• Cannot be applied to properties that are less than 100 hectares.</li> <li>• Cannot be applied to EEC vegetation.</li> </ul>
<b>Clearing parameters</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Remnant tree cover may be removed from a treatment area.</li> <li>• Remnant tree cover must be retained in at least 30% of a treatment area.</li> <li>• Retained patches of remnant tree cover must have an area of at least 5 hectares.</li> <li>• Ground cover must be promoted/retained in cleared areas.</li> <li>• Cleared areas may be used for grazing purposes only.</li> </ul>
<b>Regulatory map impact</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None.</li> </ul>

## System Efficiency code

**Objective:** Clearing of vegetation to enable more efficiency farm management.

Clearing by certification	
<b>Permitted clearing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clearing of unencumbered Category 2 mapped land wherever occurring.</li> </ul>
<b>Application</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cannot be applied to small holdings</li> <li>• Cannot be applied to properties within 50km of the coast unless LLS is satisfied that the primary use of the land is agricultural activities.</li> </ul>
<b>Clearing parameters</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In the Coastal Zone: the area of land to be cleared must not exceed 1 hectare.</li> <li>• In the Tablelands Zone: the area of land to be cleared must not exceed 2 hectares.</li> <li>• In the Central Zone: the area of land to be cleared must not exceed 3 hectares.</li> <li>• In the Western Zone: the area of land to be cleared must not exceed 4 hectares.</li> </ul>
<b>Set-aside requirements</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Baseline set-aside ratios apply.</li> <li>• The EEC loading and reduction are imposed where applicable.</li> </ul>
<b>Impact on regulatory map</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cleared area will be re-mapped to category 1.</li> </ul>

## 4. Equity code

### Equity code – Cumulative Use Limit

- In any three year period, clearing under the Equity Code may not exceed whichever is the greater of:
  - 25% of maximum permitted clearing under the code up to a maximum of 500ha
  - or
  - 100ha

### Equity code

**Objective:** Clearing to expand an existing farming enterprise.

Clearing by certification	
<b>Permitted clearing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clearing of unencumbered Category 2 mapped land wherever occurring.</li> </ul>
<b>Application</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cannot be applied if less than 10% of a property is mapped to Category 2.</li> <li>• Cannot be applied if treatment would result in the percentage of the property mapped to Category 2 falling below 10%.</li> <li>• Cannot be applied to properties that are less than 100ha.</li> <li>• Cannot be applied to properties within 50km of the coast unless LLS is satisfied that the primary use of the land is agricultural activities.</li> </ul>
<b>Set-aside</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Variable – see table below.</li> <li>• The EEC loading and reduction are imposed where applicable.</li> </ul>

<b>Regulatory map impact</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cleared areas are remapped to Category 1.</li> </ul>
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### Equity Code set-aside ratios

Proportion of landholding mapped to Category 2 (yellow)	Intensive management of a remnant patch	Moderate management of a remnant patch	Rehabilitation/revegetation
Less than 10	Code not available		
10+ to 20	5:1	6:1	7:1
20+ to 40	3:1	4:1	5:1
40+	Baseline ratio (1:1)	Baseline ratio (2:1)	Baseline ratio (3:1)

NOTE: Consistent with requirements under the *Native Vegetation Act 2003*, clearing that is compliant with land management codes will not remove the obligation of landholders to obtain approval under the Commonwealth *Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) where necessary. “Actions” that are likely to have a significant impact on a matter of national environmental significance require approval under the EPBC Act.

## 5. Farm Plan code

### Farm Plan code

**Objective:** Redistribution of native vegetation to maximise productivity and create or improve the condition of cores and corridors.

Clearing by certification	
<b>Permitted clearing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clearing of unencumbered Category 2 mapped land wherever occurring.</li> </ul>
<b>Application</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cannot be applied to more than 25% of unencumbered Category 2 mapped land on a property.</li> <li>• Cannot be applied to EEC vegetation.</li> <li>• Cannot be applied to properties within 50km of the coast unless LLS is satisfied that the primary use of the land is agricultural activities.</li> </ul>
<b>Set-aside</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Set-asides may only be established on Category 1 mapped land.</li> <li>• Set-aside areas must be revegetated with native woody vegetation at a set-aside ratio of 1:1.</li> <li>• Set-aside areas must maximise biodiversity outcomes as far as practicable.</li> </ul>
<b>Regulatory map impact</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Areas to be cleared are remapped to Category 1 once LLS has certified that sufficient revegetation is achieved to balance the proposed clearing.</li> <li>• Revegetation is to be of an equal or better standard for the region.</li> <li>• Revegetated areas used for set asides are remapped as Category 2.</li> </ul>