



Area management plan to place and maintain apiary infrastructure

5 April 2017

This area management plan (AMP) for constructing and maintaining apiary infrastructure has been prepared by the Department of Natural Resources and Mines (DNRM) and:

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Glossary

The following technical terms and their definitions are essential to understanding this area management plan. Where used in the text, the terms are italicised and bold.

Apiary infrastructure	Means: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • hives for bees being a receptacle for housing living bees that contains moveable frames in which the combs are built, and which may be separately and readily removed from the receptacle for examination; AND • any pallet, stand, bench, platform or other apparatus supporting the placement of the hive.
Apiary site	Means any site, place or premises where apiary infrastructure is situated in or on.
Bee	Has the meaning given in Schedule 4 (Dictionary) of the Biosecurity Act 2014 .
Category B area	Has the meaning given in s.20AM of the Vegetation Management Act 1999 and is shown on the regulated vegetation management map or a property map of assessable vegetation ¹ .
Category C area	Has the meaning given in s.20AN of the Vegetation Management Act 1999 and is shown on the regulated vegetation management map or a property map of assessable vegetation ¹ .
Category R area	Has the meaning given in s.20ANA of the Vegetation Management Act 1999 and is shown on the regulated vegetation management map or a property map of assessable vegetation ¹ .
Category X area	Has the meaning given in s.20AO of the Vegetation Management Act 1999 and is shown on the regulated vegetation management map or a property map of assessable vegetation ¹ .
Clear, clearing, cleared	Removing native vegetation by cutting down, ringbarking, pushing over, poisoning, or destroying in any way including burning, flooding or draining but it does not include destroying via stock or lopping.
Defining bank	The bank that confines the seasonal flows, but which may be inundated by flooding from time-to-time. Either of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the bank or terrace that confines the water before the point of flooding • where there is no bank, the seasonal high water line that represents the point of flooding.
Drainage feature	Has the meaning given in the Schedule (Dictionary) of the Vegetation Management Act 1999 and is shown on the vegetation management watercourse and drainage feature map ¹ certified by the chief executive of the Vegetation Management Act 1999 .
Endangered regional ecosystem	Has the meaning given in s.22LA of the Vegetation Management Act 1999 .
Essential habitat	Has the meaning given in s.20AC of the Vegetation Management Act 1999 and is shown on the essential habitat map ¹ certified by the chief executive of the Vegetation Management Act 1999 .
Habitat tree/s	Includes either of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Living trees with one or more visible hollows of 10 cm or more in diameter that are positioned at least two metres above the base of the tree. Habitat trees are used, or potentially used, by hollow-dwelling fauna.

¹ These maps can be requested from the Queensland Government website at www.qld.gov.au—search for ‘vegetation management’.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trees that contain an active bird's nest, or the nest of a raptor or other bird that uses the same nest each year.
Hive	Has the meaning given in Schedule 4 (Dictionary) of the Biosecurity Act 2014 .
Indigenous land	Has the meaning given in the Schedule (Dictionary) of the Vegetation Management Act 1999 .
Landholder	Includes (where relevant): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the registered proprietor of freehold land a lessee of freehold land, subject to the consent of the freehold owner to make a notification a lessee if a lease under the Land Act 1994, provided the clearing is consistent with the purposes of the lease a sub-lessee of a lease under the Land Act 1994, provided the clearing is consistent with the purposes of the lease, and subject to the consent of the lessee to make a notification a licensee or permittee under the Land Act 1994 provided the clearing is consistent with the conditions of the licence or permit the holder of the title or tenure to the land.
Least Concern regional ecosystem	Has the meaning given in s.22LC of the Vegetation Management Act 1999 .
Regional ecosystems	Has the meaning given in the Schedule (Dictionary) of the Vegetation Management Act 1999 .
Registered biosecurity entity	A natural person, company, trust, registered body or government organisation that has obtained registration as a biosecurity entity under chapter 7, part 2 of the Biosecurity Act 2014 .
Remnant vegetation	Has the meaning given in the Schedule (Dictionary) of the Vegetation Management Act 1999 .
Vehicular tracks	Pathways providing permanent or temporary vehicular access.
Seasonal high water line	A zone that represents the usual peak seasonal flow level and can be identified by deposition, debris or characteristic vegetation zonation.
Soil erosion and instability	The occurrence of gully erosion greater than 30 centimetres in depth, landslips, a scarp, soil scalding or stream bank slumping.
Vegetation	Has the meaning given in s.8 of the Vegetation Management Act 1999 .
Watercourse	Has the meaning given in the Schedule (Dictionary) of the Vegetation Management Act 1999 and is shown on the vegetation management watercourse and drainage feature map ¹ certified by the chief executive of the Vegetation Management Act 1999 .
Wetland	Has the meaning given in the Schedule (Dictionary) of the Vegetation Management Act 1999 and is shown on the vegetation management wetlands map ¹ certified by the chief executive of the Vegetation Management Act 1999 .

1 Introduction

Clearing under this area management plan (AMP) is for the placement and maintenance of **apiary infrastructure**, and relevant infrastructure activities necessary for access to the **apiary infrastructure**, by a **registered biosecurity entity**.

This AMP refers to **clearing** under the [Vegetation Management Act 1999](#). Other legislation including, but not limited to, the legislation listed in [Appendix 1](#) may also regulate the proposed **clearing**. It is essential that you check with any relevant authority to determine if your proposal is permitted or requires any further approvals.

1.1 Area of plan

The area covered by this AMP is the State of Queensland other than any the following:

1. Forest reserve under the [Nature Conservation Act 1992](#) (Nature Conservation Act).
2. Any protected areas under the Nature Conservation Act²:
 - o national park (scientific)
 - o national park
 - o national park (Aboriginal land)
 - o national park (Torres Strait Islander land)
 - o national park (Cape York Peninsula Aboriginal land)
 - o conservation park
 - o resource reserve.
3. Areas declared as a state forest or timber reserve under the [Forestry Act 1959](#).
4. Forest entitlement areas under the [Land Act 1994](#) (Land Act).

1.2 Scope of plan

This AMP applies to the **clearing** of **vegetation** in a **Category B area**, **Category C area**, **Category R area** or **Category X area**³ by a **registered biosecurity entity** on any of the following:

1. Freehold land – **clearing** must be carried out with the **landholder's** consent.
2. **Indigenous land** – **clearing** must be carried out with the **landholder's** consent.
3. Leasehold land granted under the Land Act – **clearing** must be carried out with the **landholder's** consent.
4. Unallocated State Land under the Land Act – **clearing** is limited to the area that is subject to the Permit to Occupy and must be authorised to be carried out by the chief executive administering the Land Act.
5. Trust land (other than **Indigenous land** under the Land Act)—**clearing** must be consistent with the purpose of the trust land and must be authorised to be carried out by the trustee.

This AMP does not apply to any of the following:

1. Dedicated roads or road reserves under the Land Act.
2. A stock route declared under the [Stock Route Management Act 2002](#).

² To place an apiary in a national park or other protected area contact your local Department of National Parks, Sport and Racing office.

³ **Clearing** of native **vegetation** within a **Category X area** on freehold, **Indigenous land** and leasehold land for any purpose is exempt and can occur at any time without reference to the Department of Natural Resources and Mines (DNRM).

2 Management intent and management outcomes

This AMP has been developed in line with the purposes of the *Vegetation Management Act 1999* and the principles and outcomes of the [State Policy for Vegetation Management](#). The management intent of this AMP is to:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conserve remnant vegetation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prevent the loss of biodiversity.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain ecological processes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prevent land degradation.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain bank stability, water quality and habitat of wetland, watercourse and drainage features. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allow for sustainable land use.

The conditions stated in this AMP will ensure the intent of the AMP is achieved and the following outcomes are met:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clearing only to the extent necessary. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clearing is not in endangered regional ecosystems or essential habitat.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clearing is avoided or minimised. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clearing protects water quality, bank stability, aquatic and terrestrial habitats, and will not result in land degradation.

3 Conditions

Clearing must comply with all the following:

3.1 Notification

1. The notifier must be a **registered biosecurity entity** and must notify DNRM prior to **clearing** under this AMP.⁴
2. A notification may only apply to a single lot⁵.
3. Notifications remain in effect until the expiry of the AMP.
4. Notifications do not transfer on a change of ownership. If you have recently purchased the property or obtained a permit / sub-lease and intend to undertake **clearing of vegetation** under this AMP, you must first notify DNRM.

3.2 Clearing purposes

Clearing under this AMP is only permitted by a **registered biosecurity entity** for any the following:

1. **Clearing** necessary for the placement and maintenance⁶ of **apiary infrastructure**.
2. **Clearing** necessary for a **vehicular track** to place and maintain the **apiary infrastructure**.

3.3 Avoid and minimise

All of the following apply:

1. **Clearing** must first be reasonably avoided⁷.
2. Where **clearing** cannot be avoided, **clearing** must only be undertaken under this AMP if the **apiary infrastructure, road** or **vehicular track** cannot reasonably be constructed in **Category X areas** or existing **cleared** areas.
3. Where it is not reasonable to construct the **apiary infrastructure, road** or **vehicular track** entirely in **Category X areas** or existing **cleared** areas, **clearing** under this AMP must comply with all of the following in the following order:
 - a. First: maximise **clearing** in **Category X areas** or existing **cleared** areas.
 - b. Second: maximise **clearing** in **Category C areas**.
 - c. Third: maximise **clearing** in **Category B areas** within **Least Concern regional ecosystems**.

⁴ Notifications are available online <https://www.qld.gov.au/environment/land/vegetation/area-plans/> or by contacting your local DNRM office.

⁵ Where you have a tenure or authority to occupy and use only part of a lot, for example a Permit to Occupy or a trustee sub-lease, clearing under this AMP is limited to the area the subject of the Permit to Occupy or sub-lease.

⁶ Maintenance of **apiary infrastructure** includes clearing around **hives** but within the **apiary site** to reduce the risk of fire to **apiary infrastructure**.

⁷ For example, if there is an existing **vehicular track** reasonably available to use, the **registered biosecurity entity** must use the existing **vehicular track** and must not **clear vegetation** to construct an additional **vehicular track** under this AMP.

3.4 Clearing limitations

All of the following **clearing** limitations apply:

1. Necessary **clearing** of **vegetation** for the placement and maintenance of **apiary infrastructure** is permitted where all of the following apply:
 - a. **Clearing** does not exceed any of the following:
 - i. 600 square metres per **apiary site**
 - ii. minimum distance requirements between **apiary sites** prescribed in the [Biosecurity Regulation 2016](#).
 - b. **Clearing** does not result in any of the following:
 - i. **Clearing** of **vegetation** with a diameter at 1.3 meters above ground of 15 centimetres or more.
 - ii. **Clearing** in an area of **essential habitat**.
 - iii. **Clearing** of any **habitat trees**.
 - iv. **Clearing** in an **endangered regional ecosystem**.
 - v. **Clearing** within 10 metres of the **defining bank** of a **wetland, watercourse or drainage feature**.
 - c. All **cleared vegetation** and debris is distributed evenly and does not result in any piles of **vegetation** or any **vegetation** being pushed up against any retained **vegetation**.
2. Necessary **clearing** for a **vehicular track** to access **apiary infrastructure** is permitted where all of the following apply:
 - a. **Clearing** does not exceed 10 metres in width or increase the width of an existing **cleared** area to more than 10 metres.
 - b. **Clearing** does not result in any of the following:
 - i. **Clearing** in an area of **essential habitat**.
 - ii. **Clearing** of any **habitat trees**.
 - iii. **Clearing** in an **endangered regional ecosystem**.
 - iv. **Clearing** within 10 metres of the **defining bank** of a **wetland**.
 - v. **Clearing** within 10 metres of the **defining bank** of a **watercourse or drainage feature** unless it can be located at right angles to the water flow.
 - c. All **cleared vegetation** and debris does not result in any **vegetation** being pushed up against any retained **vegetation**.

3.5 Soil and water quality protections

1. Recognised best practice methods⁸ must be employed to undertake all of the following:
 - a. prevent increased **soil erosion and instability** resulting from the **clearing**
 - b. stabilise **soil erosion and instability** which has resulted from the **clearing**
 - c. prevent increased sediment run-off entering a **wetland, watercourse or drainage feature** as a result of the **clearing**.
2. In land zone⁹ 3 where the elevation is less than five metres above sea level, top soil must not be mechanically disturbed to a depth greater than 30 centimetres.

⁸ Recognised best practice methods is a method recognised by a state, federal or local government agency. This includes a guide (for example, Soil Conservation Guidelines for Queensland (3rd edition)), fact sheet or advice published or provided by a state, federal or local government agency.

⁹ Land zones are categories that describe the major geologies, associated landforms and geomorphic processes in Queensland. The land zone can be identified by the middle number in the three digit regional ecosystem identification code. For example—the **regional ecosystem** identified by the code 12.3.4 is in land zone 3.

Appendix 1: Other legislation

Activity	Legislation	Agency	Contact details
<i>Interference with overland flow.</i> <i>Earthworks, significant disturbance.</i>	<i>Water Act 2000</i> <i>Soil Conservation Act 1986</i>	Department of Natural Resources and Mines (Queensland Government)	Ph: 13 QGOV (13 74 68) www.dnrm.qld.gov.au
<i>Indigenous Cultural Heritage</i>	<i>Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2003</i> <i>Torres Strait Islander Cultural Heritage Act 2003</i>	Department of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and Multicultural Affairs (Queensland Government)	Ph. 13 QGOV (13 74 68) www.datsip.qld.gov.au
<i>Mining and environmentally relevant activities.</i> <i>Infrastructure development (coastal)</i> <i>Heritage issues.</i> <i>Protected plants and protected areas¹⁰</i>	<i>Environmental Protection Act 1994</i> <i>Coastal Protection and Management Act 1995</i> <i>Queensland Heritage Act 1992</i> <i>Nature Conservation Act 1992</i>	Department of Environment and Heritage Protection (Queensland Government)	Ph: 13 QGOV (13 74 68) www.ehp.qld.gov.au
<i>Interfere with watercourse passage, mangroves.</i> <i>Registration of enitites and places for particular animals</i> <i>Forest activities</i>	<i>Fisheries Act 1994</i> <i>Forestry Act 1959¹¹</i> <i>Biosecurity Act 2014</i>	Department of Agriculture and Fisheries (Queensland Government)	Ph: 13 25 23 www.daf.qld.gov.au
<i>Matters of National Environmental Significance including listed threatened species & ecological communities.</i>	<i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i>	Department of the Environment, (Australian Government)	Ph: 1800 803 772 www.environment.gov.au
<i>Development and planning processes.</i>	<i>Sustainable Planning Act 2009</i>	Department of Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning (Queensland Government)	Ph: 13 QGOV (13 74 68) www.dilgp.qld.gov.au
<i>State Development</i>	<i>State Development and Public Works Organisation Act 1971</i>	Department of State Development	Ph: 13 QGOV (13 74 68) www.dsd.qld.gov.au
<i>Local government administrative processes.</i>	<i>Local Government Act 1993</i>	Local government	Contact your nearest local government office

¹⁰ In Queensland, all plants that are native to Australia are protected plants under the [Nature Conservation Act 1992](http://www.ehp.qld.gov.au), which endeavors to ensure that protected plants (whether whole plants or protected plants parts) are not illegally removed from the wild, or illegally traded. Prior to **clearing**, you should check the flora survey trigger map to determine if the **clearing** is within a high-risk area by visiting www.ehp.qld.gov.au. For further information or assistance on the protected plants flora survey trigger map for your property, contact the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection on 13QGOV (13 74 68) or email palm@ehp.qld.gov.au.

¹¹ Contact the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries before **clearing**:

- Any sandalwood on state-owned land (including leasehold land)
- On freehold land in a 'forest consent area'
- More than five hectares on state-owned land (including leasehold land) containing commercial timber species listed in parts 2 or 3 of Schedule 6 of the Vegetation Management Regulation 2012 and located within any of the following local government management areas—Banana, Bundaberg Regional, Fraser Coast Regional, Gladstone Regional, Isaac Regional, North Burnett Regional, Somerset Regional, South Burnett Regional, Southern Downs Regional, Tablelands Regional, Toowoomba Regional, Western Downs Regional.