



Forestry on private property

Environmental Protection Act 1986

Purpose

This fact sheet provides information on clearing permit applications under the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (EP Act) which require approval under the *Wildlife Conservation Act 1950* (WC Act) to undertake forest management practices on private property.

Introduction

Forest management on private property is subject to the clearing provisions of the EP Act. This includes commercial harvesting, silvicultural thinning and associated activities such as scrub rolling, creation of access tracks and log landings.

Any clearing of native vegetation for purposes associated with forestry management requires a clearing permit (except for that material to be sold).

Selling harvested timber

Where logs or other harvested material is to be sold, a Commercial Producer's Licence issued under the WC Act is required. A requirement of this legislation is having regard for the 10 principles contained in Schedule 5 of the EP Act (further information on these principles is contained in fact sheet, [Native vegetation clearing legislation in Western Australia](#)). If a clearing permit has previously been issued, the requirement to have regard to the clearing principles will have been met.

A management plan for the sustainable use of native vegetation should be submitted with

an application for a Commercial Producer's Licence.

Plantations

Plantations, which are one or more group of trees, shrubs or plants that have been intentionally sown, planted or propagated with a view to commercial exploitation, are not considered to be 'native vegetation' by definition in the EP Act, and a clearing permit is not required to harvest plantations. Contact the Department of Parks and Wildlife to determine whether a Commercial Producer's licence is required.

Clearing in a CAWS Catchment

Six defined catchments within the southwest are regulated under the *Country Areas Water Supply Act 1947* (CAWS Act), and since the 1970s restriction on clearing within these areas have applied (further information is contained in fact sheet, [Clearing in specific existing or potential water supply catchments](#)).

Generally, if a clearing permit under the EP Act is granted, it is not necessary to also obtain a licence under the CAWS Act except when the land has been previously compensated.

More information

For advice on native vegetation clearing, or related matters, please contact DER on +61 8 6467 5000.

This document is available in alternative formats and other languages on request.

Related documents

More guidelines and fact sheets on native vegetation clearing process are available from [DER's website](#).

Legislation

This document is provided for guidance only. It should not be relied upon to address every aspect of the relevant legislation. Please refer to the State Law Publisher (SLP) for copies of the relevant legislation, available electronically from the [SLP website](#).

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Legal advice

The information provided to you by DER in relation to this matter does not constitute legal advice. Due to the range of legal issues potentially involved in this matter, DER recommends that you obtain independent legal advice.