

9.4.5 Vegetation management code

9.4.5.1 Application

This code applies to assessable development:-

- (a) for operational work being vegetation clearing where identified as requiring assessment against the Vegetation management code by the tables of assessment in **Part 5 (Tables of assessment)**.

9.4.5.2 Purpose and overall outcomes

- (1) The purpose of the Vegetation management code is to provide for the management of vegetation in a manner which protects and enhances the biodiversity and landscape values of the Fraser Coast.
- (2) The purpose of the Vegetation management code will be achieved through the following overall outcomes:-
 - (a) development ensures that vegetation which is of cultural, heritage, character, ecological, or aesthetic (including streetscape, townscape or landscape) significance or value is conserved;
 - (b) development involving vegetation clearing is undertaken in an environmentally responsible manner and does not cause adverse amenity impacts, public health and safety concerns or land degradation.

9.4.5.3 Assessment benchmarks

Table 9.4.5.3.1 Assessment benchmarks for assessable development

Performance outcomes		Acceptable outcomes	
<i>Vegetation protection</i>			
PO1	Vegetation is protected to ensure that:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) soil resources are protected against the loss of chemical and physical fertility through processes such as erosion, mass movement, salinity and water logging; (b) vegetation of historical, cultural or visual significance is retained; (c) trees with nesting hollows are protected; and (d) species of local significance are protected. 	AO1	No acceptable outcome provided. Note—in assessing and deciding a development application for vegetation clearing, matters that will be taken into account by Council will include but not necessarily be limited to:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) any current development approval attached to the land which may include conditions or measures relating to vegetation retention or protection; (b) whether the vegetation is specifically protected by a vegetation protection order, registrable covenant, easement or similar legally binding mechanism that seeks to protect the values and functions of recognised significant vegetation; (c) whether the vegetation is identified or referred to in State or Federal legislation; (d) whether the vegetation is located on a prominent hillside, slope or ridgeline; (e) whether vegetation clearing may cause or contribute to erosion or slippage; (f) whether the vegetation is or forms part of a riparian area or other habitat network and is valuable to the functioning of that network; (g) whether the vegetation is or is capable of forming or contributing to a buffer between different land uses; (h) whether the vegetation is or is capable of forming or contributing to a visual buffer,

Performance outcomes		Acceptable outcomes	
			<p>agricultural buffer or a buffer against pollution, light spillage or noise;</p> <p>(i) whether the vegetation contributes to visual amenity, landscape quality or cultural heritage significance; and</p> <p>(j) the likely effectiveness of any proposed rehabilitation measures, having regard to the Planning scheme policy for environmental and vegetation offsets.</p>
Steep land			
PO2	Vegetation clearing on slopes 15% or greater is avoided or minimised so as to maintain slope stability and prevent erosion and slippage.	AO2	No acceptable outcome provided.
Management of vegetation clearing works			
PO3	Vegetation clearing works are conducted in a manner that:- (a) protects natural landforms, including steep land, waterways, gullies and wetlands; and (b) prevents soil degradation and controls erosion, slippage and sedimentation.	AO3	<p>No acceptable outcome provided.</p> <p>Editor's note—Section 9.4.6 (Works, services and infrastructure code) sets out requirements for sediment and erosion control.</p>
PO4	Vegetation clearing works are conducted in a manner that:- (a) protects the aesthetic and ecological values of retained vegetation; and (b) minimises impacts on fauna.	<p>AO4.1</p> <p>AO4.2</p> <p>AO4.3</p>	<p>The health and stability of retained vegetation is maintained or enhanced during vegetation clearing work by:-</p> <p>(a) clearly marking vegetation to be retained with temporary fencing and flagging tape;</p> <p>(b) preventing any filling, excavation, stockpiling, storage of chemicals, fuel or machinery within the fenced protection area; and</p> <p>(c) removing all declared noxious weeds and environmental weeds from the site.</p> <p>All clearing works carried out in the vicinity of the retained vegetation are to be undertaken in accordance with <i>AS4970 Protection of Trees on Development Sites</i> and <i>AS4687 Temporary Fencing and Hoarding</i>.</p> <p>Where clearing works are likely to result in adverse impacts upon fauna and/or fauna habitat, all work is carried out under the supervision of a registered fauna spotter/catcher.</p>
PO5	Vegetation clearing is undertaken in a manner that minimises environmental harm and environmental nuisance to surrounding areas as a result of air or noise emissions.	<p>AO5.1</p> <p>AO5.2</p> <p>AO5.3</p>	<p>No dust emissions extend beyond the boundaries of the site.</p> <p>No other air emissions, including odours, are detectable at the boundary of the site.</p> <p>Noise generating equipment is shielded or acoustically treated in a manner that ensures the equipment does not create environmental nuisance.</p>
Vegetation disposal			
PO6	Vegetation cleared from a site is disposed of in a manner that:- (a) maximises reuse and/or recycling; and (b) minimises impacts on public health and safety.	AO6	<p>Where vegetation is cleared, vegetation waste is appropriately disposed of (other than burning) in the following order of preference:-</p> <p>(a) milling for commercial timber products, landscaping or firewood;</p>

Performance outcomes		Acceptable outcomes	
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (b) on-site chipping or mulching unless it is likely to cause the spreading of non-indigenous species; and (c) transportation off-site and disposal in an approved green waste disposal facility.