## State code 16: Native vegetation clearing

Table 16.2.2: General

| **Performance outcomes** | **Acceptable outcomes** | **Response** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Clearing avoids or minimises impacts |
| PO1 Clearing and adverse impacts of clearing do not occur unless the application has demonstrated that the clearing and the adverse impacts of clearing have been:1. reasonably avoided; or
2. reasonably minimised where it cannot be reasonably avoided.
 | No acceptable outcome is prescribed. | *Complies with PO# / AO#**Use this column to indicate whether compliance is achieved with the relevant PO or AO (or if they do not apply), and explain why* |
| Clearing on land in particular circumstances |
| PO2 Clearing is consistent with any notice requiring compliance on the land subject to the development application, unless a better environmental outcome can be achieved.Note: The discharge of the vegetation management requirements under the notice requiring compliance can only occur in conjunction with the better environmental outcome being legally secured. Further guidance on meeting the requirements of a better environmental outcome can be found in State Development Assessment Provisions Guidance Material: State code 16: Native vegetation clearing, Department of Natural Resources and Mines and Energy, 2019. | No acceptable outcome is prescribed. |  |
| PO3 Clearing is consistent with vegetation management requirements for particular regulated areas unless a better environmental outcome can be achieved.Note: The discharge of the vegetation management requirements under the notice requiring compliance can only occur in conjunction with the better environmental outcome being legally secured.Further guidance on meeting the requirements of a better environmental outcome can be found in State Development Assessment Provisions Guidance Material: State code 16: Native vegetation clearing, Department of Natural Resources and Mines and Energy 2019. | No acceptable outcome is prescribed. |  |
| PO4 Clearing of a legally secured offset area:1. is consistent with the offset delivery plan; or agreement for the offset area on the land subject to the development application; or
2. only occurs if an additional offset is provided that is consistent with the *Environmental Offsets Act 2014* and the relevant policy in the Queensland Environmental Offsets Policy, Department of Environment and Heritage Protection, 2014.

Note: Reference to ‘agreement’ above includes the ‘agreed delivery arrangement’ for the offset area as well as instruments associated with the legally secured offset area. Clearing should be consistent with any agreement however described. | No acceptable outcome is prescribed. |  |
| Clearing of vegetation as a result of the material change of use or reconfiguration of a lot |
| PO5 Clearing as a result of a material change of use, or clearing as a result of reconfiguring a lot does not occur. | No acceptable outcome is prescribed. |  |
| Clearing that could already be done under an exemption |
| PO6 Clearing does not occur unless it is clearing that could be done as exempt clearing work for the purpose of the development (as prescribed under schedule 21 of the Planning Regulation 2017) prior to the material change of use or reconfiguring a lot application being approved. | No acceptable outcome is prescribed. |  |

Table 16.2.3: Specific

| **Performance outcomes** | **Acceptable outcomes** | **Response** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Clearing associated with wetlands (public safety, relevant infrastructure activities consequential development of IPA approval, a coordinated project, extractive industry) |
| PO7 Clearing maintains the current extent of vegetation associated with any natural wetland to protect:1. bank stability by protecting against bank erosion;

and1. water quality by filtering sediments, nutrients and other pollutants; and
2. aquatic habitat; and
3. terrestrial habitat.
 | AO7.1 Clearing does not occur in a natural wetland or within 100 metres of the defining bank of any natural wetland.OR | *Complies with PO# / AO#**Use this column to indicate whether compliance is achieved with the relevant PO or AO (or if they do not apply), and explain why* |
| AO7.2 Clearing within 100 metres of the defining bank of any natural wetland: 1. does not occur within 10 metres of the defining bank of any natural wetland; and
2. does not exceed widths in table 16.3.1 in this code.

OR |  |
| AO7.3 Where clearing cannot be reasonably avoided, and clearing has been reasonably minimised, an offset is provided for any acceptable significant residual impact from clearing of vegetation associated with a natural wetland (matter of state environmental significance). |  |
| Clearing associated with wetlands (necessary to control non-native plants or declared pests, encroachment, managing thickened vegetation, fodder harvesting) |
| PO8 Clearing maintains vegetation associated with a natural wetland to protect: 1. bank stability by protecting against bank erosion; and
2. water quality by filtering sediments, nutrients and other pollutants; and
3. aquatic habitat; and
4. terrestrial habitat.
 | *Clearing necessary to control non-native plants or declared pests:*AO 8.1Mechanical clearing does not occur in any of the following areas, unless it is required to provide necessary access to control non-native plants or declared pests:1. inside the defining bank of any natural wetland; and
2. within 20 metres of the defining bank of any natural wetland.

AND |  |
| AO8.2 Clearing to provide necessary access to control non-native plants or declared pests only occurs where:1. clearing does not exceed five metres in width; and
2. clearing retains all mature trees and habitat trees; and
3. the access track:
	1. runs parallel to a natural wetland and clearing is not within 10 metres of the defining bank of a natural wetland; or
	2. is required to provide access across the wetland.

AND |
| AO8.3 Chemical clearing retains:1. all mature trees; and
2. all habitat trees; and
3. at least 50 per cent of immature trees in each 50 metre by 50 metre area.

AND |
| AO8.4 Root absorbed broad spectrum herbicides are not applied within whichever is the greater distance from the defining bank of a natural wetland:1. 100 metres; or
2. the distance specified on the approved product label; or
3. the distance specified in the safety and use conditions issued by the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority.

AND |
| AO8.5 Aerial application of a foliar herbicide does not occur within whichever is the greater distance from the defining bank of a natural wetland;1. 50 metres; or
2. the distance specified for wetlands on the approved product label; or
3. the distance specified in the safety and use conditions issued by the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority.

AND |
| *Clearing for managing thickened vegetation*:AO8.6 Mechanical clearing does not occur in any of the following areas:1. inside the defining bank of a natural wetland; and
2. within 20 metres of the defining bank of a natural wetland.

AND |
| *Clearing for encroachment*:AO8.7 Mechanical clearing does not occur in any of the following areas:1. inside the defining bank of any natural wetland; and
2. within 20 metres of the defining bank of any natural wetland.

AND |
| AO8.8 Root absorbed broad spectrum herbicides are not applied within whichever is the greater distance from the defining bank of a natural wetland1. 100 metres; or
2. the distance specified on the approved product label; or
3. the distance specified in the safety and use conditions issued by the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority.

AND |
|  | *Clearing for fodder harvesting*:AO8.9 Mechanical clearing does not occur in any of the following areas:1. inside the defining bank of any natural wetland; and
2. within 20 metres of the defining bank of any natural wetland.

AND |  |
|  | AO8.10 Mechanical clearing that is strip harvesting or block harvesting does not occur in any of the following areas: 1. inside the defining bank of any natural wetland; and
2. within 100 metres of the defining bank of any natural wetland.
 |  |
| Clearing associated with wetlands (necessary environmental clearing – land restoration and natural disaster preparation) |
| PO9 Clearing maintains vegetation associated with any natural wetland or rehabilitates the cleared area to protect:1. bank stability by protecting against bank erosion; and
2. water quality by filtering sediments, nutrients and other pollutants; and
3. aquatic habitat; and
4. terrestrial habitat.
 | AO9.1 Clearing does not occur in any of the following areas:1. inside the defining bank of any natural wetland; and
2. within 100 metres of the defining bank of any natural wetland.

OR |  |
| AO9.2 Clearing within 100 metres of the defining bank of any natural wetland only occurs where:1. clearing does not exceed 0.5 hectares; and
2. clearing retains all mature trees and habitat trees; and
3. clearing that is for flood preparation complies with all of the following:
	1. clearing is undertaken by felling only; and:
	2. clearing does not exceed 100 square metres; and
	3. clearing does not occur outside the defining banks of a natural wetland; and
	4. clearing does not occur within 50 metres of other clearing for flood preparation.

OR |
| AO9.3 Clearing to provide necessary access to undertake necessary environmental clearing only occurs where clearing:* + - 1. does not exceed 10 metres in width; and
			2. retains all mature trees and habitat trees; and
			3. the access track:
				1. runs parallel to a natural wetland and clearing is not within 10 metres of the defining bank of a natural wetland; or
				2. is required to provide access across the wetland.

OR |
|  | AO9.4 Where clearing cannot be reasonably avoided, and clearing has been reasonably minimised, the cleared area is rehabilitated. |  |
| Clearing associated with wetlands (necessary environmental clearing - natural channel diversion and contaminants removal) |
| PO10 Clearing maintains the current extent of vegetation associated with any natural wetland or rehabilitates the cleared area to protect:1. bank stability by protecting against bank erosion; and
2. water quality by filtering sediments, nutrients and other pollutants; and
3. aquatic habitat; and
4. terrestrial habitat.
 | AO10.1 Clearing does not occur in any of the following areas:1. inside the defining bank of any natural wetland; and
2. within 100 metres of the defining bank of any natural wetland.

OR |  |
| AO10.2 Clearing within 100 metres of the defining bank of any natural wetland only occurs where:1. clearing does not exceed 0.5 hectares; and
2. clearing retains all mature trees and habitat trees.

OR  |
| AO10.3 Clearing to provide necessary access to undertake necessary environmental clearing only occurs where clearing:1. does not exceed 10 metres in width; and
2. retains all mature trees and habitat trees; and
3. the access track:
	1. runs parallel to a natural wetland and clearing is not within 10 metres of the defining bank of a natural wetland; or
	2. is required to provide access across the wetland.

OR |
| AO10.4 Where clearing cannot be reasonably avoided, and clearing has been reasonably minimised, the cleared area is rehabilitated.OR |
|  | AO10.5 Where clearing is for natural channel diversion or contaminants removal, and clearing cannot be reasonably avoided, and:1. clearing has been reasonably minimised; and
2. the cleared area cannot be reasonably rehabilitated,

an offset is provided for any acceptable significant residual impact from clearing of vegetation associated with a natural wetland (a matter of state environmental significance). |  |
| Clearing associated with watercourses and drainage features (public safety, relevant infrastructure activities, consequential development of IPA approval, coordinated project, extractive industry) |
| PO11 Clearing maintains the current extent of vegetation associated with any watercourse or drainage feature to protect:1. bank stability by protecting against bank erosion; and
2. water quality by filtering sediments, nutrients and other pollutants; and
3. aquatic habitat; and
4. terrestrial habitat.
 | AO11.1 Clearing does not occur in any of the following areas:1. inside the defining bank of a watercourse or drainage feature; and
2. within the relevant distance of the defining bank of any watercourse or drainage feature in table 16.3.2 of this code.

OR |  |
| AO11.2 Clearing within any watercourse or drainage feature, or within the relevant distance of the defining bank of any watercourse or drainage feature in table 16.3.2 of this code:1. does not exceed the widths in table 16.3.1 of this code; and
2. does not occur within 10 metres of the defining bank, unless clearing is required into or across the watercourse or drainage feature.

OR |
| AO11.3 Where clearing cannot be reasonably avoided, and clearing has been reasonably minimised, an offset is provided for any acceptable significant residual impact from clearing of vegetation associated with any watercourse or drainage feature (a matter of state environmental significance). |
| Clearing associated with watercourses and drainage features (necessary environmental clearing- land restoration and natural disaster preparation) |
| PO12 Clearing maintains vegetation associated with any watercourse or drainage feature or rehabilitates the cleared area to protect:1. bank stability by protecting against bank erosion; and
2. water quality by filtering sediments, nutrients and other pollutants; and
3. aquatic habitat; and
4. terrestrial habitat.
 | AO12.1 Clearing does not occur in any of the following areas:1. inside the defining bank of a watercourse or drainage feature; and
2. within the relevant distance of the defining bank of any watercourse or drainage feature in table 16.3.2 of this code.

OR |  |
| AO12.2 Clearing in any watercourse or drainage feature, or within the relevant distance of the defining bank of any watercourse or drainage feature in table 16.3.2 of this code only occurs where:1. clearing does not exceed 0.5 hectares; and
2. clearing retains all mature trees and habitat trees; and
3. clearing that is for flood preparation complies with all of the following:
	1. clearing is undertaken by felling only; and
	2. clearing does not exceed 100 square metres; and
	3. clearing does not occur outside of the defining bank of any watercourse or drainage feature; and
	4. clearing does not occur within 50 metres of other clearing for flood preparation.

OR |
| AO12.3 Clearing to provide necessary access to undertake necessary environmental clearing only occurs where clearing:* + - 1. does not exceed 10 metres in width; and
			2. retains all mature trees and habitat trees; and
			3. the access track:
				1. runs parallel to a watercourse or drainage feature and clearing is not within 10 metres of the defining bank of a watercourse or drainage feature; or
				2. is required to provide access across the watercourse or drainage feature.
 |
|  | AO12.4 Where clearing cannot be reasonably avoided, and clearing has been reasonably minimised, the cleared area is rehabilitated. |  |
| Clearing associated with watercourses and drainage features (necessary environmental clearing – natural channel diversion, and contaminants removal) |
| PO13 Clearing maintains the current extent of vegetation associated with any watercourse or drainage feature or rehabilitates the cleared area to protect:1. bank stability by protecting against bank erosion; and
2. water quality by filtering sediments, nutrients and other pollutants; and
3. aquatic habitat; and
4. terrestrial habitat.
 | AO13.1 Clearing does not occur within any of the following areas:1. inside the defining bank of a watercourse or drainage feature; and
2. within the relevant distance of the defining bank of any watercourse or drainage feature in table 16.3.2 of this code.

OR |  |
| AO13.2 Clearing in any watercourse or drainage feature, or within the relevant distance of the defining bank of any watercourse or drainage feature in table 16.3.2 of this code only occurs where:1. clearing does not exceed 0.5 hectares; and
2. clearing retains all mature trees and habitat trees.

OR |
| AO13.3 Clearing to provide necessary access to undertake necessary environmental clearing only occurs where:1. clearing does not exceed 10 metres in width; and
2. clearing retains all mature trees and habitat trees; and
3. the access track:
	1. runs parallel to a watercourse or drainage feature and clearing is not within 10 metres of the defining bank of a watercourse or drainage feature; or
	2. is required to provide access across the watercourse or drainage feature.

OR |
|  | AO13.4 Where clearing cannot be reasonably avoided, and:1. clearing has been reasonably minimised; and
2. the cleared area cannot be reasonably rehabilitated, an offset is provided for any acceptable significant residual impact from clearing of vegetation associated with a watercourse or drainage feature (a matter of state environmental significance).
 |  |
| Clearing associated with watercourses or drainage features (necessary to control non-native plants or declared pests, managing thickened vegetation, fodder harvesting) |
| PO14 Clearing maintains vegetation associated with any watercourse or drainage feature to protect: 1. bank stability by protecting against bank erosion; and
2. water quality by filtering sediments, nutrients and other pollutants; and
3. aquatic habitat; and
4. terrestrial habitat.
 | *Clearing necessary to control non-native plants or declared pests:* AO14.1 Mechanical clearing does not occur in any of the following areas, unless it is required to provide necessary access to control non-native plants or declared pests:1. inside the defining bank of any watercourse or drainage feature; and
2. within 10 metres of the defining bank of a watercourse or drainage feature that is a stream order 1 or 2 watercourse or drainage feature; and
3. within 15 metres of the defining bank of a watercourse or drainage feature that is a stream order 3 or 4 watercourse or drainage feature; and
4. within 20 metres of the defining bank of a watercourse or drainage feature that is a stream order 5 or more watercourse or drainage feature.

AND |  |
| AO14.2 Clearing to provide necessary access to control non-native plants or declared pests only occurs where:1. clearing does not exceed five metres in width; and
2. clearing retains all habitat trees and mature trees; and
3. the access track:
	1. runs parallel to the watercourse or drainage feature and is not within 10 metres of the defining bank of the watercourse or drainage feature; or
	2. is required to provide access across the watercourse or drainage feature.

AND  |
| AO14.3 Chemical clearing retains all of the following:1. mature trees; and
2. habitat trees; and
3. at least 50 per cent of immature trees in any 50 metre by 50 metre area.
 |
| AO14.4 Root absorbed broad spectrum herbicides are not applied within whichever is the greater distance from the defining bank of a watercourse or drainage feature:* + 1. 100 metres; or
		2. any distance specified on the approved product label; or
		3. the distance specified in the safety and use conditions issued by the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority.

AND |
| AO14.5 Aerial application of a foliar herbicide does not occur within whichever is the greater distance from the defining bank of a watercourse or drainage feature:1. 50 metres; or
2. any distance specified on the approved product label; or
3. the distance specified in the safety and use conditions issued by the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority.

AND |
| *Clearing for managing thickened vegetation*:AO14.6 Mechanical clearing does not occur in any of the following areas:1. inside the defining bank of any watercourse or drainage feature;
2. within 10 metres of the defining bank of a watercourse or drainage feature that is a stream order 1 or 2 watercourse or drainage feature;
3. within 15 metres of the defining bank of a watercourse or drainage feature that is a stream order 3 or 4 watercourse or drainage feature;
4. within 20 metres of the defining bank of a watercourse or drainage feature that is a stream order 5 or more watercourse or drainage feature.

AND |
|  | *Clearing for fodder harvesting*:AO14.7 Mechanical clearing does not occur in any of the following areas:1. inside the defining bank of any watercourse or drainage feature; and
2. within 20 metres of the defining bank of any watercourse or drainage feature.

AND |  |
|  | AO14.8 Mechanical clearing that is strip harvesting or block harvesting does not occur in any of the following areas:1. inside the defining bank of any watercourse or drainage feature; and
2. within 100 metres of the defining bank of any watercourse or drainage feature.
 |  |
| Clearing associated with watercourses or drainage features (encroachment) |
| PO15 Clearing of encroachment maintains: 1. bank stability by protecting against bank erosion; and
2. water quality by filtering sediments, nutrients and other pollutants; and
3. aquatic habitat; and
4. terrestrial habitat.
 | AO15.1 Mechanical clearing does not occur in any of the following areas:1. inside the defining bank of any watercourse or drainage feature; and
2. within 10 metres of the defining bank of a watercourse or drainage feature that is a stream order 1 or 2 watercourse or drainage feature; and
3. within 15 metres of the defining bank of a watercourse or drainage feature that is a stream order 3 or 4 watercourse or drainage feature; and
4. within 20 metres of the defining bank of a watercourse or drainage feature that is a stream order 5 or more watercourse or drainage feature.

AND |  |
| AO15.2 Root-absorbed broad spectrum herbicides are not applied within whichever is the greater distance from the defining bank of a watercourse or drainage feature: 1. 100 metres; or
2. any distance specified on the approved product label; or
3. the distance specified in the safety and use conditions issued by the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority.
 |
| Maintaining connectivity (public safety, relevant infrastructure activities, consequential development of IPA approval, extractive industry) |
| PO16 In consideration of vegetation on the land subject to the development application and on adjacent land, sufficient vegetation is retained to maintain ecological processes and remains in the landscape despite threatening processes. | AO16.1 Clearing occurs in accordance with table 16.3.3 in this code. |  |
| Connectivity areas (coordinated project) |
| PO17 In consideration of vegetation on the land subject to the development application and on adjacent land: 1. sufficient vegetation is retained to maintain ecological processes and remains in the landscape despite threatening processes; or
2. where this not reasonably possible, the applicant provides an offset.
 | AO17.1 Clearing occurs in accordance with table 16.3.3 of this code.OR |  |
| AO17.2 Where clearing cannot be reasonably avoided; and clearing has been reasonably minimised; an offset is provided for any acceptable significant residual impact from clearing of vegetation that forms a connectivity area (a matter of state environmental significance). |
| Maintaining connectivity (necessary environmental clearing - land restoration and natural disaster preparation) |
| PO18 In consideration of vegetation on the land subject to the development application and on adjacent land, sufficient vegetation is retained to maintain ecological processes and remains in the landscape despite threatening processes, or where this is not reasonably possible, the cleared area is rehabilitated. | AO18.1 Clearing occurs in accordance with table 16.3.3 of this code.OR |  |
| AO18.2 Where clearing cannot be reasonably avoided, and clearing has been reasonably minimised, the cleared area is rehabilitated. |
| Connectivity areas (necessary environmental clearing – natural channel diversion and contaminants removal) |
| PO19 In consideration of vegetation on the land subject to the development application and on adjacent land:1. sufficient vegetation is retained to maintain ecological processes and remains in the landscape despite threatening processes; or
2. where this is not reasonably possible, the applicant rehabilitates the cleared area; or
3. where this not reasonably possible, the applicant provides an offset.
 | AO19.1 Clearing occurs in accordance with table 16.3.3 of this code.OR |  |
| AO19.2 Where clearing cannot be reasonably avoided, and clearing has been reasonably minimised, the cleared area is rehabilitated. OR |
| AO19.3 Where clearing cannot be reasonably avoided, and:1. clearing has been reasonably minimised; and
2. the cleared area cannot be reasonably rehabilitated

an offset is provided for any acceptable significant residual impact from clearing of vegetation that forms a connectivity area (a matter of state environmental significance). |
| Soil erosion (public safety, relevant infrastructure activities, consequential development of Integrated Planning Act approval, coordinated project, necessary environmental clearing) |
| PO20 Clearing does not result in accelerated soil erosion within or outside the land the subject of the development application. | AO20.1 Clearing only occurs if an erosion and sediment control plan is developed and implemented to:* + - 1. prevent accelerated soil erosion; or
			2. where prevention is not possible, minimise accelerated soil erosion.

OR |  |
| AO20.2 The local government is the assessment manager for the development application. |
| Soil erosion (necessary to control non-native plants or declared pests, managing thickened vegetation, encroachment, fodder harvesting) |
| 1. PO21 Clearing does not result in accelerated soil erosion within or outside the land subject of the development application.
 | AO21.1 Clearing only occurs where recognised best practice methods are employed to:1. prevent increased soil erosion resulting from the clearing; and
2. stabilise soil erosion which would result from clearing; and
3. prevent increased sediment run-off entering a wetland, watercourse or drainage feature as a result of the clearing.

AND |  |
| *Clearing necessary to control non-native plants or declared pests*:AO21.2 Mechanical clearing:1. does not occur on a slope greater than 15 percent; and
2. in each 50 by 50 metre area (0.25 hectares), retains 50 per cent of the ground cover and does not disturb more than 50 per cent of the ground cover.

AND |
| AO21.3 New access tracks required to provide necessary access to control a non-native plant or declared pests do not exceed five metres in width or de-stabilise the banks of any watercourse or drainage feature as a result of crossing, construction or useAND |
| *Clearing for managing thickened vegetation*:AO21.4 Mechanical clearing does not: 1. occur in a regional ecosystem in table 16.3.4 of this code that states ‘mechanical clearing not permitted’;
2. disturb more than 50 per cent of the ground surface or result in any hectare having less than 50 per cent ground cover;
3. occur on a slope greater than five per cent; and
4. occur within 50 metres of an area of existing accelerated soil erosion.

AND |
| *Clearing for encroachment*:AO21.5 Mechanical clearing does not occur in any of the following areas:1. within 50 metres of an area of soil erosion; and
2. slopes greater than 5 per cent.

AND |
| *Clearing for fodder harvesting:*AO21.6 Mechanical clearing does not occur on a slope greater than five percent.OR |
| AO21.7 Mechanical clearing does not occur within 50 metres of an areas of soil erosion and instability. |
| Salinity (public safety, relevant infrastructure activities, consequential development of Integrated Planning Act 1997 approval, coordinated project, extractive industry, necessary environmental clearing, encroachment, fodder harvesting) |
| PO22 Clearing does not contribute to or accelerate land degradation through waterlogging, or through the salinisation of groundwater, surface water or soil. | AO22.1 Clearing does not occur within 100 metres of a salinity expression area. |  |
| Conserving endangered and of concern regional ecosystems (public safety and relevant infrastructure activities, consequential development of Integrated Planning Act 1997 approval, coordinated project, extractive industry) |
| PO23 Clearing maintains the current extent of endangered regional ecosystems and of concern regional ecosystems. | AO23.1 Clearing does not occur in an endangered regional ecosystem or an of concern regional ecosystem.OR |  |
| AO23.2 Total clearing of endangered regional ecosystems and of concern regional ecosystems combined does not exceed the widths prescribed in table 16.3.1 of this code.OR |
| AO23.3 Total clearing of endangered regional ecosystems and of concern regional ecosystems combined does not exceed areas prescribed in table 16.3.1 of this code.OR |
| AO23.4 Where clearing cannot be reasonably avoided, and clearing has been reasonably minimised, an offset is provided for any acceptable significant residual impact from clearing of endangered regional ecosystems and of concern regional ecosystems (a matter of state environmental significance). |
| Essential habitat (public safety, relevant infrastructure activities, consequential development of Integrated Planning Act 1997 approval, coordinated project, extractive industry, fodder harvesting) |
| PO24 Clearing maintains the current extent of essential habitat. | AO24.1 Clearing does not occur in essential habitat.OR |  |
| AO24.2 Clearing in essential habitat does not exceed the widths prescribed in table 16.3.1 of this code.OR |
| AO24.3 Clearing in essential habitat does not exceed the areas prescribed in table 16.3.1 of this code.OR |
| AO24.4 Where clearing cannot be reasonably avoided, and clearing has been reasonably minimised, an offset is provided for any acceptable significant residual impact from clearing of essential habitat (a matter of state environmental significance). |
| Essential habitat (necessary environmental clearing – land restoration and natural disaster preparation) |
| PO25 Clearing does not occur in essential habitat, or where this is not reasonably possible, the applicant rehabilitates the cleared area. | AO25.1 Clearing does not occur in essential habitat.OR |  |
| AO25.2 Clearing in essential habitat does not exceed the widths prescribed in table 16.3.1 of this code.OR |
| AO25.3 Clearing in essential habitat does not exceed the areas prescribed in table 16.3.1 of this code.OR |
| AO25.4 Where clearing cannot be reasonably avoided, and clearing has been reasonably minimised, the cleared area is rehabilitated. |
| Essential habitat (necessary environmental clearing – natural channel diversion and contaminants removal) |
| PO26 Clearing does not occur in essential habitat, or where this is not reasonably possible, the applicant rehabilitates the cleared area, or maintains the current extent of essential habitat. | AO26.1 Clearing does not occur in essential habitat.OR |  |
| AO26.2 Clearing in essential habitat does not exceed the widths prescribed in table 16.3.1 of this code.OR |
| AO26.3 Clearing in essential habitat does not exceed the areas prescribed in table 16.3.1 of this code.OR |
| AO26.4 Where clearing cannot be reasonably avoided, and clearing has been reasonably minimised, the cleared area is rehabilitated.OR |
| AO26.5 Where clearing cannot be reasonably avoided, and:1. clearing has been reasonably minimised; and
2. the cleared area cannot be reasonably rehabilitated

an offset is provided for any acceptable significant residual impact from clearing of essential habitat (a matter of state environmental significance). |
| Acid sulfate soils (public safety, relevant infrastructure activities, consequential development of Integrated Planning Act 1997 approval, coordinated project, extractive industry, necessary environmental clearing, necessary to control non-native plants or declared pests, managing thickened vegetation, encroachment) |
| PO27 Clearing does not result in, or accelerate, disturbance of acid sulfate soils or changes to the hydrology of the location that will result in either of the following:1. aeration of horizons containing iron sulphides; or
2. mobilisation of acid or metals.
 | AO27.1 Clearing does not occur in land zone 1, land zone 2 or land zone 3.OR |  |
| AO27.2 Clearing in land zone 1, land zone 2 or land zone 3 in areas below the five metre Australian Height Datum only occurs where: 1. mechanical clearing does not disturb the soil to a depth greater than 30 centimetres; and
2. acid sulfate soils are managed consistent with the State Planning Policy, Department of Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning, July 2017, and with the soil management guidelines in the Queensland Acid Sulfate Soil Technical Manual, Department of Science Information Technology Innovation and the Arts, 2014.

OR |
| AO27.3 The local government is the assessment manager for the development application. |
| Clearing is staged (extractive industry) |
| PO28 Clearing:1. is staged in line with operational needs that restrict clearing to the current operational area; and
2. only occurs in the area from which material will be extracted, and any reasonably associated built infrastructure, within the term of the development approval; and
3. does not occur without required permits.
 | No acceptable outcome is prescribed. |  |
| Coordinated project – involving clearing for agriculture |
| PO29 Clearing only occurs where the land is suitable for agriculture having regard to topography, climate and soil attributes. | No acceptable outcome is prescribed. |  |
| PO30 For applications for irrigated crops, the owner of the land has, or may have, access to enough water for establishing, cultivating and harvesting the crops to which the clearing relates. | No acceptable outcome is prescribed. |  |
| Clearing for necessary environmental clearing – land restoration and natural disaster preparation |
| PO31 Clearing does not occur, or where this is not reasonably possible, the applicant rehabilitates the cleared area. | AO31.1 Clearing retains all of the following:1. habitat trees;
2. mature trees; and
3. the natural floristic composition and range of sizes across the application area.

OR |  |
| AO31.2 Clearing is for the purpose of natural disaster preparation and does not exceed the widths prescribed in table 16.3.1 of this code.OR |
| AO31.3 Clearing is for the purpose of natural disaster preparation and does not exceed the areas prescribed in table 16.3.1 of this code.OR |
| AO31.4 Where clearing cannot be reasonably avoided, and clearing has been reasonably minimised, the cleared area is rehabilitated. |
| Clearing for necessary environmental clearing - natural channel diversion and contaminants removal |
| PO32 Clearing does not occur, or where this is not reasonably possible, the applicant rehabilitates the cleared area or maintains the current extent of vegetation. | AO32.1 Clearing retains all of the following:1. habitat trees;
2. mature trees; and
3. the natural floristic composition and range of sizes across the application area.

OR |  |
| AO32.2 Where clearing cannot be reasonably avoided, and clearing has been reasonably minimised, the regional ecosystem is rehabilitated.OR |
| AO32.3 Where clearing an endangered regional ecosystem or of concern regional ecosystem cannot be reasonably avoided, minimised or rehabilitated, an offset is provided for any acceptable significant residual impact from clearing of an endangered regional ecosystem or of concern regional ecosystem (a matter of state environmental significance). |
| Conserving remnant vegetation that are regional ecosystems (necessary to control non-native plants or declared pests) |
| PO33 Clearing activities:1. maintain the natural floristic composition and range of sizes of each species of the regional ecosystem evenly spaced across the application area; and
2. retain all habitat and mature trees.
 | AO33.1 Mechanical clearing:1. only occurs within 1.5 metres from the edge of the canopy of individual non-native plants, unless the clearing is required to provide necessary access to control a non-native plant or declared pest; and
2. does not occur using two machines linked by chain or cable; and
3. retains all habitat trees and mature trees.

AND |  |
| AO33.2 Clearing to provide necessary access to control non-native plants or declared pests does not exceed five metres in width.AND |
| AO33.3 Any regional ecosystem burn is undertaken in accordance with the fire guideline for the regional ecosystem, as outlined in the Regional Ecosystem Description Database (REDD).AND |  |
| AO33.4 Chemical clearing retains all of the following:1. mature trees; and
2. habitat trees; and
3. at least 50 per cent of immature trees in each 50 metre by 50 metre area.

AND |
| AO33.5 Aerial application of a root-absorbed broad spectrum herbicides does not occur.AND |
| AO33.6 Root-absorbed broad spectrum herbicides are not applied within whichever distance is the greater from a mature tree or a habitat tree;1. 30 metres; or
2. the distance specified on the approved product label; or
3. the distance specified in the safety and use conditions issued by the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority.
 |
| Restoring the regional ecosystem (managing thickened vegetation) |
| PO34 Clearing activities:1. restore the natural floristic composition and range of sizes of each species of the regional ecosystem evenly spaced across the application area; and
2. retain mature trees, habitat trees and tall immature trees and thickets.
 | AO34.1 Clearing does not occur in thickets.AND |  |
|  | AO34.2 Clearing retains:1. all mature trees and habitat trees;
2. a full range of sizes and species typical of the regional ecosystem in the area; and
3. where the number of mature trees plus habitat trees is less than 20 per hectare, tall immature trees to total 20 mature trees, habitat trees and tall immature trees per hectare.

AND |  |
|  | AO34.3 Clearing does not result in debris stacked or pushed against a mature tree, habitat tree or tall immature tree.AND |  |
|  | AO34.4 If clearing immature trees, retain immature trees in each 50 metre by 50 metre area to at least the density specified in table 16.3.4 of this code. |  |
|  | AO34.5 If clearing low shrubs:1. in regional ecosystems where clearing is restricted to low shrubs as specified in table 16.3.4 of this code – clearing retains all immature trees;
2. in regional ecosystems where clearing is not restricted to low shrubs as specified in table 16.3.4 of this code – clearing retains at least the number of immature trees specified in table 16.3.4 of this code; and
3. clearing retains at least 10 per cent of the predominate species that have thickened.

AND |  |
|  | AO34.6 Mechanical clearing does not occur within 5 metres of the trunk of a mature tree, habitat tree or tall immature tree.AND |  |
|  | AO34.7 Clearing is not undertaken by:1. aerial application of any herbicide;
2. application of a root-absorbed broad spectrum herbicide.

AND |  |
|  | **AO34.8** Chemical clearing does not occur within five metres of the trunk of a mature tree, habitat tree or tall immature tree.AND |  |
|  | **AO34.9** Anyregional ecosystem burn is undertaken in accordance with the fire guideline for the regional ecosystem, as outlined in the Regional Ecosystem Description Database (REDD). |  |
| Clearing limited to specific regional ecosystems and specific clearing methods (managing thickened vegetation) |
| PO35 Clearing must be for the purpose of restoring the remnant regional ecosystem and only occur if all of the following apply:1. clearing is in regional ecosystems prescribed in table 16.3.4 of this code; and
2. clearing is in accordance with the clearing restrictions for the regional ecosystem prescribed in table 16.3.4 of this code.retain mature trees, habitat trees and tall immature trees and thickets.
 | No acceptable outcome is prescribed. |  |
| Clearing limited to specific regional ecosystems (encroachment) |
| PO36 Clearing of encroachment does not occur, other than in the regional ecosystems listed in table 16.3.5 of this code. | No acceptable outcome is prescribed. |  |
| Conserving vegetation (encroachment) |
| PO37 Clearing activities:1. result in the restoration of the regional ecosystem; and
2. retain all habitat trees; and
3. retain all groves; and
4. retain species which make up the natural floristic composition of the regional ecosystem, distributed in a natural pattern.
 | AO37.1 Clearing retains all of the following:1. all mature trees; and
2. all habitat trees; and
3. all woody vegetation within a grove, unless it is undertaken by a regional ecosystem burn.

AND |  |
| AO37.2 Any regional ecosystem burn is undertaken in accordance with the fire guideline for the regional ecosystem, as outlined in the Regional Ecosystem Description Database (REDD).AND |  |
| AO37.3 Clearing does not result in debris being stacked or pushed against a mature tree or a habitat tree.AND |  |
| AO37.4 Mechanical clearing does not occur within 10 metres of a mature tree or a habitat tree.AND |  |
| AO37.5 Aerial application of a herbicide does not occur. AND |  |
| AO37.6 Chemical clearing does not occur within five metres of a mature tree or a habitat tree. AND |  |
| AO37.7 Root-absorbed broad spectrum herbicides are not applied in any of the following areas:1. regional ecosystems 11.4.11 and 11.8.11; and
2. within whichever is the greater distance from a mature tree or a habitat tree:
3. 10 metres; or
4. the distance specified by the approved product label; or
5. the safety and use conditions specified by the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority; and
6. within whichever is the greater distance from a grove:
7. 30 metres; or
8. the distance specified by the approved product label; or
9. the distance specified in the safety and use conditions issued by the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority.
 |  |
| Limits to clearing for fodder harvesting (fodder harvesting) |
| PO38 Clearing is limited to:1. the extent necessary to provide fodder for stock; and
2. areas where the stock is located, and the stock have sufficient water.
 | No acceptable outcome is prescribed. |  |
| PO39 Clearing must only occur: 1. in regional ecosystems listed in table 16.3.6 or table 16.3.7 of this code; and
2. in accordance with the harvesting method limitations for the regional ecosystem listed in table 16.3.6 or table 16.3.7 of this code.
 | No acceptable outcome is prescribed. |  |
| PO40 Clearing consists predominantly of fodder species. | No acceptable outcome is prescribed. |  |
| Conserving vegetation (fodder harvesting) |
| PO41 Clearing is carried out in a way that conserves:1. remnant vegetation in perpetuity; and
2. the regional ecosystem in which the vegetation is situated.
 | AO41.1 Clearing does not result in the removal of non-fodder species with a height of four metres or more.AND |  |
| A042.2 Selective harvesting:1. retains all non-fodder species except where the damage is an unavoidable consequence of clearing the selected fodder tree; and
2. when using a chainsaw in regional ecosystems listed in table 16.3.6 of this code, retains at least one fodder tree for every fodder tree cleared; and
3. in least concern regional ecosystems listed in table 16.3.7 of this code, retains at least one fodder tree for each fodder tree cleared; and
4. in of concern regional ecosystems listed in table 16.3.7 of this code, retains at least two fodder trees for each fodder tree cleared.

AND |
| AO41.3 Strip harvesting and block harvesting:1. where fodder harvesting has previously occurred in an area of a lot, only occurs if all of the following apply:
	1. the vegetation has not been cleared in the last 10 years; and
	2. the average height of the fodder trees is at least 70 per cent of the height of the tallest stands of fodder species in the regional ecosystem; and
	3. the fodder trees that were previously harvested have now attained an average height of at least 4 metres; and
2. aligns clearing along the contour where practical; and
3. does not occur in patches of regional ecosystems that are less than 10 hectares in area or less than 500 metres wide.

AND |
| AO41.4 Strip harvesting:1. does not result in any strip harvesting area exceeding 50 metres in width; and
2. results in all strip retention areas:
	1. being preserved along the length of strip harvest areas to a width of at least 1.5 times that of the adjacent strip harvest area; and
	2. containing fodder species with an average height of at least four metres; and
3. does not result in clearing for machinery access between strip harvest areas exceeding 15 metres in width.

AND |
| AO41.5 Block harvesting:1. does not result in any block harvest area exceeding one hectare; and
2. results in block retention areas:
	1. being preserved between block harvest areas in accordance with the widths specified in table 16.3.8 of this code; and
	2. containing fodder species with an average height of at least four metres; and
3. does not result in clearing for machinery access between block harvest areas exceeding 10 metres in width.
 |
| Cleared vegetation (fodder harvesting) |
| PO42 Fodder harvesting is carried out in a way that results in the woody biomass of the cleared vegetation remaining where it is cleared. | No acceptable outcome is prescribed. |  |
| Conserving the fodder resource (fodder harvesting) |
| PO43 Fodder harvesting is carried out in a way that will conserve the fodder resource. | AO43.1 Clearing does not occur:1. in an area that has been cleared in the previous 10-year period; and
2. more than once in the same area of a lot; and
3. in more than 50 per cent of the area of the regional ecosystem listed in table 16.3.6 and table 16.3.7 of this code on the lot; and
4. in areas required to be retained under this code, a development approval or any accepted development vegetation clearing code.
 |  |
| Duration of clearing, preventing land degradation, and maintaining biodiversity, ecological processes and regional ecosystems (Vegetation retention purposes) |
| PO44 The duration of clearing for a vegetation retention purpose occurs only for a period that:1. will not contribute to land degradation; and
2. ensures the ongoing maintenance of ecological processes and biodiversity; and
3. maintains the regional ecosystem.
 | No acceptable outcome is prescribed. |  |