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## Native vegetation | NSW Environment & Heritage

### Review of the native vegetation regulation

The Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) and the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) are undertaking a review of the Native Vegetation Regulation 2005. For information about the review, visit the [review of the native vegetation regulation](#) page.

### Protecting and managing native vegetation

Protecting native vegetation reduces negative impacts on biodiversity, salinity, threatened species, soils, riverbanks and water quality. Minimising native vegetation clearing is also essential for helping to reduce the effects of climate change.

The Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH), catchment management authorities (CMAs) and the Department of Primary Industries are the main agencies responsible for maintaining native vegetation in NSW. OEH's roles include:


- policy and legal advice and reform
- guideline development
- auditing, enforcement and compliance
- science input and reform
- conservation assessment and planning
- monitoring and reporting.

OEH implements incentive programs which are delivered in collaboration with CMAs. These programs have provided \$120 million in incentives to help restore native vegetation on private property across NSW.

OEH also supports botanic gardens, which play a key role in protecting the genetic diversity of our plants for the future.

### Find out more about managing native vegetation

The Native Vegetation Act 2003 and Native Vegetation Regulation 2005 guide the way we [manage native vegetation](#) in NSW by preventing broadscale clearing unless it improves or maintains environmental outcomes. Under the Act landholders can negotiate property vegetation plans (PVPs) with the local CMA. PVPs describe how native vegetation will be managed on the property. This includes establishing areas for clearing and associated offsets or rehabilitation with incentive funding.

Following changes on 1 August 2007, harvesting of timber for the purposes of [private native forestry](#)  requires approval through a private native forestry property vegetation plan that ensures environmental




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outcomes are improved or maintained. These plans are voluntary to enter into but once in place form a legally binding agreement between OEH and a landowner about the management of private forests.

The regulation of [native plants](#) growing on land or in fresh water is the responsibility of OEH. Many native plants are protected in NSW under the Threatened Species Conservation Act or the National Parks and Wildlife Act.

OEH is developing the [NSW Vegetation Information System](#) as a focal point for providing integrated, coordinated access to the vegetation maps and data for the state. A project is underway to establish specifications for standard [NSW native vegetation map products](#) by June 2013.

To find out what plants occur in a National Park or Reserve you can search the [Atlas of NSW Wildlife](#) .

<http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/vegetation/>