

CALL BEFORE YOU CLEAR!

PROTECTING THREATENED BIODIVERSITY

Guide to seeking approval for activities that can cause harm to threatened biodiversity in the Goulburn Mulwaree Local Government Area

Threatened biodiversity is protected in NSW under the Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 (BC Act) and includes:

- unique vegetation communities and ecosystems known as Threatened Ecological Communities (TECs);
- threatened plants or animals that are at risk of extinction; and
- habitat that supports TECs, threatened plants or animals including non-native vegetation and non-living components such as dead trees or rocks.

This guide explains how to seek approval for activities that can cause harm to threatened biodiversity. Approval can take the form of a license, development consent, certificate, or permit. If you are planning to remove vegetation or do other works that may cause harm to threatened biodiversity, it is important to contact the agencies below **prior to carrying out any works**, as regulatory action and penalties can apply where the impacts are unlawful.

I want to/I need to:	Information
<p>Remove trees and other vegetation or do other work in preparation for development on any zoned land, for example ‘tidying up’ or maintenance.</p> <p><i>Environment Planning and Assessment Act 1979 Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016, Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997</i></p>	<p>All trees are protected in the Goulburn Mulwaree Council area. Your property may host threatened biodiversity, even if it is not mapped on the NSW Biodiversity Values Map and Threshold Tool. Approval may be required.</p> <p>Contact Council (contacts are listed on the last page)</p>
<p>Carry out earthworks for activities, such as install vehicle access, prepare a site for development, undertake drainage or dam works that impact water, a waterway, or aquatic species.</p> <p><i>Environment Planning and Assessment Act 1979 Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016, Water Management Act 2000, Water Act 1912, Fisheries Management Act 1994</i></p>	<p>Earthworks activities, activities impacting creeks or waterways and activities impacting fish and other aquatic species may require a permit.</p> <p>Contact Council regarding earthworks.</p> <p>The NSW Natural Resources Access Regulator (NRAR), Water NSW or Fisheries NSW may be able to assist in relation to waterways, fish, and other aquatic species.</p>
<p>Carry out works that may cause harm to threatened flora, fauna and habitat for a reason <u>not including</u> development.</p> <p><i>Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 (BC Act)</i></p>	<p>Approval may be required for this activity. You may need a license under the BC Act.</p> <p>Contact the NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment & Water (NSW DCCEEW) Environment and Heritage Group</p>
<p>Conserve plants, animals, and their habitat on my property.</p>	<p>Conservation efforts can potentially be funded through NSW Saving our Species (SoS) projects or through other conservation-based projects with the NSW Government.</p> <p>Contact the SoS program via NSW Environment Line Contact the NSW Biodiversity Conservation Trust</p>
<p>Ask a question about threatened biodiversity.</p>	<p>Enquiries can be referred to teams best placed to handle enquiries, via NSW Environment Line.</p> <p>Contact NSW Environment Line</p>

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I want to/I need to:	Information
Report clearing or other activity you perceive may cause damage to plants, animals and their habitat that may be unlawful.	Causing damage to protected plants, animals and their habitat may be an offence. Information can be reported to NSW Environment Line or Council. Reports made to NSW Environment Line are referred to relevant authorities. Contact NSW Environment Line or Council

CALL BEFORE YOU CLEAR – BIODIVERSITY - CONTACTS

Goulburn Mulwaree Council: council@goulburn.nsw.gov.au
02 4823 4444
www.goulburn.nsw.gov.au/Development/Environment-Heritage/Call-Before-You-Clear

Biodiversity Conservation Trust
info@bct.nsw.gov.au
1300 992 688
www.bct.nsw.gov.au/

NSW DCCEEW: info@environment.nsw.gov.au
131 555 www.environment.nsw.gov.au
Environment Line: info@environment.nsw.gov.au
131 555 www.environment.nsw.gov.au
SOS program: info@environment.nsw.gov.au 131 555
www.environment.nsw.gov.au/topics/animals-and-plants/threatened-species/saving-our-species-program

MORE CONTACTS AND USEFUL LINKS

LLS: if you want/need to clear on Rural zoned land (other than Rural Village), other than for development, contact Local Land Services South East enquiry.southeast@lls.nsw.gov.au 1300 795 299 www.lls.nsw.gov.au

Call Before You Clear campaign – trees, grasses and other vegetation:
www.goulburn.nsw.gov.au/Development/Environment-Heritage/Call-Before-You-Clear

Goulburn Mulwaree Council – development - tree and vegetation management:
www.goulburn.nsw.gov.au/Development/Plans-Strategies#section-4,
www.goulburn.nsw.gov.au/Development/Development-Process-What-approvals-do-I-need ,
www.goulburn.nsw.gov.au/Development/Environment-Heritage/Tree-and-Vegetation-Management

NSW DDCCEEW – Environment & Heritage Group: www.environment.nsw.gov.au
NSW DDCCEEW- Threatened species: <https://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/topics/animals-and-plants/threatened-species>

NRAR: nrar.enquiries@nrar.nsw.gov.au 1800 633 362 www.nrar.nsw.gov.au

Water NSW: enquiries@waternsw.com.au 1300 662 077 www.waternsw.com.au

Fisheries NSW: information-advisory@dpi.nsw.gov.au 1300 550 474 www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/fishing

Biodiversity: www.environment.nsw.gov.au/topics/animals-and-plants/biodiversity/about-biodiversity

Biodiversity Values Map & Threshold Tool: www2.environment.nsw.gov.au/topics/animals-and-plants/biodiversity-offsets-scheme/clear-and-develop-land/biodiversity-values-map-and-threshold-tool

Licence to pick or harm a threatened species or ecological community and habitat:
www.environment.nsw.gov.au/licences-and-permits/wildlife-licences/licences-to-control-or-harm