



REPORT: NATIVE FORESTS REGULATORY FRAMEWORK ASSESSMENT



27 April 2023

Native Forest Management

This report was commissioned by the South & Central Queensland Regional Forestry Hub with funding from the Australian Government, Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry.

Native Forestry Operations
Capacity Building Project
Review of Regulatory Framework

Prepared for South and Central Queensland
Forestry Hub
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Glossary

DAF	Department of Agriculture and Fisheries (Forestry)
DES	Department of Environment and Science
DNR	Department of Natural Resources
OHP	Operational Harvesting Plan
OSL	Other State Land
QPWS	Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service
SP	Sales Permit
TQ	Timber Queensland

1. Introduction

This review has been commissioned by the South and Central Queensland regional forestry hub to address a knowledge gap and potential barrier to greater social licence and operational compliance in the native forestry sector. This barrier is a lack of knowledge of the broad array of regulatory requirements impacting native forestry operations on state land and an absence of information on how best to address these multiple obligations into the future.

Specific objectives of the project were to:

- identify the main regulatory agencies and stakeholders involved in native forestry operations on state land for both the native hardwood and native cypress industry;
- describe the extent and complexity of relevant regulatory requirements for native log sale permittees and contractors in native forestry operations;
- stratify these regulatory requirements into useful groupings, which were classified into: sustainable forestry, environment, work health and safety and cultural heritage obligations; and
- provide recommendations on related risk frameworks and adoption pathways for more effective regulatory compliance for industry.

2. Native Cypress and Hardwood Industry

2.1 Background

Queensland is home to 41% of Australia's forests. The state has the most forested land area in the country with 52.5 million hectares of native forests. The Native Cypress and Hardwood Industry are made up of approximately 0.5 million hectares of cypress, and twenty million hectares of hardwood available for timber production. The native forest industry harvests approximately 30,000 hectares on an annual basis, and supply 18% of Queensland's domestically sourced timber (DAF, 2016a).

2.2 Distribution

Queensland's merchantable forest resource is broadly distributed across six supply zones, encompassing three main resources, cypress pine, native hardwood, and softwood plantations (refer to Figure 1). Industry processor distribution is aligned to the accessible resource, with most native timber processors in the central and eastern parts of Queensland.

2.3 Land Tenure

The Queensland Cypress and Hardwood Industry extends across State Forests, timber reserves, leasehold land, and certain freehold lands (figure 1). The National Forestry Inventory outlined the following definitions for determining the different land use tenures regarding forestry activities (Department of Agriculture and Water Resources, 2018):

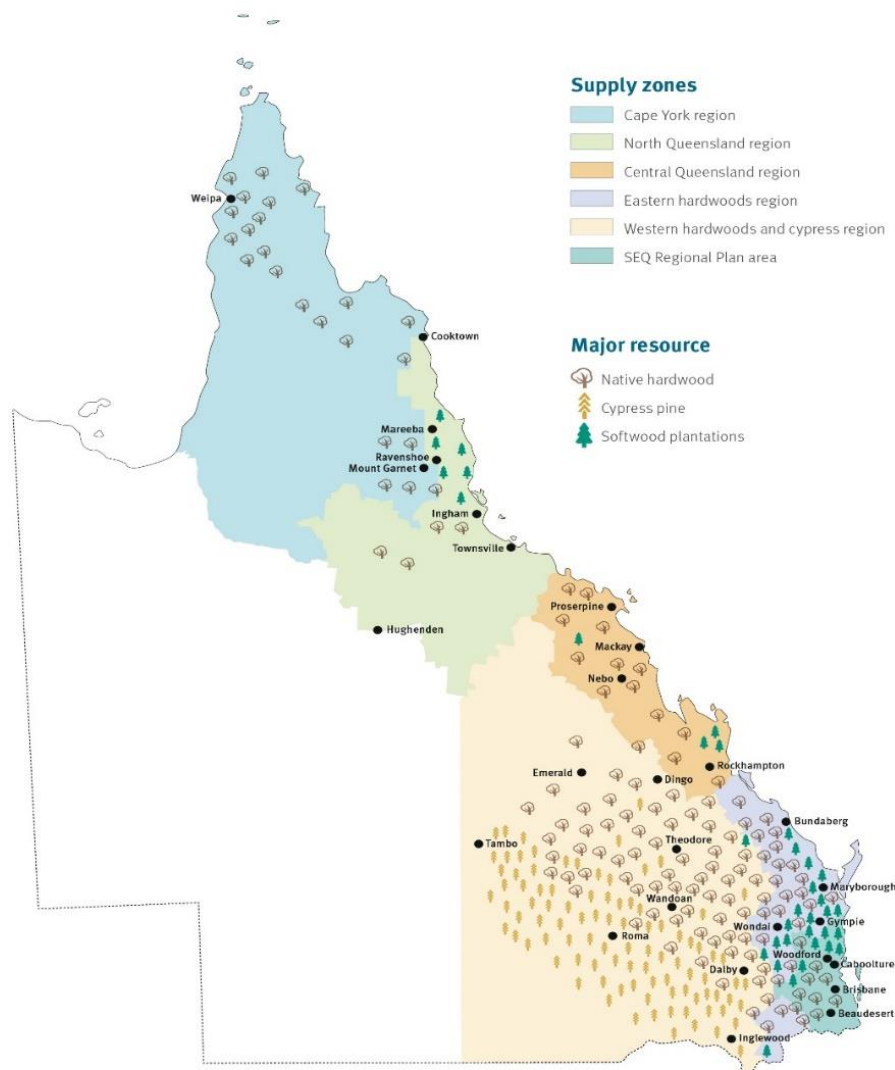
- *Multiple-use public forest*: Publicly owned state forest, timber reserves, and other land managed for forest values such as timber harvesting, recreation, and environmental protection.
- *Leasehold forest*: Crown land held under leasehold title and privately managed.

- *Nature conservation reserve*: Publicly owned land formally reserved for environmental protection, conservation, and recreation. Includes National parks and Nature reserves.
- *Other Crown land*: Crown land reserves for a variety of purposes including water supply, scientific research, mining, and use by the defence forces.
- *Private forest*: Land held under freehold title and private ownership, privately managed.
- *Unresolved tenure*: Land where data is insufficient to determine tenure/ownership status.

Table 1- Land Tenure

Land Tenure	Area (ha)
Multiple-use public forest (State Forest)	2,881,000 ha
Leasehold Forest	28,135,000 ha
Nature Conservation Reserve	4,378,000 ha
Other State Land	1,308,000 ha
Private Forest	14,213,000 ha
Unresolved Tenure	666,000 ha

Figure 1 - Forestry Supply Zones (DAF, 2021)



2.3.1 State Forest

On State Forest land (multiple-use public forest), operational harvesting activities are governed by legislation and standards. Standards are set by Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service (QPWS) as the responsible land manager (DAF, 2019). State-owned native forests are an important supply of logs for Queensland’s native hardwood and cypress processing sectors.

2.3.1.1 Future of State Forest¹

The Southeast Queensland Forests Agreement (SEQFA) was signed by the Queensland Government, the timber industry, and the conservation sector in 1999. The agreement, along with arrangements in other regions, planned to cease timber production in State forests to allow transition of these

¹ Note: The following detail is contained on DAF website.

areas to the conservation estate (DAF, 2022) while at the same time as develop a suitable hardwood plantation resource.

The agreement put in place long-term sales permits (supply contracts) for the supply of State-owned native timber from the SEQ supply region. As a result of the unsuccessful hardwood plantation program, the Queensland Government announced the Native Timber Action Plan in November 2019. A key aim of the plan is to refresh the SEQFA and build a sustainable future for the timber industry and regional employment that also ensures conservation outcomes. The renewed plan specifies that state-owned native timber production will end in the South-East Queensland (SEQ) Regional Plan area on 31 December 2024. Across the remainder of the SEQ supply region (i.e., the Eastern Hardwoods region), timber production from state-owned native forests will continue through to 31 December 2026.

The SEQ Regional Plan area includes Brisbane, Moreton Bay, Lockyer Valley, Scenic Rim, Gold Coast, Logan, Redlands, Sunshine Coast and Noosa. State-owned native timber production will continue in the balance of the SEQ supply region, the Eastern hardwoods region, which includes areas in Wide Bay, such as Gympie, Fraser Coast, Bundaberg, Gladstone and the majority of South Burnett, as well as small areas to the east of Toowoomba and Southern Downs, through to 31 December 2026. The renewed timeframe for timber harvesting in the Eastern Hardwoods region has been set to provide time to undertake the work needed to make informed longer-term decisions, with a view to achieving an appropriate balance between wood production, economic development and environmental values beyond 2026.

In the Western hardwoods region sales permits are in place until 2034. These sales permits contain a 'rollover' provision to extend by one additional year annually unless a decision is made not to grant this extension. In 2019, the State Government decided that these annual extensions will no longer be granted. This was largely due to the need to conduct forest resource assessments to inform future sustainable harvesting levels. Ending the annual extensions will allow for the outcomes of forest resource assessments to be implemented as early as possible. Current permit holders in the region have guaranteed supply until 2034.

A number of short-term sales permits are in place in Central and North Queensland. In Northern Cape York a small number of long-term permits (up to 10 years) are in place involving First Nation enterprises. For native cypress supply, long-term sales permits are in place until 2037. No decisions have been made regarding these regions and cypress supply. Future decisions will be informed by outcomes of assessments into sustainable long-term supply options for hardwood and cypress timber across Queensland.

2.3.2 Other State Lands

Extensive parts of Queensland's state-owned land are leased for a range of purposes. The Government retains the rights to royalties of all trees on these lands, Other State Lands (OSL). Leasehold Land is the most common OSL, operational harvest activities are similarly regulated by legislation and standards. Lease conditions are determined by the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), DAF sets the harvest standards and is responsible for the sale of forest products from OSL.

2.3.3 Commercial Timber

Under the *Forestry Act 1959*, Commercial Timber on state forest and OSL can include:

- Cypress sawlogs.
- Hardwood poles, girders, sawlogs, landscape timbers, mining timbers, railway timbers, fencing timbers, including rosewood and lancewood timbers and other log timbers, and Sandalwood (Department of Agriculture and Fisheries, 2016b).

3. Stakeholders

The general responsibilities and duties of each key stakeholder² has been summarised from the Operating Guidelines for Native Forest Timber Production on the QPWS forest estate Sept 2018 (the Operating Guidelines, superseded).

3.1 Department of Agriculture and Fisheries

Forest Products is the business unit within the Queensland Government's Department of Agriculture and Fisheries (referred to as DAF). DAF is responsible for the supply of native forest timber, and other forest products from state forests and a range of OSL tenures under the *Forestry Act 1959* (QLD) (DAF, 2019).

DAF intend to work collaboratively with the industry, community, and other government stakeholders to ensure the responsible management and efficient supply of forest products (DAF, 2019, Queensland Government, 2013). DAF has traditionally facilitated a proportion of the forest and timber industry's regulatory compliance through management, developing and monitoring.

DAF are responsible for:

- Ensuring that nature conservation and other forest values are identified and managed to minimise any adverse impacts of forest harvesting operations.
- Manage and administer commercial harvesting in accordance with government policies and forest certification.
- Maintain the currency of all Species Management Profiles in consultation with the Department of Environment and Science (DES) Queensland Herbarium. DAF will provide copies of Species Management Profiles to Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service to inform forest harvesting auditors and for own use.
- Compiling Operational Harvesting Plans:
 - Providing description, map, felling method.
 - Including consulting and agreeing on
 - Plant and machinery used for cut, snig, load, haulage, road construction and maintenance.

² Note: there are other stakeholders within state forestry operations, although not included for the purpose of the report.

- Location of watercourse crossings, snig tracks, and landings
- Supervise commercially focussed harvesting activities associated with the sale of log timber or other forest products, including yield regulation, harvesting planning and the administration and supervision of sale permits and other authorities to Permittees for the harvesting of log timber or other forest products on those areas allocated for production.
- Conducting Audits on all land pursuant to the Code and contractual obligations (Sales Permit and Operational Harvesting Plan) and informing permittees of audit findings, in line with continuous improvement.

3.2 Sales Permittees (or referred to as Industry)

The Sales Permittees, commonly referred to as ‘Industry’ or ‘Permittees’ are the responsible party of removing forest products from state forests and OSL. Department of Agriculture and Fisheries sells forest products, through a Sales Permit, administered under the *Forestry Act 1959*. On an annual basis the Permittees are allocated an area of selective harvest, subject to conditions and detailed in relevant legislation and codes. In general, the Sales Permit enables mill door sales, therefore the permittee and their contractors being responsible for harvesting, haulage and milling the various timber products.

Permittees play a critical role in compliance and certification by complying with Operational Harvesting Plans, the Code, Sale Permits, and other legal requirements during harvesting operations. Furthermore, recent changes have meant that Industry are now responsible for large components of managing forestry operations and ensuring regulatory requirements.

On state forest and OSL, Permittees are responsible for:

- Compliance to terms of the Sales Permit.
 - Including all schedules.
- Compliance to DAF supplied Operational Harvesting Plans.
- All relevant local authority, State and Commonwealth laws, including but not limited to: *Forestry Act (1959)*, *Environmental Protection Act (1994)*, *Fire and Rescue Service Act (1990)*, *Land Protection (Pest and Stock Route Management) Act (2002)*, *Nature Conservation Act (1992)*, *Queensland Work Health, and Safety Act (2011)*, and *Nature Conservation Act (1992)*.
- Any other reasonable direction by the state in relation to operations.
- Responsible for completing/determining the following prior to operations:
 - Indigenous Land Use Agreement (if required), safety procedures, protection/identification of environmental values, flora and fauna protection and management, maintain road access, and stakeholder communication.
 - Permittees are required to mutually agree with DAF on:
 - Plant and machinery used for harvesting, snigging, loading, haulage and road construction and maintenance,
 - Location of watercourse crossings, snig tracks, and landings.

- Responsible for implementing (in some situations as directed under SP Schedules, OHPs or as per specifications and standards):
 - Including defining exclusion zones: safety hazard, declared pest, Aboriginal cultural heritage, lessee assets, utilities, and hazardous trees.
 - Tree ID and marking, maximise utilisation, stump height, retained trees, unsafe trees.
 - Report and manages pests, including washdown procedures.
 - Report and manage fires, including carrying firefighting equipment.
 - Undertake measures to protect flora and fauna (Koala's), and Cultural Heritage values.
 - Construct and maintain roads, use of roads, adhere to traffic rules, drainage, rehabilitation works.
 - Suspension of haulage and operations, due to adverse weather.
 - Advising of mechanical equipment, inappropriate conduct, release and indemnity, and insurance.
 - Holding relevant accreditation
 - WHS, environmental management, chainsaw use, plant operation, national competencies.

3.3 Timber Queensland

Timber Queensland (TQ) function as an impartial and authoritative non-profit representative for the Queensland forest and timber industry. TQ aims to enhance and promote development of the Queensland forest and timber industry and provides a voice on political, technical, environmental, and other matters affecting the industry. TQ also delivers relevant training and education events, provides technical services to members and end-users, and promotes research and development with research providers and partners.

3.4 Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service

The Department of Environment and Science (DES) is the Queensland Government agency responsible for ensuring that forest values are identified and conserved on state forests and Timber reserves, the reserves set aside and are administered under the *Forestry Act 1959*.

Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service (QPWS) is the regulatory body, responsible for the management of national parks and state forest, this includes administering The Code and auditing the level of compliance of native forest harvesting authorised by DAF. QPWS is responsible for consulting with DAF to define harvest standards, and establish roles, responsibilities and protocols and procedures for implementation.

QPWS, as the custodians of state forest are responsible for:

- Approve and/or regulate forest uses.

- Ensure that nature conservation and other forest values are identified and conserved.
- Develop codes of forest practice and related management protocols incorporating scientific knowledge and best practice management techniques in consultation with stakeholders.
- Oversee the environmental management of harvesting activities pursuant to The Code.
- Review forestry operations in accordance with the codes of practice by assessing and approving code, variations where required.
- Monitor, audit and report on code compliance and environmental management outcomes.
- Provide relevant training to all staff and government agencies.
- Providing support to DAF for agreed industry training.

3.5 Other Stakeholders

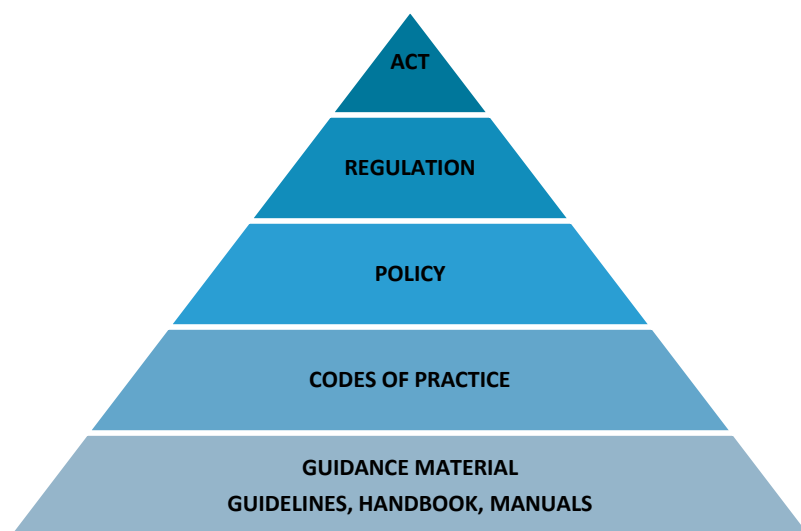
Other stakeholders include:

- Department of Natural Resources
- Department of Environment and Science
- Traditional Owners.

4. Regulatory Compliance

Regulatory compliance is an entity's adherence to acts, regulations, policies, Codes of Practice, and guidance material relevant to its business. Regulatory compliance is fundamental for state forestry operations to continue. The legislative framework demonstrates hierarchy and distinguishes mandatory requirements between instrumental documents (figure 2).

Figure 2- Legislative Framework



4.1 Acts

An Act is the formal, broad description of law, setting out the key principles, duties, obligations, and rights. Acts are legislation passed by Parliament and have the power to create regulations. An Act can only be amended by another Act of Parliament.

4.2 Regulation

Regulations are made under Acts, and typically provide further detail about how the overarching requirements of the relevant Act will apply. Regulations do not have to be passed by Parliament in the same way as Acts and are more readily adaptable to changes.

4.3 Policies

A policy is a course or principle of action adopted or proposed to achieve an Act. A policy typically provides a framework, standards, additional detail, and/or indicators to ensure the objectives of an Act are met.

4.4 Codes of Practice

While approved codes of practice are not law, they are supplementary to Acts and regulations and are admissible in court proceedings. Courts may regard an approved code of practice as evidence of what is known about a hazard, risk or control and may rely on the relevant code to determine what is reasonably practicable in the circumstances.

4.5 Guidance Material

Provides further guidance on complying with requirements under the Act and Regulations, however, is not legally binding. Guidance material can include instructional material, guidelines, handbooks, and manuals.

4.6 Monitoring Regulatory Compliance

4.6.1 Audit

QPWS on behalf of Department of Environment and Science, conduct periodic audits on DAF approved operations on state forest sale areas.

DAF undertake internal audits of its sale areas and Permittee performance against SP, The Code, OHPs, contractual obligations and other relevant legislation. DAF applies the same audit standards on OSL.

In recent Sales Permits, or variations to permits, a clause has been included instructing Permittees to conduct Permittee Self-Assessments monthly. DAF has designed a form to be used, however providing the Permittees adhere to a set of guidelines, the form can be delivered in any format.

4.6.2 Certification

Certification by Responsible Wood occurs on state forests through a forest management system. Responsible Wood manages the Australian Standard for Sustainable Forest Management (AS 4708) and its Chain of Custody (AS 4707). There are obligations in Responsible Wood that fall within the responsibility of QPWS. DAF maintains a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with QPWS that provides funding for delivery of certain tasks on state forest and engages with QPWS on task delivery performance reporting. Routine Responsible Wood audits occur to demonstrate management continuity.

DAF is responsible for the delivery of native forest timber from OSL. However due to management difficulties, certification on OSL was withdrawn. Whilst not certified, DAF apply the same management process to OSL.

Permittee's roles in certification are ensuring compliance to legislation and other mentioned contractual documents. The audit process ensures this.

4.7 Introduction to Core Legislation

Regulatory compliance relevant to timber harvesting operations on state land are fundamental. There is a wide array of detailed legislation relevant, however the following Acts are regarded as core legislation:

- *Forestry Act (1959).*
- *Queensland Work Health and Safety Act (2011).*
- *Nature Conservation Act (1992).*
- *Commonwealth Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act (1999).*
- *Environment Protection Act (1994).*

- *Biosecurity Act (2014) and*
- *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act (2003).*

The remainder of the extensive list of legislation is detailed in four focus areas, including sustainable forestry, workplace health and safety, environment, and cultural heritage (table 2).

4.8 Sustainable Forestry

4.8.1 The Forestry Act 1959

The *Forestry Act 1959* provides for management, protection and silvicultural treatment of state forests, leasehold land, OSL, and the sale of forest products and quarry material.

- **Forestry Regulation 2015**

The Forestry Regulation implements the *Forestry Act 1959* and aims to regulate and control activities on OSL. The regulation focusses on conduct, animals, vehicles, vessels, and aircrafts.

There are some exemptions for the regulation as a part of conducting forestry operations on OSL including harvesting, silviculture, or infrastructure management.

- **'The Code'**

Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service (QPWS) is responsible for *Code of Practice for Native Timber Production on Queensland's State Forest Estate (2020)*, hereon referred to as 'The Code' or the QPWS Code. The Code defines a set of minimal operational standards and is responsible for defining the principles, policies, and practices for sustainable timber production from the state forest estate. The Code also supports broader forest management systems including certification, planning, allocation, valuation, and utilisation systems. The Code was developed through a process of review and consultation with government, Permittees, community groups and technical experts (Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service, 2020, DAF,2021).

- **Sales Permit**

On state forest and OSL, a Sales Permit (SP) is required under the *Forestry Act (1959)* to conduct harvest activities. A SP is a legal agreement between the State of Queensland and a Permittee, and sets out the commercial terms, rights, and performance requirements agreed between the parties, with varying timeframes. The SP includes various contractual schedules and refers to supporting documents, examples included:

- Schedules- log schedules, pricing, reviews.
- Mechanical Harvest Guidelines in Cypress.
- Mechanical Harvest Guidelines in Hardwood.

Some SP have been implemented for ten years and will remain in place for years to come. As a result, some information within the SP is not current and are only amended on a DAF warranted basis, despite having reviews.

- **Operational Harvesting Plans**

To achieve and facilitate the administration of legislation, regulations and sales permits, Operational Harvesting Plans (OHPs) are key instruments for the planning and management of harvesting. DAF prepare OHPs that identify all harvesting requirements pursuant to legislation and aim to protect

values including environmental, cultural, waterways, soil properties, and endangered species. The aim of the OHP is not to duplicate schedules found in the Sales Permit, but to provide an instructional and workflow guide to conduct operations.

The OHP is a lengthy document and consists of detailed information for the sales area, including:

- Schedules from SP and The Code.
- Sales area induction, sales permit, and permittee information, operator information.
- Harvest restrictions/guidelines, road access.
- SMPs and MNES areas (see below), slope exclusions, soil type, weed hygiene.
- Identified plant and machinery, nominated operators and light vehicles.
- Various maps- operational, haulage route, regional ecosystems and so on.

Each OHP is mutually signed before commencing operations and is the instrumental document that Permittees refer to throughout the duration of the operation (up to 5 years).

- **Operating Guidelines for native forest timber production on the QPWS forest estate 2018 (superseded)**

The Guidelines detail the roles, responsibilities, obligations, and procedures allocated to QPWS and DAF in relation to the management of timber harvesting on state lands pursuant to The Code. The guideline summarises the administrative, planning, auditing, and monitoring processes for operations on state land, and provides brief explanations of some key schedules listed within The Code.

- **National Forest Policy Statement 1992**

The management of Australia's forests is guided by the National Forest Policy Statement 1992. The Australian, state and territory governments committed to the sustainable management of Australian forests, irrespective of land tenure. The concept of the Statement is to provide vision, goals, and specific objectives to ensure the longstanding future of the forest industry.

4.8.2 *Illegal Logging Prohibition Act 2012*

The *Illegal Logging Prohibition Act 2012* is designed to support the domestic and international trade in legally harvested wood and wood products by giving consumers and businesses greater certainty about the legality of the wood products they purchase. Driven mostly by profit, illegal logging has negative impacts on forest ecosystems, communities, and economies.

- **Illegal Logging Regulation 2012**

The Regulation prescribes the due diligence process that must be undertaken for timber products and processors of raw logs, to minimise the risk of exporting, importing, or processing illegally logged timber.

The list of regulated timber products includes all sawn timber, decking, mouldings, plywood, particleboard, MDF, joinery items such as timber doors and windows, most pulp, paper, and cardboard products as well as most timber and timber-framed furniture.

The Act and Regulation are currently under review, aiming to employ specialist knowledge and skillsets in illegal logging, trade, regulatory implementation, and policy, strengthening illegal logging

laws to better protect the profitability and viability of the Australian market and our timber producers.

4.8.3 Lands Act 1994

The Lands Act refers to operations on leasehold land. DAF currently administer approximately 1,000,000ha of this land, which is classified Defined Forest Area, meaning the timber products rights remain with the state. Forestry operations that occur on this land generally do not need to apply with the requirements of the *Forestry Act 1959*, and subsequently The Code, however, to ensure consistency in DAF administration and operations, the requirements of operations on state land are followed.

4.9 Work Health & Safety

4.9.1 Queensland Work Health and Safety Act 2011

The *Work Health and Safety Act 2011* (WHS Act) provides a framework to protect the health, safety and welfare of all workers, and others affected by the work undertaken- including workers, sub-contractors and public. The WHS establishes the requirements for incident notification, issue resolution, inspector powers and functions (work safe) and offences and penalties.

The *Work, health, and safety regulation 2011* sets the requirements under the WHS Act.

The WHS Act and WHS Regulation applies to all forestry operations (persons conducting a business or undertaking) on all land tenures. Businesses are required to align their Work Health and Safety policies, procedures, and other administrative instruments to comply consistently with the WHS Act. Instruments may include Codes of Practices, standards, work instructions and guides, aimed at providing practical guidance on achieving compliance.

Code of Practices are approved (under section 274) of the WHS Act. CoPs set the minimum standard to comply under the WHS, unless a higher technical or industry standard is met. CoPs are admissible in court proceedings under The WHS Act and Regulation.

- ***Queensland Forest Harvesting Code of Practice 2007***

The Harvesting Code of Practice (HCoP) provides guidance on undertaking forestry operations- felling, extraction, log landings, transport, and hand felling, providing detailed information on conducting each activity. Further, describes the Standard (Code or equivalent standard) that should be met, determines assessment procedures, and identifies activities that require training, inductions certificates and competency.

The HCoP identifies key WHS areas including working near powerlines, PPE requirements, accident and incident information, plant safety, manual tasks, fatigue, and other factors. Risk management is detailed, including process of identifying hazards, conducting risk assessments, and determining risk controls. Hazards and risks, and controls are identified, however like most Code of Practices, it does not address all that may arise.

The HCoP is currently undergoing revision and is likely to be updated. A level of stakeholder consultation will occur throughout the process.

- ***Saw Milling Industry Health and Safety Guide 2017***

The Saw Milling Industry Health and Safety Guide 2017 was compiled collaboratively with industry representatives and stakeholders, aimed at providing advice and managing risks in the sawmill industry. The guide identifies hazards common to sawmill operations, including machinery, equipment, substances, and work practices, and suggests controls.

- ***How to manage work health and safety risks Code of Practice 2021***

This Code provides practical guidance on managing risk to health and safety. The Code may be used in conjunction with other industry codes, such as those mentioned above, to manage the risk of specific hazards.

This Code provides further detail what is involved in managing work health and safety risks. Specific sections from the WHS Act are referred to and explained, and a step-by-step risk management process is shown to identify hazards, assess risks and control risks, followed by actions to record, and report on the process.

- **Work Safe guides**

Work Safe provides specific guides to provide information on the potential hazards of forest operations and provide practical examples of ways you can control the risks associated with them. The hazards for each activity are listed in detail in each guide along with the risk controls that are essential in eliminating or minimising risks, as far as is reasonably practicable. In some cases, risk factors are included in the guides where individual work situations vary.

Guides include (but not limited to) growing and managing forests, cable logging, timber harvesting operations, processing, log extraction, operating plant, and equipment, loading etc.

4.9.2 Transport Operations (Road Use Management) Act 1995

The Road Use Management Act aims to provide efficient and effective management of road use throughout Queensland. Key objectives are improving road safety and reducing environmental impact of road use, for all road users. Managing road use in adverse conditions (wet and dry) is instrumental from a safety and environmental perspective.

- **Operational Policy- Use of conditionally registered vehicles on QPWS managed areas**

All vehicles used on roads in QPWS managed areas (state land under the *Forestry Act 1959*), other than exempt vehicles, must be registered. This includes vehicles used by contractors, sub-contractors, and lessees.

Access and haulage roads to be used throughout the duration of the operation are located within the OHP.

4.9.3 Fire and Rescue Service Act 1990

The *Fire and Emergency Services Act 1990* is the principal legislation that administers fires in the open, in Queensland. The Act provides a systematic approach to the authorise the use of fire through a 'Permit to Light Fire' application and control of fire through prevention, response, and management regimes.

Some provisions of the Act do not apply in a state forest, timber reserve or forest entitlement area by a person acting in the performance of duties under the *Forestry Act 1959*. This Act applies on all land, however, is particularly challenging to manage on leasehold due to actions undertaken by lessees.

4.9.4 National Heavy Vehicle Law- Heavy Vehicle National Law Act 2012

The National Heavy Vehicle Regulator (NHVR) administers the Act for heavy vehicles over 4.5 tonnes gross vehicle mass. The Act requirements around standard, size, weight (GVM), speed and fatigue, to promote public safety, manage the impact, promote productivity, and ensure safe business practices. There are five regulations administered under the act and the Heavy Vehicle National Law Regulation 2014 applies to heavy vehicle usage in Queensland, however, is applicable interstate.

- **Forestry Log Haulage - Industry Code of Practice (draft).**

The draft Forestry Log Haulage - Industry Code of Practice identifies the risks associated with loading and transporting logs and describes equipment, procedures, training, and other methods to eliminate or minimise those risks. It includes recommendations for the minimum restraint requirements for diverse types of logs in different loading scenarios.

It is expected that the Log Haulage CoP will identify and assess the risks along the supply chain for log haulage and establish standards and procedures to mitigate risks with respect to the *Heavy Vehicle National Law Act 2012*. The Log Haulage CoP will specifically cover the haulage of logs and specifically consider risks relating to loading, log restraint, rollover prevention and unloading and safe driving practices.

The CoP draft project was led by Australian Forest Contractors Association in 2017, and to date is still in draft (at time of report). Once approved, the Log Haulage CoP is likely to require significant adaptations to current log haulage systems.

4.9.5 Agricultural Chemicals Distribution Control Act 1966

The Act controls the distribution of agricultural chemicals from aircraft and from ground equipment, and for other purposes. Legislation is in place to ensure that agricultural pilots and their businesses distribute agricultural chemicals responsibly and minimise agricultural chemical misuse to mitigate potential risks of harm to agriculture or livestock, the environment, trade, or human health. Distributing aerial and ground herbicides on state land, requires a commercial operator's licence or for ground purposes can be distributed under the supervision of the holder of a commercial operator's licence. There are various other Acts and Regulations that pertain application of aerial and ground chemical.

This Act applies to Permittees if chemical is used to control spread of weeds after spreading through duration of operation or failing to enact a machine/vehicle washdown procedure. This would occur under instruction from DAF.

4.10 Environment

A complex array of environmental regulations applies to the management of production of forest products in Queensland's managed native cypress and hardwood forests, including:

4.10.1 The Queensland Nature Conservation Act 1992

The *Nature Conservation Act 1992* provides the legislative basis for the conservation of nature through the commitment of declaration and management of protected areas and the protection of native wildlife and its habitat. The Act aims to promote the continuation of viable and sustainable populations in the wild.

There are instruments under the Act to manage wildlife outside of protected areas, including conservation plans, regulatory notices, management plans, Codes of Practice, statements, protected area permits and other authorities, licences and permits for the taking or use of wildlife, and individual conservation plans or recovery plans for species with protective needs.

- **Species Management Profile**

The Species Management Profile (SMP) accompanies the Operational Harvesting Plan (refer to 4.3.3). The SMP aims to apply protection measures to protect EVNT Species, habitat and breeding sites, conserve native species, maintain ecosystem function, and monitor the biodiversity values and impacts. The SMP prescribes operational measures to undertake during forestry operations.

On state forest, DAF prepare and maintain SMPs in consultation with the Department of Environment and Science's Queensland Herbarium. DAF provide copies to QPWS and to Permittees in the OHPs.

- **The Queensland Nature (Koala) Conservation Plan 2017.**

The Koala Conservation Plan is designed to promote the continued existence of viable koala populations and to prevent the decline of koala habitat. The Plan divides the state into three koala districts based on the management strategies, further applying objectives and controls on management, and clearing. The three koala districts form koala priority areas, which can be determined as a koala habitat area. The Plan refers to exempt clearing, outlining the conditions which must be met to conduct 'harvest' operations. The SMP for Koalas is written to comply with the Act and the Conservation Plan and is the key instrument for Koala management in forestry operations.

- **Nature Conservation (Plants) Regulation 2020- Protected Plants Assessment Guidelines**

The aim of the Protected Plants Regulation under the Nature Conservation Act is to ensure the survival of viable populations of protected plants in the wild, particularly threatened species or near threatened species, and to identify and reduce or remove the effects of threatening processes.

The framework is a risk-based approach focusing on addressing elevated risk activities. It provides set regulatory requirements for clearing and harvesting activities, accompanied by a list of critically endangered, endangered, vulnerable or near threatened species. The regulation also provides a list of general exemptions for the take of protected plants.

There are several timber operation activities that are exempt from the Framework, including firebreak maintenance, felling timber, maintaining existing roads and tracks. Department of Environment and Science have provided instruction on harvesting and forestry activities regulated under the framework. Forestry activities such as snagging and extracting may require a 'walkover' to assess for protected plants, and in this case can be exempt to the framework. Other activities are subject to the requirement of a flora survey, and development of a flora survey trigger map. This aims to identify elevated risk areas, where native plants protected under the Act are likely to be located and instructs the requirement of flora surveys and clearing permits.

- **Flora Survey Guideline- Protected Plants 2020**

The Guideline provides specific requirements for flora surveys, including who can undertake surveys, the area to be surveyed, the survey method and what is required in the flora survey report. Firstly, a desktop survey is undertaken determining the risk (high risk area, or outside high-risk area), and a

flora trigger map is created of the clearing impact area, then several field surveys occur to identify populations, and on ground marking if buffers are required.

A flora trigger map will accompany the OHP or be identified on the OHP operational map if likely to be situated within the operational area and will require exclusion zones if found during surveys or throughout forestry operations.

- The Code of Practice- For the harvest and use of protected plants

The Code of Practice (CoP) regulates the harvesting of restricted plant species on all land tenures. The purpose of the CoP is to determine the requirements when taking or using protected plants under exemptions specified in the Protected Plants Regulation. Requirements include operational, administrative, record keeping, labelling, and tagging activities, all pursuant to activities taking or using a protected plant acting under an exemption.

Regulating effecting harvesting of plant species is dependent on the listing of species. For harvesting of restricted species, then it must comply with this Code, unless able to comply with exemptions.

This CoP is specifically related to Sandalwood operations. A protected plant harvesting licence is required for any activity that involves the harvest of whole plants. The exempt harvesting of sandalwood plants, only leaves, twigs or propagative material can be taken under the exemption, as taking the trunk or main stem of the plant is taking the whole plant. Harvesting licence condition for accessing and harvesting sandalwood document should be applied will be applied in operations.

4.10.2 Environment Protection Act 1994

The Environment Protection Act (EPA) list obligations and duties to prevent environmental harm, nuisances, and contamination. The two duties pursuant to the Act including:

- General environment duty- not to undertake an activity that may cause environmental harm without taking precautionary measures.
- Duty to notify of environmental harm- informing the relevant authority/landholder of environmental harm.

The EPA Act applies to all industry activities and lists activities that if undertaken (intentionally or accidentally) are to be notified, including asbestos disposal, noise, air quality chemical/ oil spills, dust issues, water pollution, petrol and oil storage and wood treatment and preservation.

There are protection orders, notices, penalties, and prosecutions that can occur when failing to notify of environmental harm. Enforcement guidelines are further detailed in the Environmentally Relevant Activities Compliance and Enforcement Guideline.

There are prescriptions listed within the QPWS Code and OHP in relation to, particularly spills. A spill action plan is required, a spill kit is mandatory onsite, and all spills over twenty litres must be reported (as per schedule 17 in the QPWS Code).

Furthermore, waste, and hazardous materials, noise, air quality and dust issues are mentioned, and state there is to be no deviation from schedules within the QPWS Code.

4.10.3 Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999.

The EPBC Act provides a legal framework to protect and manage nationally and internationally important flora, fauna, ecological communities, and heritage places — defined in the EPBC Act as Matters of National Environmental Significance.

- Matters of National Environmental Significance (MNES).

MNES are listed under the EPBC Act and relates to undertaking a self-assessment on any actions (harvest, site preparation, earthworks etc) that are likely to significantly impact a quality of the environment, directly or indirectly. Nationally threatened species and ecological communities are particularly relevant to forestry operations and the level of action required will depend on the category of species or ecological community. Species categories include- extinct in the wild, critically endangered, endangered, and vulnerable and ecological communities' categories include critically endangered or endangered.

Regional ecosystems (RE) and Broad Vegetation Groups (BVG) are commonly found in OHP harvest operation maps. 'Endangered RE' and 'of concern RE' are excluded from operational areas and are accompanied by mandatory protective measures, commonly exclusion zones. Attached to OHPs are Community Information Profiles that identify the RE and BVG and their conservation status, characteristics, and distribution, these have detailed protective measures.

4.10.4 Land Protection (Pest and Stock Route Management) Act 2002

The Land Protection Act aims to establish provisions for pest management for land protection and stock route management. The Act provides requirements on management controls, including strategies, guidelines, and plans. The Act declares known pests and aims to prevent the spread of pests, which is sometimes prevented through use of permits. The Act outlines key principles including integration, public awareness, commitment, consultation, planning, prevention, best practice, and improvement that are outlined in management controls.

- **Operational Policy- management of pests on QPWS managed land**

The operational policy applies to QPWS managed areas including state forests and land managed under the *Forestry Act 1959*. Due to the significant adverse environmental, economic, and social impacts on QPWS land, the policy was established. QPWS is obligated to manage pests under various legislation and enacts a pest management system to meet obligations and aims to work collaboratively with surrounding land managers and stakeholders. Management activities may include eradication of pests, preventing spread of pests (vehicle wash down procedures), exclusion areas, capturing and biological methods.

- **QPWS Operational Policy – Good neighbour policy**

This policy developing and sustaining positive relationships with neighbours and the local community to manage common issues across boundaries. This may include integrated planning arrangements, joint management of pests and undertaking preventative measures.

The OHP outlines that all vehicles and machinery used within the sale area must be free of pests, weeds, and disease, and require mandatory washdown procedures prior to commencing and upon leaving, pursuant to various environmental Acts.

4.10.5 The Queensland Biosecurity Act 2014.

The *Queensland Biosecurity Act 2014* is a risk-based approach to managing environmental damage potentially caused by pests, diseases, and contaminants. The Act emphasises a shared responsibility, where many functions are administered by Australian Government, but state and territory governments, industries and the community play a significant role.

The primary purpose of the Act is to determine preventative and quarantine measures to minimise risk to the environment, crops, livestock, farms and so on from invasive pests, diseases, and contaminants.

- **Biosecurity Regulation 2016**

The Regulation prescribe ways in which general biosecurity obligation can be met to prevent or minimise a biosecurity risk and includes measures to prevent or control the spread of biosecurity matter, sets maximum acceptable levels of contaminants in carriers, and sets fees.

- **Weeds of National Significance (WONS) Strategy**

Under the National Weeds Strategy, management strategies and manuals were published for all identified WONS. The strategies aim to prevent spread and new infestation, reduce impact, commit to management, coordinate management, and increase community awareness.

Known restricted invasive plants or WONS fact sheets are supplied in the OHP (schedule 7). Any weeds infestations that occur due to a harvest operation, will require the permittee to treat and manage the pest by an approved method.

4.10.6 Planning Act 2016

The purpose of this Act is to establish an efficient, effective, transparent, integrated, coordinated, and accountable system of land use planning (planning), development assessment and related matters that facilitates the achievement of ecological sustainability.

- **Planning Regulation 2017**

The Planning Regulation 2017 (Planning Regulation) supports Queensland's the *Planning Act 2016*. The Planning Regulation prescribes planning and development assessment, addresses matter, and provides process for the operation and implementation of the Planning Act.

The Planning Regulation defines the conditions required to undertake works in Koala Districts. This involves operational work that is the clearing of native vegetation in a koala habitat area on prescribed land if the clearing is clearing, or for another activity or matter. Clearing Vegetation is exempt under the Planning Regulation, as harvest operations are an authorised activity under the *Forestry Act 1959* (referred to Planning Regulation- Schedule 21 (1&2)). As mentioned in section 6.2.1 the Species Management Profile will guide Koala management requirements.

4.10.7 Sustainable Planning Act 2009

To integrate planning and development assessment so that development and its effects are managed in a way that is ecologically sustainable. Conservation, planting trees, managing, felling, and removing standing trees for forestry applies to this Act. Aided by the:

- **Sustainable Planning Regulation 2009**

4.10.8 Local Government Act 2009

The Act establishes local government responsibilities and powers. It ensures the system is accountable, effective, efficient, and sustainable and in line with local government principles, including good governance, democratic representation, community engagement and management of assets. The Act may declare and provide guidance, actions and restrictions on local weeds and pest animals for control or eradication, grazing regimes, control the lighting of fires, and manage use of haulage routes.

4.10.9 Other

Other environmental regulatory documents include:

- Environmental Protection (Air) Policy 2008
- Environmental Protection (Water) Policy 2009
- Environmental Protection (Noise) Policy 2008
- Native Forest Watercourse Protection guideline 2002
- *Soil Conservation Act 1986*
- *Water Act 2000*.

4.11 Cultural Heritage

A framework of legislation and guidelines provides recognition and effective protection for land and places of cultural and heritage significance.

4.11.1 The Native Title Act 1993

The Native Title Act recognises and protects native title in Australia. Native title refers to the recognition by Australian law of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people's traditional rights and interests in land and waters held under traditional law and custom. Native title and associated rights can co-exist with some forms of title such as pastoral leases and Crown land, but can be identified by others, including freehold title. Native title rights may include living on the area, accessing the area, visit and protect important places and sites, hunt and gather and teach law and custom on country. In 2015, there were 123 native title determinations concentrated to the northern area of Queensland.

A native title assessment occurs in the sales permit application and OHP planning process. A SP will not be issued native title jurisdiction unless the rights and interests have been appropriately addressed, one of the methods is through an Indigenous Land Use Agreement.

- ***Native Title Amendment (Indigenous Land Use Agreements [ILUA]) Act 2017***

An ILUA is an agreement that has been negotiated between native title parties and others about the use and management of land and/or waters. The ILUA honours previously negotiated conditions that address native title requirements. An ILUA can be about any native title matter agreed by the parties, including settlement or exercise of native title rights and interests, surrender of native title to governments, land management, future development, mining, cultural heritage, coexistence of

native title rights with other rights, access to an area, and compensation for loss or impairment of native title.

4.11.2 The Queensland Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2003

The main purpose of The *Queensland Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2003* is to provide effective recognition, protection, and conservation of Aboriginal cultural heritage. The Act recognises that Aboriginal people are the primary guardians of the land and water. Aboriginal cultural heritage includes both physical objects and artefacts like artwork, navigational markers, monuments, evidence of occupation, stone and wooden artefacts and it can also include places that are associated with spiritual significance such as ceremonial sites, burial grounds and places that have special creation importance. It also includes language, spiritual connections, dream time or creation stories, traditions, and knowledge. Aboriginal cultural heritage provides evidence of connection to traditional country and forms the basis of cultural identity. The Act requires anyone who conducts a land-use activity to exercise a duty of care, that is, they must take all reasonable and practical measures to ensure their activity does not harm Aboriginal cultural heritage.

The Act recognises that the views of the Aboriginal Party for an area are vital in assessing and managing any activity which is likely to harm Aboriginal cultural heritage. Under the Act, there is provision for voluntary agreements and Cultural Heritage Management Plans with the relevant Aboriginal Party.

A cultural heritage database and register is available to assist with adherence and is supported by the:

- **Cultural Heritage Duty of Care Guidelines**

The guidelines instruct duty of care and identify reasonable and practicable measures for ensuring activities are managed to avoid or minimise harm to Aboriginal cultural heritage. The guidelines instruct using the cultural heritage database and register as a precautionary approach to identify features likely to have cultural heritage significance, noting that the database and register cannot be solely reliant on. Therefore, practical measures should be enacted, including assessing the nature of the activity, consultation with Aboriginal parties, surveys, and assessing the extent of past uses in the area.

It is stated that prior disturbance is unlikely to occur where areas have already been subject to significant ground disturbance and therefore may not require assessment. For example, undertaking road maintenance on an existing road footprint, may not need to be assessed.

The OHP will instruct the requirements of cultural heritage; regardless, assessments are strongly advised to demonstrate due diligence. There is no offence in not complying with the cultural heritage duty of care guidelines, however, complying with the guidelines ensures strict adherence to the cultural heritage duty of care.

- **National Indigenous Forest Strategy (NIFS)**

The Australian Government, in consultation with Indigenous communities and the forestry industry formed the NIFS in 2005. A key aim of the strategy is to encourage Indigenous participation in the forest and wood product industry. Initiatives with industry can be associated with forest plantations and timber processing, cultural and eco-tourism, bush tucker, traditional medicines bee keeping and other forest-based activities. To support the strategy, an interactive forest related map based off Indigenous areas is available.

4.11.3 Torres Strait Islander Cultural Heritage Act 2003

The main purpose of this Act is to provide effective recognition, protection, and conservation of Torres Strait Islander cultural heritage. The Act, applies similar characteristics to the *Queensland Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2003*, including requirements to anyone who conducts a land-use activity to exercise a duty of care, that is, they must take all reasonable and practical measures to ensure their activity does not harm. The Act recognises the key roles of traditional owners, and aims to protect areas and objects of traditional, customary, and archaeological significance.

4.11.4 Other

Other important Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultural heritage documents include:

- QPWS- Cultural Heritage Management Manual
- QPWS- Operational Policy- Management of Indigenous Cultural Heritage on QPWS estate 2015
- QPWS- Procedural guide- Managing Indigenous Cultural Heritage 2015
- Ask First – A guide to respecting Indigenous heritage places and values 2002

4.11.5 The Queensland Heritage Act 1992

The Queensland Heritage Act 1992 is the primary legislation by which Queensland's historic heritage places are identified and protected, creating an environment for growing recognition of the State's cultural heritage. The Act is administered by Department of Environment and Science (DES) and provides appropriate enforcement powers to help protect Queensland's cultural heritage. The Act lists places of significance, which can include architectural, social, historical, scientific, and other forms of significance. These can include historical dwellings, railway buildings, settlements, mining sites, graves, survey marks and survey pegs.

The Queensland Heritage Council, as an independent statutory body, provides advice and protection measures for significant listings in the Queensland Heritage Register. The register categorises places into two categories:

- State Heritage Places are important to Queensland's story and significant to the State of Queensland and
- Protected Areas are places that have strong heritage values that are vulnerable and under threat.

Places solely of local cultural heritage significance do not satisfy the criteria for entry in the Queensland Heritage Register. These places are more appropriately protected under local government registers or in heritage overlays in local planning schemes.

- **Queensland Heritage Regulation 2015**

The Queensland Heritage Regulation 2015 supports and implements the Act. It aims to provide clarity on the Act's intent, strengthen legislative protections for heritage whilst also promoting development and empowering local government to manage local heritage places.

- **Assessing Cultural heritage significance Guidelines**

This document is an illustrated guide aiming to provide discussion and information on cultural heritage significance. The aim of the guide is to understand the provisions of the Act relating to the assessment of State heritage places is fundamental to the successful conservation of Queensland’s historical cultural heritage. This guide provides a methodology for identifying and assessing places eligible for entry in the Queensland Heritage Register as State heritage places or those listed as local or state-level significance.

5. Summary and risk implications

This study has highlighted the significantly high level of regulation impacting native forestry operations in the South and Central Hub region. The review explored legislative requirements and governance for native forestry operations on state land. Four core focus areas of regulatory responsibility were identified:

- Work Health and Safety
- Environment
- Sustainable Forestry
- Cultural Heritage.

The wide array and complexity of relevant legislation present a significant compliance risk in the absence of mitigation measures. In terms of managing future risk, consideration needs to be given to risk likelihood and risk consequence. These two factors have been assessed at a generic level for the four core focus areas of relevant regulation.

Table 2. Risk Likelihood

Level	An incident occurring due to exposure to a particular hazard
Almost certain	Could occur more than twice a year
Likely	Could occur once or twice a year
Possible	Could occur on a 1 – 10-year frequency
Unlikely	Could occur on a 10 – 100-year frequency

Table 3. Risk Consequence

Consequence	Work Health & Safety	Sustainable Forestry	Environmental	Cultural Heritage
Minor	Medical Treatment Injury	Negative public perception, complaint from stakeholder	Minor on-site harm that can be rectified	Minimal damage to culturally significant sites, values, and relationships
Moderate	Lost Time Injury	Cessation of single operations, regional	Material harm that can be rectified	Moderate damage to culturally significant

Consequence	Work Health & Safety	Sustainable Forestry	Environmental	Cultural Heritage
		operations, negative perception, reputational damage		sites, values, and relationships
Major	Fatality	Cessation of Native Forest Harvesting	Serious long-term harm and imposition of fines	Unrepairable damage to culturally significant sites, values, and relationships

Industry is currently transitioning to more self-assessment systems, in the absence of traditional Government extension and support programs, which involves a considerable risk without a planned approach, training program and continuous support within the core focus areas.

Workplace Health and Safety legislation and Code of Practices are evolving quickly, and industry must respond with appropriate education, systems, and self-assessment training and tools.

Without adequate systems in place, significant non-conformance with environmental regulations is considered likely, given the complexity of the QPWS Code and other legislation that puts constraints on daily operations.

Increased requirements for involvement from traditional owners also require a shift in processes, whereby knowledge and procedures need to be well understood to enhance cultural heritage and maintain positive and respectful relationships.

A major barrier is the outdated and complex forestry contractual documents and processes, and reduction of direct support from relevant state agencies as part of previous long-standing obligations. As a result, industry is not well positioned to navigate the multitude of processes and undertake best practice operations. Given the current critical community awareness and concern over native forestry operations in Australia this could result in a business-critical operational interruption for industry, and poor outcomes for government from monetary value and social reputation.

Current available information, technology enhancements and support and training are limited from Government, therefore industry are required to take action to coordinate and partially fund components to ensure they are well equipped to operationally apply regulatory requirements to ensure compliance. Furthermore, the multitude of regulatory requirements present a major barrier to maintaining compliance and ensuring best management practice.

To address the likely risk, it is recommended that future extension training, and support is developed and delivered either through Government or private providers. With effective coordination of training and a structured development program for industry and its workforce it is expected that the mitigated outcome will provide a sustainable outcome. In addition, a review of the extent and complexity of key regulatory requirements related to native forestry operations is warranted, in terms of evaluating opportunities for more streamlined and effective outcomes in terms of the primary objectives of the regulatory environment and the relative burden on industry.

Table 4- Relevant Legislation for Native Forestry Operations

	WHS	Environment	Sustainable Forestry	Cultural Heritage
Act	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Queensland Work Health and Safety Act (2011) Transport Operations (Road Use Management) Act 1995 Heavy Vehicle National Law Act 2012 Fire And Rescue Service Act 1990 Agricultural Chemicals Distribution Control Act 1966 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 Environment Protection Act 1994 Nature Conservation Act 1992 Biosecurity Act 2014 Land Protection (Pest and Stock Route Management) Act 2002 Planning Act 2016 Sustainable Planning Act 1986 Water Act 2000 Soil Conservation Act 1986 Vegetation Management Act 1999* 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Forestry Act 1959 Illegal Logging Prohibition Act 2012 The Lands Act 1994 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Native Title Act 1993 Native Title Amendment (Indigenous Land Use Agreements) Act 2017 Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2003 Torres Strait Islander Cultural Heritage Act 2003 Queensland Heritage Act 1992
Regulation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> WHS Regulation 2011 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nature Conservation (Plants) Regulation 2020 Nature (Koala) Conservation Plan 2017 Planning Regulation 2017 Land Protection (Pest Stock Route Management) Regulation 2003 Sustainable Planning Regulation 2009 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Forestry Regulation 2015 Illegal Logging Regulation 2012 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Queensland Heritage Regulation 2015
Policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Operational Policy- Use of Conditionally Registered Vehicles on QPWS Managed Areas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Operational Policy - Management of Pests on QPWS Managed Environmental Protection (Air) Policy 2008 Environmental Protection (Water) Policy 2009 Environmental Protection (Noise) Policy 2008 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Forest Management Policy (DAF) National Forest Policy Statement 1992 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> QPWS- Operational Policy- Management of Indigenous Cultural Heritage on QPWS estate 2015
Codes of Practice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Queensland Forest Harvesting Code of Practice 2007 Saw Milling Industry Health and Safety Guide 2017 National Forestry Log Haulage Industry Code of Practice (Draft) How To Manage Work Health and Safety Risks Code of Practice 2021 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Code Of Practice for The Take and Use of Protected Plants 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Code Of Practice for Native Timber Production on Queensland's State Forest Estate 2020 	
Guidance Material	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Operating Guidelines for Native Forest Timber Production on The QPWS Forest Estate (Superseded) Forestry: Guide to Managing Risks of General Hazards in Forestry Operations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Species Management Profile Flora Survey Guideline- Protected Plants 2020 Native Forest Watercourse Protection Guidelines 2002 Pest Management Plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Operational Harvesting Plan Sales Permit 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cultural Heritage Duty of Care Guidelines Assessing Cultural Heritage Significance Guideline Ask First – A guide to respecting Indigenous heritage places and values 2002 QPWS- Procedural guide- Managing Indigenous Cultural Heritage 2015 National Indigenous Forest Strategy

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