



REPORT

NSW Landholders Survey 2023

Local Land Services

June 2023



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CONTENTS

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	7
2. BACKGROUND	11
3. RESEARCH DESIGN	12
4. PROPERTY DETAILS	17
5. NATIVE VEGETATION: USES AND VALUES	21
6. MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES	31
7. CONTACT WITH LLS / INFORMATION SOURCES	33
8. NATIVE VEGETATION REGULATORY MAP	37
9. THE LAND MANAGEMENT CODE	40
10. NATIVE VEGETATION PANEL	49
11. LLS MONITORING, EVALUATION & REPORTING	50
12. OBJECTIVES AND INTENT OF THE ACT	53
13. COMPLIANCE AND ENFORCEMENT	55
14. APPENDIX I: SEGMENTATION ANALYSIS	59
15. APPENDIX II: SURVEY INSTRUMENTS	65
15.1. CATI (Telephone) Survey	65
15.2. 'Extra' Online Survey	74
15.3. 'Combined' Online Survey	90

FIGURES

Figure 1 Number of Rural Properties Owned / Managed	17
Figure 2 Length of Ownership / Management of Property	17
Figure 3 Own or Manage Property	18
Figure 4 Size of Property in Hectares	18
Figure 5 Household Income Derived from Off-Farm Revenue	19
Figure 6 Primary Use of Property	20
Figure 7 Segments based on Values and Views related to Native Vegetation	21
Figure 8 Views on Native Vegetation – Agree/Disagree	25
Figure 9 Knowledge/Experience Needed to Manage Native Vegetation – Agree/Disagree	26
Figure 10 Protecting Native Vegetation – Agree/Disagree	28
Figure 11 Views on Native Vegetation on Property – Agree/Disagree	29
Figure 12 Views on Protecting Native Vegetation on Property – Agree/Disagree	30
Figure 13 Native Vegetation Management Activities Carried Out in Last Five Years	32
Figure 14 Most Important Native Vegetation Management Activities	33
Figure 15 Contact with Local Land Services	34
Figure 16 Reasons for Contacting Local Land Services	35
Figure 17 Sources of Information: Managing Native Vegetation	36
Figure 18 Most Useful Sources of Information: Managing Native Vegetation	37
Figure 19 Awareness of Native Vegetation Regulatory Map	38
Figure 20 Use of Native Vegetation Regulatory Map	38
Figure 21 Usefulness of Native Vegetation Regulatory Map	39
Figure 22 Confidence in Information Accuracy of Native Vegetation Regulatory Map	40
Figure 23 Awareness of Land Management Code	40
Figure 24 Ease of Understanding Conditions and Definitions of the Code	41
Figure 25 Extent of Approval	41
Figure 26 Reasons for Application to Clear Land	42
Figure 27 Ease of Making Application	42
Figure 28 Extent of Approval	43
Figure 29 Satisfaction with Approval	43

FIGURES

Figure 30 Confidence in Self-Assessment	43
Figure 31 Satisfaction with Information and Support from Local Land Services	44
Figure 32 Whether Undertaken Approved Works	44
Figure 33 Achievement	45
Figure 34 Awareness of Set Asides	46
Figure 35 Usefulness of Set Aside Option	46
Figure 36 Prevalence of Set Aside on Property	47
Figure 37 Usefulness of Set Aside on Property	47
Figure 38 Understanding of Management Obligations	48
Figure 39 Satisfaction with Set Aside and Obligations Negotiated with LLS	48
Figure 40 Awareness of Native Vegetation Panel	49
Figure 41 Benefit of Having Native Vegetation Panel Available	50
Figure 42 Awareness of Reporting by Local Land Services	51
Figure 43 Awareness of Guidance by Local Land Services	52
Figure 44 Control Over Native Vegetation Clearing Under Current Laws	53
Figure 45 Reasons for 'More Control' over Native Vegetation Clearing	54
Figure 46 Reasons for 'Less Control' over Native Vegetation Clearing	55
Figure 47 Awareness of Enforcement Actions for Illegal Clearing	56
Figure 48 Perceived Effectiveness of Actions to Conserve Native Vegetation	57
Figure 49 Prioritisation of Actions to Conserve Native Vegetation	58

TABLES

Table 1 Methodology by Participant Numbers	12
Table 2 Survey(s) Completed by Participants	13
Table 3 Survey Content	14
Table 4 Sample Profile of CATI Participants (n=750)	15
Table 5 Sample Profile of All Participants, by Region	15



1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Local Land Services (LLS) commissioned Taverner Research to conduct this research with rural zoned private landholders across 11 LLS regions in NSW. The purpose of the research was to understand landholders' views on native vegetation, their management activities, their contact with LLS and their awareness of the Native Vegetation Regulatory Map and the Land Management (Native Vegetation) Code.

Sample Size & Methodology

Survey participants were aged 18 years or over, owned or managed rural zoned land in NSW for which they were one of the main decision makers. They lived on a property in a rural or peri-urban setting and were confirmed as living within NSW.

A total of n=2400 completed surveys were obtained via a mixed-mode survey design. A CATI (Computer-Assisted Telephone Interview) survey was conducted between 3 April and 4 May 2023, and Online surveys ran in parallel, up to 8 May 2023.

METHODOLOGY	PARTICIPANTS
CATI survey	n=750 (n=113 of whom also completed an 'extra' survey conducted online)
'Combined' Online survey	n=1650
TOTAL SAMPLE SIZE	n=2400

Key information was collected via a random sample 15-minute CATI (telephone) survey (n=750).

An 'extra' 15-minute survey conducted online accompanied the telephone survey, providing an opportunity to collect additional information. The online survey was completed by a subset of landholders who opted-in after completing the CATI survey (n=113 of the 750). These participants were offered a \$25 incentive to

complete the online survey and were emailed an individualised survey link.

Additionally, a 'Combined' online survey (comprising questions from the telephone and online surveys) was distributed by LLS communication networks via a generalised link and attained responses from an additional n=1650 landholders. These participants were not offered any incentive for their participation.

Property Details

Three-quarters of landholders (73%) owned or managed only one rural property and had done so for more than 10 years (67%). Three-quarters (75%) reported both owned and managed their property.

Most landholders (58%) held property of more than 50 hectares. Two-thirds (66%) reported that 50% or less of their household income came from off-farm revenue.

The vast majority (66%) were in cattle, sheep or livestock production, and 31% used their property for lifestyle or hobby farming.

Native Vegetation: Uses & Values

Segmentation Analysis

A segmentation analysis was performed for LLS by Dr Geoff Kaine, Senior Researcher, Economics, Landcare Research New Zealand Limited. It was based on the responses of n=1743 landholders and classified them into one of five segments:

- Resource Managers (25%)



1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- Passive Managers (17%)
- Farm Developers (9%)
- Intensive Managers (25%)
- Conservation Managers (25%)

The full analysis with insights about each segment is contained in APPENDIX I: Segmentation Analysis.

Views on Native Vegetation

The most common benefits of native vegetation recorded by respondents were that it:

- Is important for shade or shelter (91%)
- Protects and helps manage environmental aspects such as water quality, soil conservation, native plants and animals (86%)
- Is important for the natural scenery and aesthetic (82%)

Knowledge and Experience Needed to Manage Native Vegetation

- Landholders feel capable to assess the native vegetation on their property (76%), and a large proportion felt they are the best person for making decisions (69%)
- The majority (73%) seek out information to better understand and manage native vegetation
- Over one-third relied on LLS or other experts to identify and provide advice (37%)

Management Activities

The management activities carried out most in the past five years were also the most important to respondents:

- Planting and protecting native vegetation (59%)

- Clearing land to prevent personal injury or property damage, inc. firebreaks (42%)
- Clearing for environmental protection works (39%)

Contact with LLS

Only three out of ten (29%) landholders reported that they had contacted Local Land Services (LLS) about managing native vegetation. The top reasons for contacting LLS were to apply for grants or to obtain information on land clearing rules.

Sources of Information

The top three sources cited for finding information about managing native vegetation were:

- LLS website/news (33%)
- Landcare or similar environmental groups (31%), and
- LLS staff (28%)

Native Vegetation Regulatory Map

- Just over a third of landholders (38%) were aware of the Native Vegetation Regulatory Map.
- Just over half of those aware of the Map (55%) had looked at it for information about native vegetation clearing on their property.
- Half of the landholders (51%) who had used the Map for information about native vegetation clearing on their property rated it as 'Very useful' or 'Quite useful'.
- Almost half (44%) of those who had used the Map felt confident in the accuracy of the information.

The Land Management Code

- Only three out of ten (27%) landholders claimed they had heard about the NSW



1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Land Management (Native Vegetation) Code ('the Code').

- Of the landholders aware of the Code, over one-quarter (28%) rated the specific conditions and definitions of the Code as 'Quite difficult' or 'Very difficult' to understand.
- Of the landholders aware of the Code, only 11% reported that they had applied to clear any land under the Code in the past five years.
- The most common reasons for applying to clear land under the Code were to increase productivity and efficiency, however managing pests and weeds and ecological health were also important.
- More than one-quarter (28%) rated the application process 'easy'.
- The majority (80%) reported that they got 'all' or 'most' of what they wanted from the application. The majority (79%) also reported that they felt satisfied with what was approved.
- Over half (58%) of those who made an application to clear land under the Code reported that they would be confident in undertaking self-assessment against the Code where the land management activity they undertook did not require certification.
- The majority (83%) of those who made an application to clear land under the Code were satisfied with the information and support from LLS during the application process.
- Of those who made an application to clear land under the Code, half (52%) reported they had undertaken 'part' of the approved works, and a fifth (21%) had undertaken 'all' of the approved works.

- Only one-third of landholders (32%) reported that they were aware of set asides, and only 14% of those aware had one on their property.

Native Vegetation Panel

- Only one-tenth of landholders (10%) were aware of the Native Vegetation Panel.
- Of those aware of the Native Vegetation Panel, the overwhelming majority (97%) had not made an inquiry or an application to the Panel, but over one-third (36%) thought it was beneficial having it available.

LLS Monitoring, Evaluation & Reporting

- Less than a tenth of landholders (8%) were aware that LLS reports on native vegetation clearing and what it reports on.
- Only one out of ten landholders (13%) were aware and had used the guidance materials and information on native vegetation clearing that LLS provides on their website.

Objectives and Intent of the Act

Control over Native Vegetation clearing under current laws

- The majority of landholders (63%) were not sure if they had more or less control over native vegetation clearing on their property under the current laws introduced in 2017.
- Sixteen percent (16%) felt they had the same control, fifteen percent (15%) felt they had less control, and six percent (6%) felt they had more control.

Compliance and Enforcement

The majority (72%) of landholders claimed to be aware of at least one of the five enforcement actions for illegal clearing of native vegetation.



1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- Inspection of property and further investigation by government (65%)
- Court action with potentially heavy fines and criminal charges (64%)
- Penalty infringement notices (63%)
- Being required to undertake remedial action (60%)
- Being sent a warning letter (57%).



2. BACKGROUND

Taverner Research Group was commissioned by NSW Local Land Services (LLS) to conduct the **NSW Landholders Survey 2023**, to contribute insights to the NSW State Government's five-year Statutory Review of the *Local Land Services Act (2013)* (the Act).

The Review will assess the extent to which Part 5A of the Act is meeting its key objective: *“to ensure the proper management of natural resources in the social, economic and environmental interests of the State, consistently with the principles of ecologically sustainable development (described in section 6(2) of the Protection of the Environment Administration Act 1991).”*

The findings from this survey will be synthesised with findings from other socioeconomic research to inform the Statutory Review.

The objective of the survey was to understand rural zoned landholders’:

- Uses for and values related to native vegetation
- Native vegetation management activities
- Contact with LLS and information sources
- Awareness of the Native Vegetation Regulatory Map, the Land Management Code, and the Native Vegetation Panel
- Awareness of related monitoring, evaluation and reporting
- Awareness of compliance and enforcement activities and perceived effectiveness of these

The research will be used by LLS to:

- Input to the Statutory Review and other LLS land management policy
- Guide awareness campaigns and other engagement efforts with rural landholders
- Guide and input into ongoing LLS Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting (MER)



3. RESEARCH DESIGN

The **NSW Landholders Survey 2023** comprised a CATI (Computer-Assisted Telephone Interview) survey, as well as online surveys, achieving a total sample size of n=2400. The surveys were implemented according to ISO 20252 Standards.

To qualify for the Survey, participants needed to be aged 18 years or over, own or manage rural zoned land in one of 11 LLS regions in NSW and be one of the main decision makers living on a property in a rural or peri-urban setting. Participants who completed some 'extra' online survey questions after undertaking the telephone survey (n=113) were offered an incentive for completing the additional online component.

Table 1 Methodology by Participant Numbers

METHODOLOGY	PARTICIPANTS
CATI survey	n=750 (n=113 of whom also completed an 'extra' survey conducted online)
'Combined' Online survey	n=1650
TOTAL SAMPLE SIZE	n=2400

CATI Survey

The CATI (telephone) survey collected n=750 completed responses. Fieldwork was conducted between 3 April and 4 May 2023.

The telephone sample was purchased from SamplePages (www.samplepages.com.au), the leading supplier of telephone sample to the market and social research industry. SamplePages focused on those 'SA1' regions (as per ABS definition) with the highest proportions of farmers (as per 2021 Census data). Farmers were defined as those engaging as "aquaculture farmers", "mixed crop and livestock farmers", "crop farmers" and "farmers and farm managers" and "no further description" in the relevant ANZSIC industry classification.

A team of researchers called telephone numbers in the sample on weekday evenings between 3.30pm and 8.00pm. When telephones were unanswered, were engaged or diverted to answering machines, researchers called again up to a maximum of five times each.

Online Surveys

An online survey component was necessary for this project as it was not possible or advisable to ask all of the desired questions in the telephone survey due to length/duration and concerns about respondent fatigue and refusal (typically, telephone surveys should not exceed 10-12 minutes in length and the telephone survey was estimated at 15-20 minutes). The online surveys also provided a convenient self-directed option for the collection of additional data and were vital for maximising participation.



3. RESEARCH DESIGN

There was a total of n=1763 online survey participants (n=113 of these also participated in the telephone survey).

The following two versions of the online survey were scripted in the Voxco platform. These surveys ran in parallel with the CATI survey, up until 8 May 2023.

1. 'Extra' survey conducted online (n=113 participants were sourced via the telephone survey)

The 'extra' online survey provided an opportunity to collect additional information not covered in the CATI survey. This supplementary survey was completed by n=113 of the n=750 participants who completed the CATI survey.

After completing the telephone survey, participants were informed about the online survey and asked if they would be willing to complete it. As an incentive to participate, participants could choose to receive a \$25 gift card, or donate \$25 to the NSW Country Women's Association, Landcare, or the NSW Rural Fire Service. An individualised survey link to the 'extra' online questions was emailed only to those who opted in.

2. 'Combined' online survey (n=1650 participants were sourced via LLS' customer and communication networks)

This 'Combined' online survey was completed by n=1650 landholders. The survey comprised the same questions asked in the CATI survey *plus* the questions from the 'extra' survey conducted online.

This online survey was distributed by LLS via targeted email distribution and regionalised electronic direct mail to regional newsletter recipients. Participants were not offered any incentive for their participation.

Table 2 Survey(s) Completed by Participants

SURVEY COMPLETED	PARTICIPANTS
CATI survey only	637
CATI + 'Extra' survey conducted online	113
'Combined' online Survey	1650
TOTAL SAMPLE SIZE	2400

Margin of Error

In random samples of this size (n=2400), the conventional margin of error of +/-2.0% at the 95% level of confidence means that if repeated random samples of the same size were obtained, it would be expected that 95 times out of 100 results would be within +/-2.0% of the true population value.



3. RESEARCH DESIGN

Survey Content

The CATI survey (n=750) had 38 questions. An additional 76 questions were asked to CATI survey participants via the 'Extra' online survey (n=113). The 'Combined' online survey featured 110 questions. Question wording was consistent, however tailored slightly to the online format as this was self-completed.

Table 3 Survey Content

SURVEY CONTENT (number of questions)	CATI ONLY (n=637)	CATI + ONLINE (n=113)	ONLINE ONLY (n=1650)
Rural property details (9)	CATI	CATI	ONLINE COMBINED
Native Vegetation (NV) statements (9)	CATI	CATI	ONLINE COMBINED
Knowledge needed to manage NV statements (5)	CATI	CATI	ONLINE COMBINED
Protecting NV statements (5)	CATI	CATI	ONLINE COMBINED
NV management activities (2)	CATI	CATI	ONLINE COMBINED
Contact with LLS (2)	CATI	CATI	ONLINE COMBINED
Information sources about managing NV (2)	CATI	CATI	ONLINE COMBINED
Primary use of property (1)	CATI	CATI	ONLINE COMBINED
Willingness to complete online survey (1)	CATI	CATI	-
Additional NV statements (16)	-	ONLINE EXTRA	ONLINE COMBINED
NV protection statements (9)	-	ONLINE EXTRA	ONLINE COMBINED
Native Vegetation Regulatory Map (6)	-	ONLINE EXTRA	ONLINE COMBINED
NSW Land Management (Native Vegetation) Code (3)	-	ONLINE EXTRA	ONLINE COMBINED
Experience applying to clear land under the Code (10)	-	ONLINE EXTRA	ONLINE COMBINED
Status of approved work (undertaken or not) (6)	-	ONLINE EXTRA	ONLINE COMBINED
Set asides (7)	-	ONLINE EXTRA	ONLINE COMBINED
Native Vegetation Panel (6)	-	ONLINE EXTRA	ONLINE COMBINED
NV reporting and guidance by LLS (2)	-	ONLINE EXTRA	ONLINE COMBINE
Open-ended questions on what would be helpful from LLS / landholders (2)	-	ONLINE EXTRA	ONLINE COMBINED
Rule changes introduced in 2017 (3)	-	ONLINE EXTRA	ONLINE COMBINED
Enforcement actions for illegal clearing of NV (1)	-	ONLINE EXTRA	ONLINE COMBINED



3. RESEARCH DESIGN

Ways to promote conservation of NV (2)	-	ONLINE EXTRA	ONLINE COMBINED
Open-ended question about regulation of NV (1)	-	ONLINE EXTRA	ONLINE COMBINED
Interest in participating in an interview about farming (1)	-	ONLINE EXTRA	ONLINE COMBINED
Demographics (2)	CATI	CATI	-
Preferred incentive/donation (1)	N/A	ONLINE EXTRA	N/A
TOTAL NUMBER OF QUESTIONS	38	38 + 76 = 114	110

Sample Profile

Table 4 Sample Profile of CATI Participants (n=750)

GENDER	%	N
Male	55%	410
Female	45%	337
Non-binary or other	0%	1
Prefer not to say	0%	2
AGE	%	N
18-29	2%	13
30-39	7%	52
40-49	14%	106
50-59	25%	190
60-69	29%	214
70+	23%	173
Prefer not to say	0%	2

Note: Demographic questions were not asked in the online surveys. Gender was derived from the first names of participants for a subset of online survey participants (n=360): 62% Male, 38% Female.

Table 5 Sample Profile of All Participants, by Region

REGION	% OF CATI	CATI (N=750)	% OF TOTAL	TOTAL (N=2400)
South East	12%	92	21%	497
North Coast	12%	93	19%	467
Hunter	6%	48	9%	228
Central Tablelands	8%	63	9%	213
Northern Tablelands	10%	74	9%	211
Riverina	10%	72	7%	170
Greater Sydney	8%	62	7%	159



3. RESEARCH DESIGN

Central West	11%	82	7%	157
North West	9%	68	6%	134
Western	7%	50	4%	87
Murray	6%	46	3%	77

How to Read this Report

Statistically Significant Differences

Statistically significant differences are referred to as following:

- Significantly more likely or significantly less likely
- More likely or less likely
- More important or less important

Rounding and Data Aggregation

Aggregated data may differ (+/-1%) to the sum of the individual components due to rounding. The sum of the displayed results to single response questions may not add to 100 percent due to rounding of the individual responses.

Crosstab Analysis

Throughout the report, pertinent findings and/or statistical differences from a crosstab analysis are included within the relevant sections and titled as “Key category differences”. These insights were uncovered after careful examination of the survey data, and searching for any statistically significant differences based on the key indicators listed below:

- Size of property in hectares
- Own/manage property
- Length of time managing property
- % of off-farm income
- Primary industry of property (cropping, cattle, sheep, other livestock, horticulture, lifestyle/hobby farming, tourism/recreation, and other.)

Note that it would be impractical to note all statistically significant differences within the report. Those that have been deemed relevant and/or actionable are noted in the copy below each figure (from Section 5 onwards), while the complete spreadsheet of results – showing all statistically significant differences – has been supplied separately from this report.



4. PROPERTY DETAILS

Property Ownership and Management

- Three-quarters of landholders (73%) owned or managed only one rural property.
- Most landholders (67%) had owned or managed their property for more than 10 years.
- Three-quarters (75%) reported that they both owned and managed their property.

Figure 1 Number of Rural Properties Owned / Managed

Q1. To get an idea of your farm, we have a few questions. How many rural properties do you own or manage?
 Base: Total Respondents (n=2400)

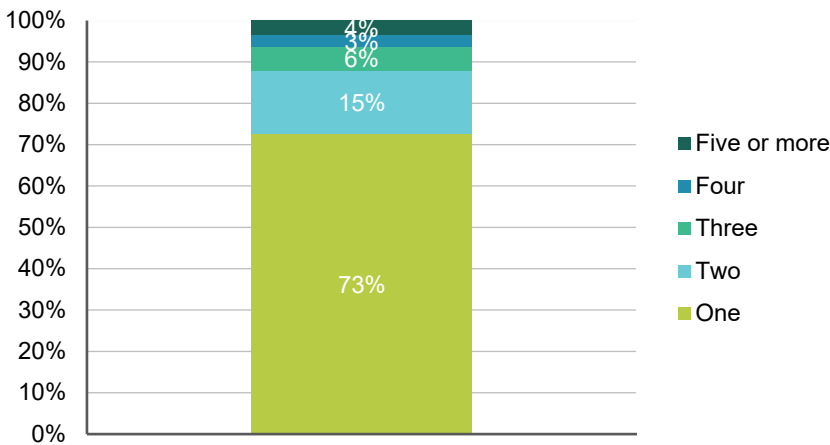
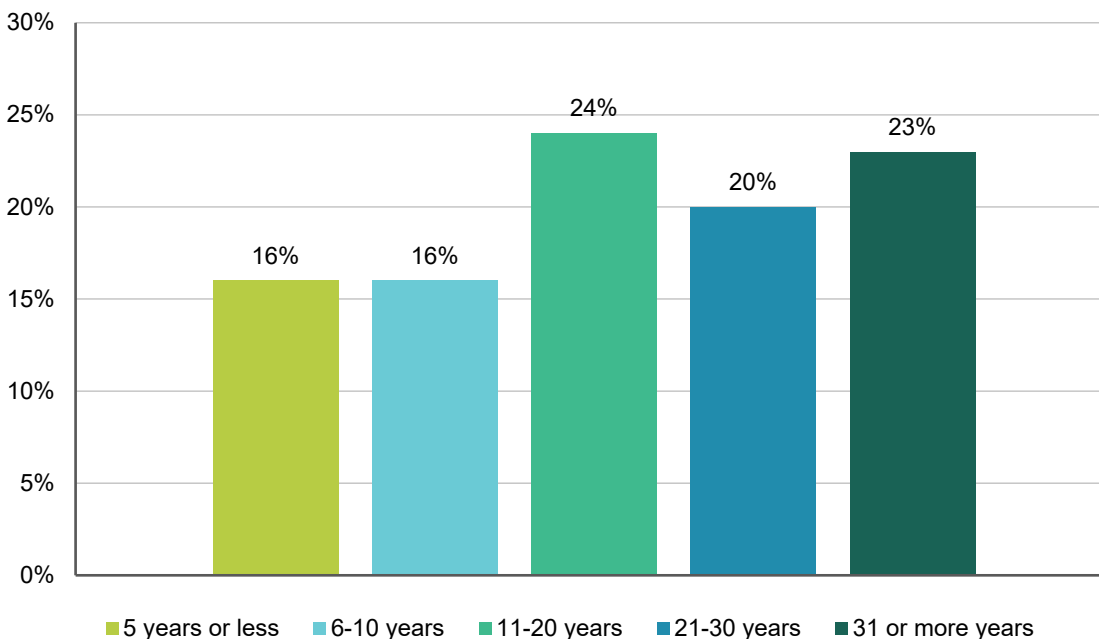


Figure 2 Length of Ownership / Management of Property

Q6. How long have you owned or managed the property? If the property has been owned or managed by your family for a long time, please answer for how long you personally have owned or managed it.
 Base: Total Respondents (n=2400)

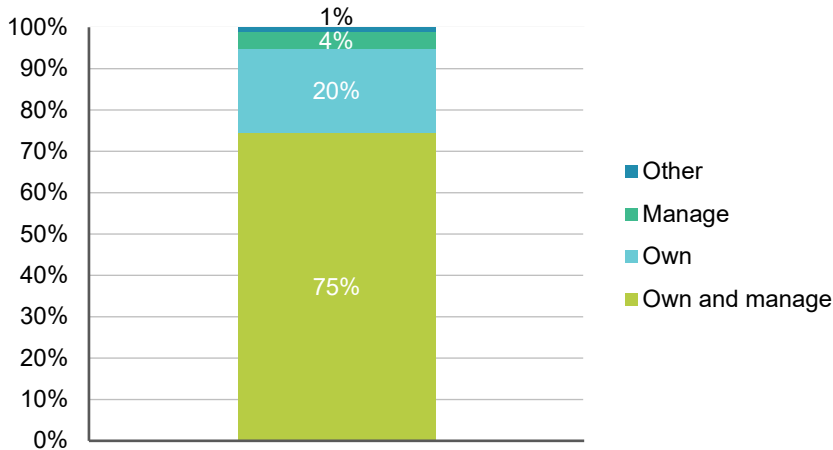




4. PROPERTY DETAILS

Figure 3 Own or Manage Property

Q5. Do you own or manage your property, or both?
Base: Total Respondents (n=2400)

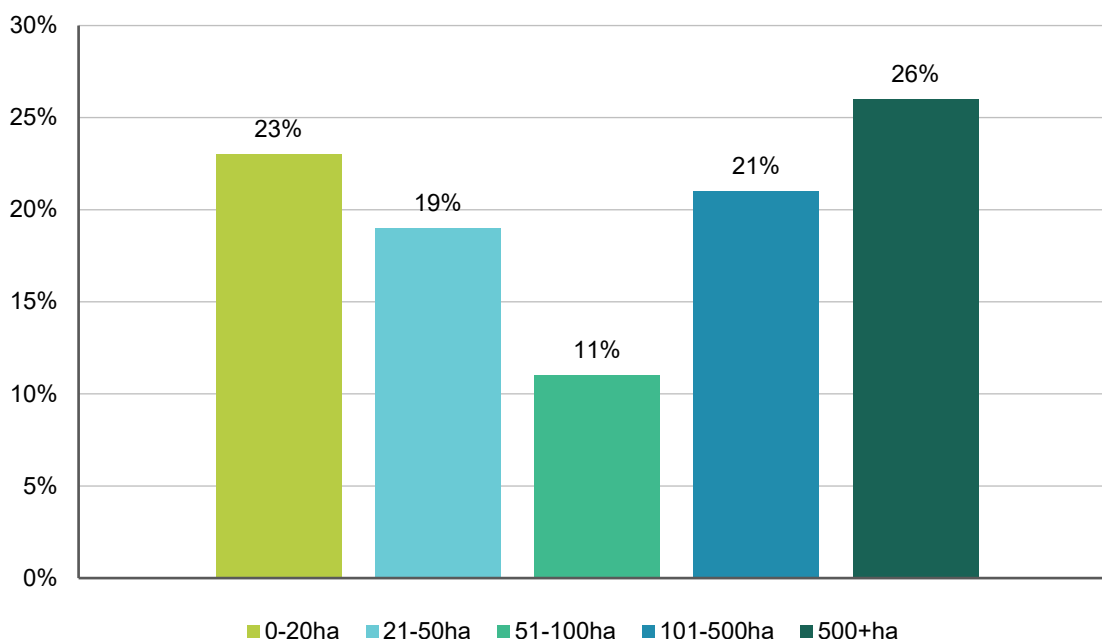


Size of Property

- Most landholders (58%) owned or managed property of more than 50 hectares, however the sample was split relatively evenly across landholders on properties of all sizes.

Figure 4 Size of Property in Hectares

Q2. What is the approximate size of [your property / all of your properties]? You can answer in acres or hectares.
Base: Total Respondents (n=2400)





4. PROPERTY DETAILS

Note: If participants provided their answer in acres, it was converted to hectares for reporting purposes.

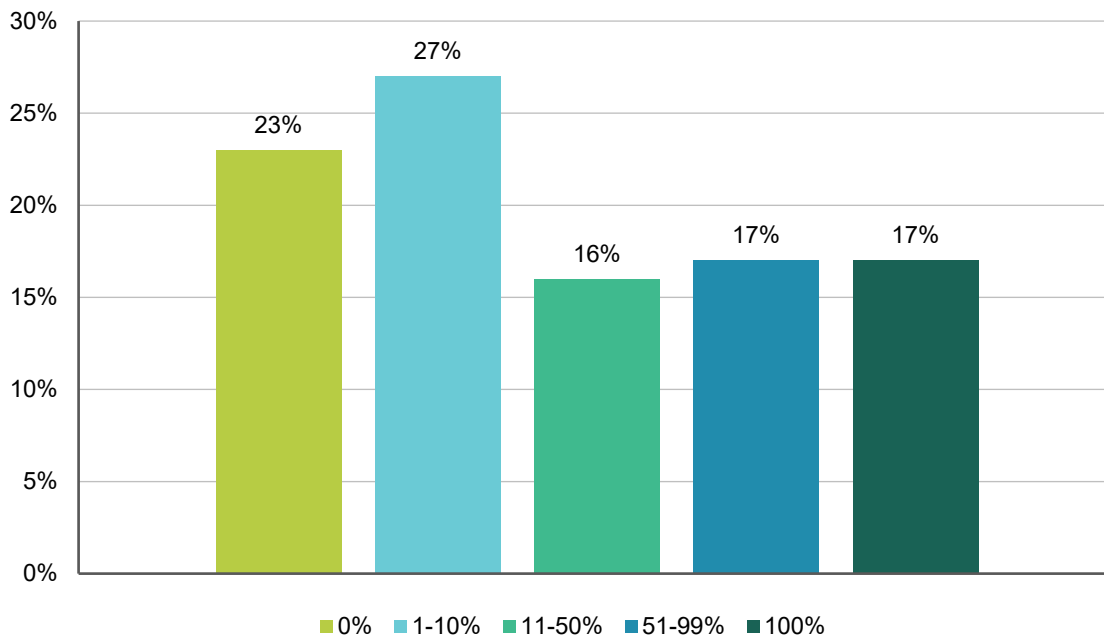
Income Derived Off-Farm

- **Two-thirds of landholders (66%) reported that 50% or less of their household income came from off-farm revenue.**
- **One half of landholders reported that they derive less than 10% of their household income from off-farm revenue.**

Figure 5 Household Income Derived from Off-Farm Revenue

Q7. Approximately what percentage of your total household income comes from off-farm revenue? Please enter a numerical percentage.

Base: Total Respondents (n=2400)



Primary Industry of Property

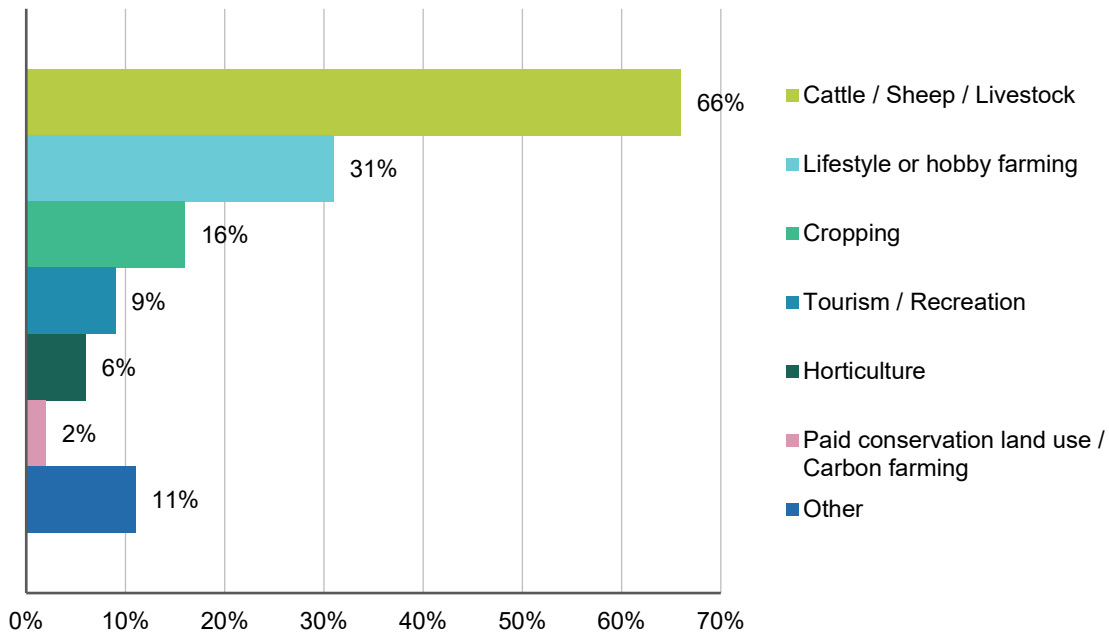
- **The vast majority (66%) were in cattle, sheep or livestock production (48% Cattle, 26% Sheep, 11% Other).**
- **A further 31% used their property primarily for lifestyle or hobby farming.**



4. PROPERTY DETAILS

Figure 6 Primary Use of Property

Q17. Thinking of the property you own or manage, what is it primarily used for? Please focus on the primary use.
Base: Total Respondents (n=2400)



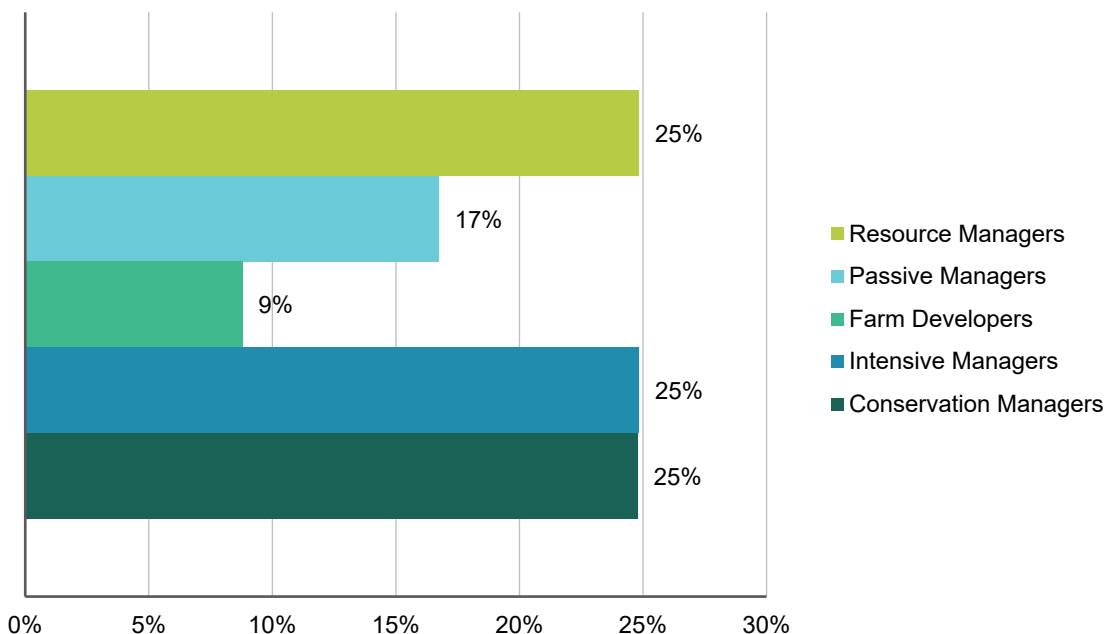
5. NATIVE VEGETATION: USES AND VALUES



Segmentation Analysis

A segmentation analysis was performed for Local Land Services by Dr Geoff Kaine, Senior Researcher, Economics, Landcare Research New Zealand Limited, Hamilton, New Zealand. This analysis used data collected from the online surveys (based on n=1743 participants), and classified landholders into one of five segments based on their perceptions of the attributes of their native vegetation and its management (Q20).

Figure 7 Segments based on Values and Views related to Native Vegetation



The key findings from the segmentation analysis are captured here. For the full analysis, refer to **SECTION 14 - APPENDIX I: Segmentation Analysis**.

Segment one: Resource managers (25%)

- View their native vegetation as generating a range of diverse environmental, productive, cultural and aesthetic services and use their native vegetation for environmental services, grazing, timber, and recreational activities.
- Consequently, their native vegetation is recognised as contributing to the productive capacity and value of their properties and so they invest time and effort in actively managing, planting and protecting native vegetation, and addressing feral and native pest animals. These respondents primarily clear land for environmental protection works and to prevent personal injury or property damage. They have **high functional, experiential and identity involvement with protecting the native vegetation on their property**.



5. NATIVE VEGETATION: USES AND VALUES

Segment two: Passive managers (16%)

- View and use their native vegetation for environmental and aesthetic services.
- Consequently, they view their native vegetation as making a limited contribution to the productive capacity and value of their properties and invest limited time and effort in managing their native vegetation, feral and native pest animals or weeds. They have planted natives and engaged in activities to protect their native vegetation.
- Only a minority have cleared land for environmental protection works and to prevent personal injury or property damage.
- They have a **moderate functional, experiential and identity involvement with protecting the native vegetation on their property.**

Segment three: Farm developers (9%)

- Do not view their native vegetation as generating any useful services, other than shade and shelter for stock. Rather, they see it mostly as a source of serious problems with weeds, feral and native animal pests and as a fire hazard.
- Consequently, they feel their native vegetation reduces the productive capacity and value of their properties and they spend too much time, effort and money managing it. They clear land primarily to expand their agricultural activities including grazing, to prevent personal injury or property damage, and for environmental protection works. These respondents have **low involvement with protecting the native vegetation on their property.**

Segment four: Intensive managers (25%)

- View their native vegetation as generating environmental, productive, cultural and aesthetic services and use it mainly for environmental services, grazing, shade and shelter for stock, and timber. However, they also see it as a source of serious problems with weeds, feral and native animal pests and as a fire hazard.
- Consequently, they view their native vegetation as making a limited contribution to the productive capacity and value of their properties and they spend too much time, effort and money managing it. However, most have planted natives and engaged in activities to protect their native vegetation and only a minority have cleared land for environmental protection works and to prevent personal injury or property damage.
- These respondents have **high functional involvement** and **moderate experiential and identity involvement with protecting the native vegetation on their property.**



5. NATIVE VEGETATION: USES AND VALUES

Segment five: Conservation managers (25%)

- View and use their native vegetation for environmental, productive, cultural and aesthetic services. Consequently, they view their native vegetation as contributing to the productive capacity and value of their properties. They do not perceive a problem with weeds, feral and native pest animals or fire risk.
- They believe it should be left to grow as nature intended and so invest a limited amount of time and effort in managing their native vegetation but have planted natives and engaged in activities to protect their native vegetation.
- A minority have cleared land for environmental protection works and to prevent personal injury or property damage. These respondents have **high functional, experiential and identity involvement** and **moderate consequence involvement with protecting the native vegetation on their property**.

Key findings

1. All respondents except those in the farm development segment have moderate to high involvement in protecting their native vegetation. This suggests these respondents are likely to notice, and attend to, promotional information about regulations if that information is framed in terms of helping to manage their native vegetation, particularly in relation to clearing land for environmental protection works and prevent personal injury or property damage, and also to engage in activities to protect their native vegetation.
2. As LLS and Landcare groups are the sources most frequently used for information about managing native vegetation (depending on segment), then promotional activities should prioritise these channels.
3. Classifying farms into segments creates the opportunity to customise engagement activities (including extension). For example:
 - a. Respondents in the farm development segment demonstrate mild to low involvement in protecting their native vegetation. Their interest in native vegetation regulation is driven by their desire to clear land and increase farm production. These respondents mostly rely on LLS and other farmers for information about native vegetation management. Consequently, there is an opportunity for LLS to build on the services it provides to farmers in this segment.
 - b. Respondents in the intensive management segment have moderate to high involvement in protecting their native vegetation. However, these respondents find managing their native vegetation time consuming and expensive. These respondents rely on LLS and Landcare groups for information about native vegetation management. Consequently, there is an opportunity for LLS to build on the services it provides to farmers in this segment by offering advice that reduces the time and effort required to manage their native vegetation.



5. NATIVE VEGETATION: USES AND VALUES

- c. Respondents in the conservation management segment have high involvement in protecting their native vegetation. These respondents rely on LLS and Landcare groups for information about native vegetation management. Consequently, there is an opportunity for LLS to build on the services it provides to farmers in this segment by offering advice around planting natives and other activities to protect their native vegetation in collaboration with Landcare and similar groups.
4. Respondents in the segments that are most likely to clear land (the farm developer and intensive manager segments), are more likely to comply with regulations governing the management of native vegetation if they are offered financial incentives that reward conserving native vegetation (grants and environmental markets) and support from LLS regarding farm production and vegetation management (rather than facing increased penalties, fines, remediation costs, public reporting).
5. Respondents from every segment are present in every LLS region which mean there is no perceivable geographical distribution pattern from this research.



5. NATIVE VEGETATION: USES AND VALUES

Views on Native Vegetation

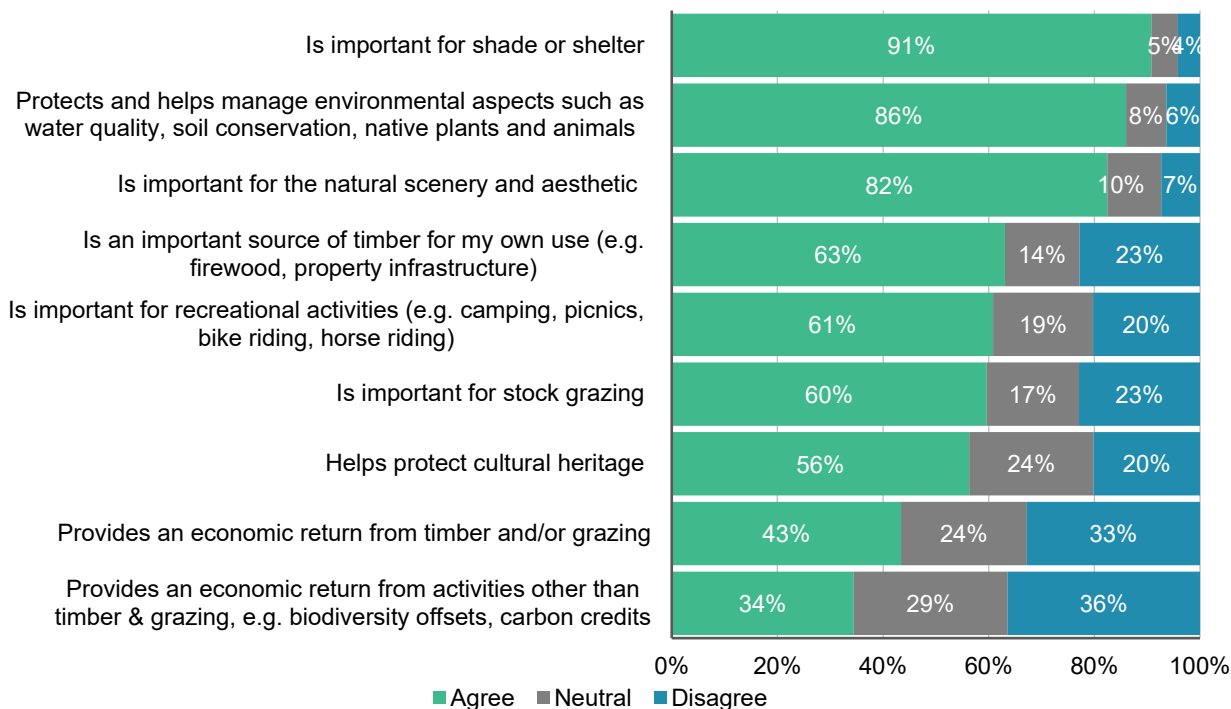
The most common benefits of native vegetation recorded by respondents were that it:

- Is important for shade or shelter (91%)
- Protects and helps manage environmental aspects such as water quality, soil conservation, native plants and animals (86%)
- Is important for the natural scenery and aesthetic (82%)

Figure 8 Views on Native Vegetation – Agree/Disagree

Q8. Thinking about your rural property, to what extent do you agree or disagree with these statements about native vegetation? Native vegetation includes trees, shrubs, herbs and grasses that are indigenous to NSW.

Base: All Respondents (n=2400)



KEY CATEGORY DIFFERENCES

- Those with one farm were more likely to agree with almost all statements.
- Those with longest ownership (>20 years) were least likely to agree that native vegetation is important for recreational activities (57%).
- Those with smaller farms (0-20 ha) were most likely to agree with the non-income values of native vegetation, and least likely to agree with the income-generating values.



5. NATIVE VEGETATION: USES AND VALUES

- Cropping farmers had the lowest agreement scores for most statements, while lifestyle and hobby farmers had the highest agreement for all statements except “Native vegetation is important for stock grazing.”
- Cattle and sheep farmers had below-average agreement for the “Protects and helps manage environmental aspects”, along with the cultural heritage, recreation, biodiversity and natural scenery/aesthetic statements. But they had above-average agreement for “provides an economic return from timber and/or grazing” and “is important for stock grazing”.

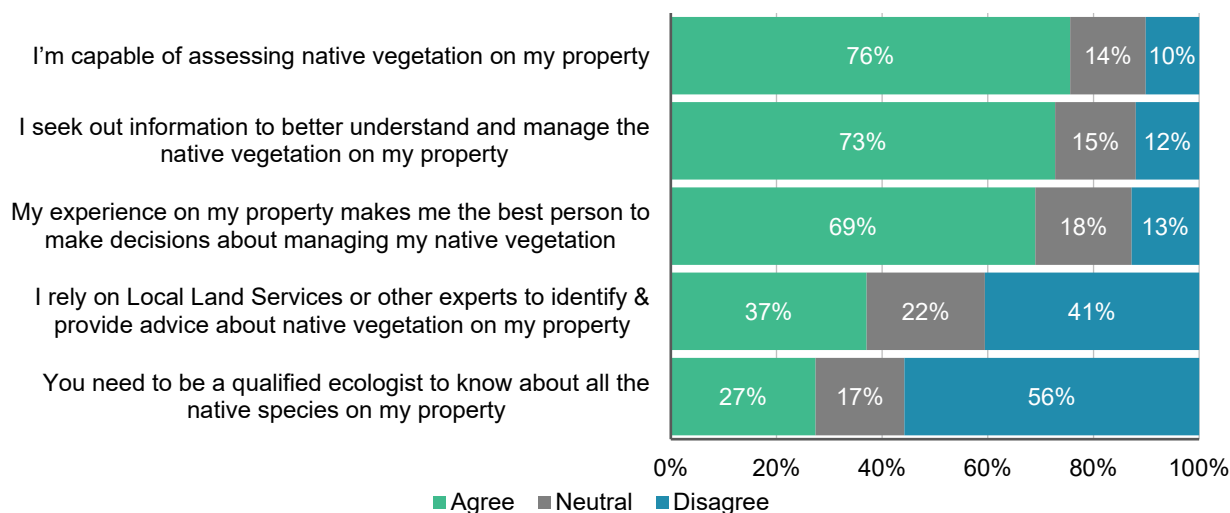
Knowledge and Experience Needed to Manage Native Vegetation

- Landholders feel capable to assess the native vegetation on their property (76%), and a large proportion felt they are the best person for making decisions (69%)
- However, the majority (73%) seek out information to better understand and manage native vegetation
- Over one-third relied on LLS or other experts to identify and provide advice (37%)

Figure 9 Knowledge/Experience Needed to Manage Native Vegetation – Agree/Disagree

Q9. And do you agree or disagree with these statements about the knowledge and experience needed to manage native vegetation?

Base: All Respondents (n=2400)





5. NATIVE VEGETATION: USES AND VALUES

KEY CATEGORY DIFFERENCES

- Those with the least experience managing their farm (0-5 years) were more likely to agree they “seek out information...” (80%) than those with most experience (31+ years; 68%).
- Those with 10 years or less experience were more likely to agree they “rely on LLS or other experts” (45%) compared to those with 11 or more years of experience (33%).
- Those with most experience, and those with larger farms (500+ ha) were each most likely to agree that “my experience on my property make me the best person to make decisions...” (76% and 79% respectively) and most likely to agree that “I’m capable of assessing native vegetation on my property” (79% and 82% respectively).
- Those who derived 100% of their income off-farm were most likely to agree they “seek out information...” (78%) and least likely to agree that “my experience on my property makes me the best person to make decisions about managing my native vegetation” (60%).
- Landholders primarily using their property for cropping, sheep or cattle were more likely to agree that “my experience on my property makes me the best person to make decisions...” (74% on average) compared to those using their property for other purposes (65% on average).
- Landholders primarily using their property for cropping or livestock (sheep, cattle, other) were less likely to agree that “You need to be a qualified ecologist to know about all the native species...” (23% on average).

Protecting Native Vegetation

The top three views relating to the protection of native vegetation were:

- **It will be important for future generations of my family (79%)**
- **It is important for maintaining the natural beauty or aesthetic qualities of my area (79%)**
- **It is important for the future of my community (74%)**

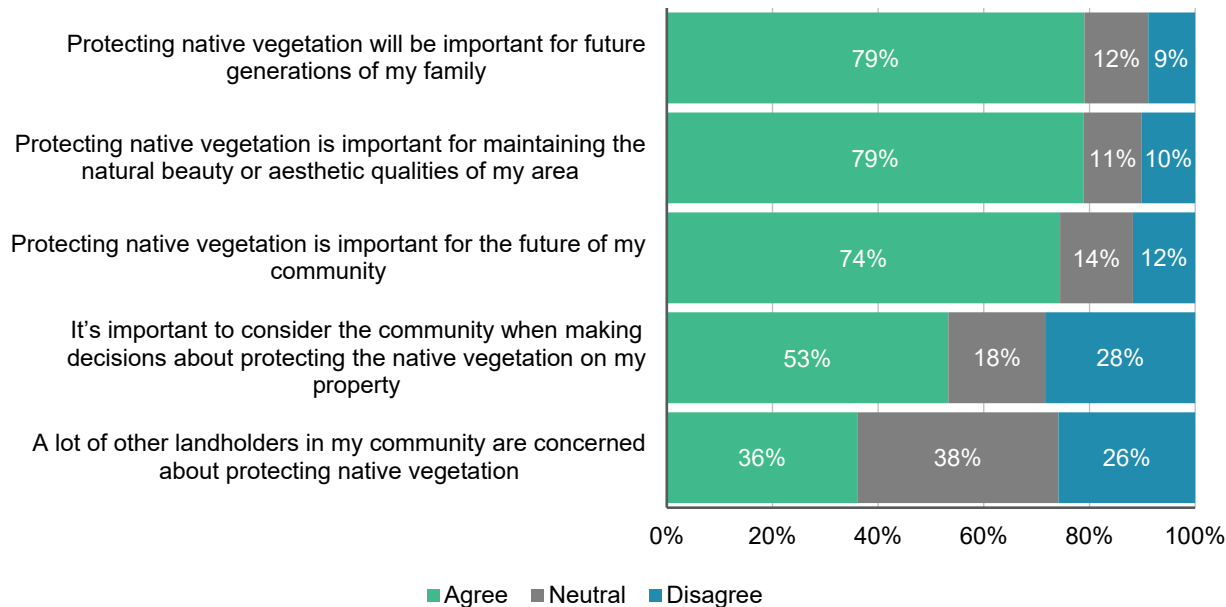


5. NATIVE VEGETATION: USES AND VALUES

Figure 10 Protecting Native Vegetation – Agree/Disagree

Q10. And do you agree or disagree with these statements relating to protecting native vegetation?

Base: All Respondents (n=2400)



KEY CATEGORY DIFFERENCES

- Those with one farm, those with smallest farms (0-20 hectares), and those deriving all their income off-farm were each most likely to agree with all these statements except “A lot of other landholders in my community are concerned about protecting their native vegetation” (where all groups were similar).
- Hobby and lifestyle farmers were most likely to agree with all five statements.

Views on Native Vegetation on Property

There were high levels of agreement with native vegetation on landholders’ property being important...

- ...for the conservation of native plants and animals (85%)
- ...to control erosion and protect water quality (85%)

The majority of landholders also agreed that their native vegetation requires active management (70%), and that how they manage the native vegetation on their private property should be up to them (70%).

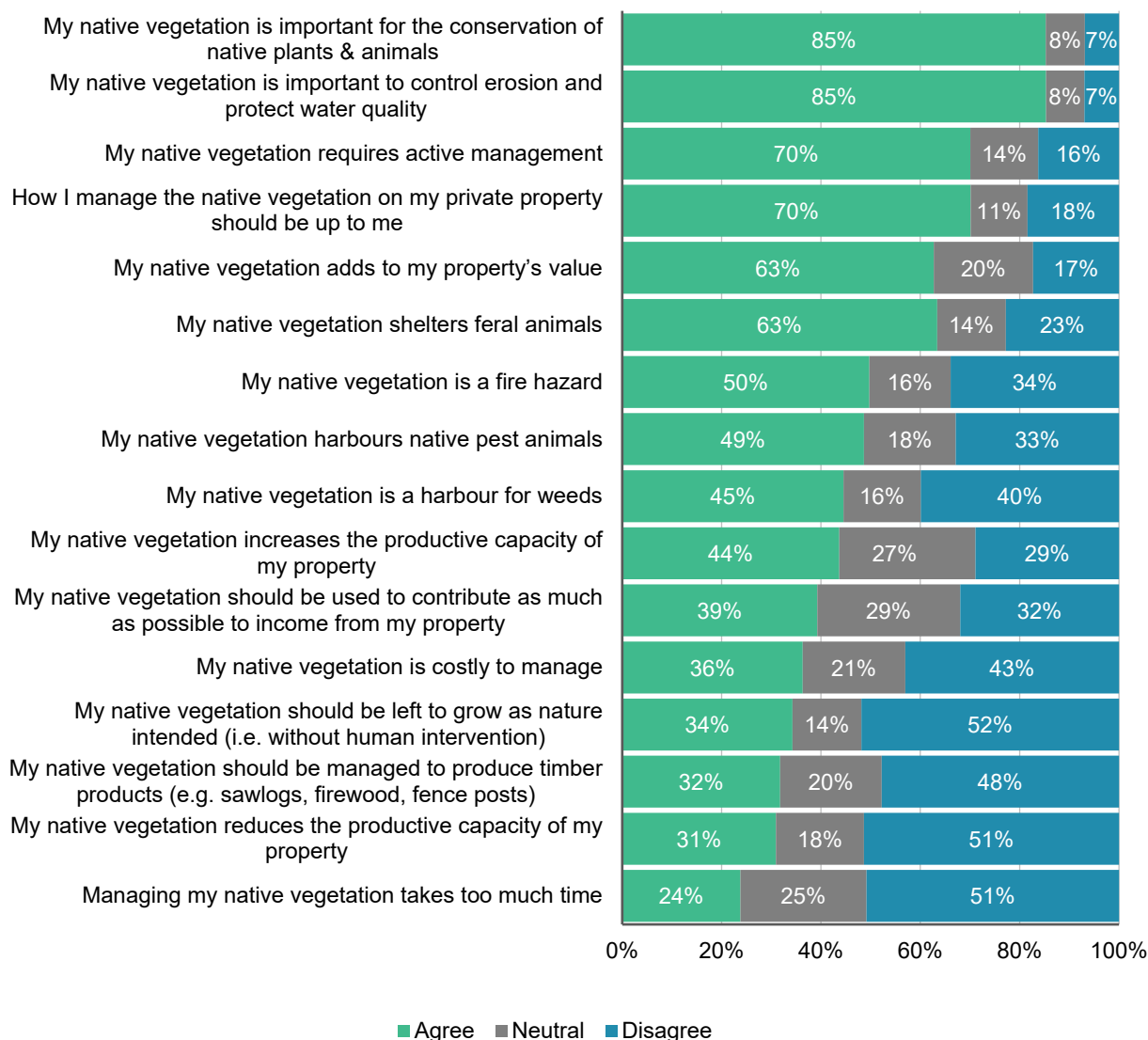


5. NATIVE VEGETATION: USES AND VALUES

Figure 11 Views on Native Vegetation on Property – Agree/Disagree

Q20. Native vegetation includes trees, shrubs, herbs and grasses that are indigenous to NSW. To what extent would you agree or disagree that....

Base: Online Survey Respondents (n=1763)



KEY CATEGORY DIFFERENCES

- Landholders with small farms of 50 hectares or less were more likely to agree that “native vegetation should be left to grow as nature intended” (42%) compared to those with the largest farms of 500+ hectares (20%).
- Those with the largest farms (500+ ha) were most likely to agree that “native vegetation shelters feral animals” (81%) compared to those with smaller farms (50-67%). They were also the least likely to agree that native vegetation adds to their “property’s value” (51%).
- There were very high levels of agreement (~80-90%), irrespective of farm size, that “native vegetation is important for the conservation of native plants and animals”, and that “native vegetation is important to control erosion and protect water quality”.



5. NATIVE VEGETATION: USES AND VALUES

- Lifestyle or hobby farmers were more likely to agree that “native vegetation is important for the conservation of native plants and animals” (91%) compared to landholders who primarily use their property for cropping (75%) or livestock (cattle, sheep, other) (82%).
- Lifestyle or hobby farmers had higher levels of agreement compared to landholders primarily using their property for cropping and livestock for: “My native vegetation is important to control erosion and protect water quality”, “My native vegetation adds to my property’s value” and “My native vegetation should be left to grow as nature intended”.

Views on Protecting Native Vegetation on Property

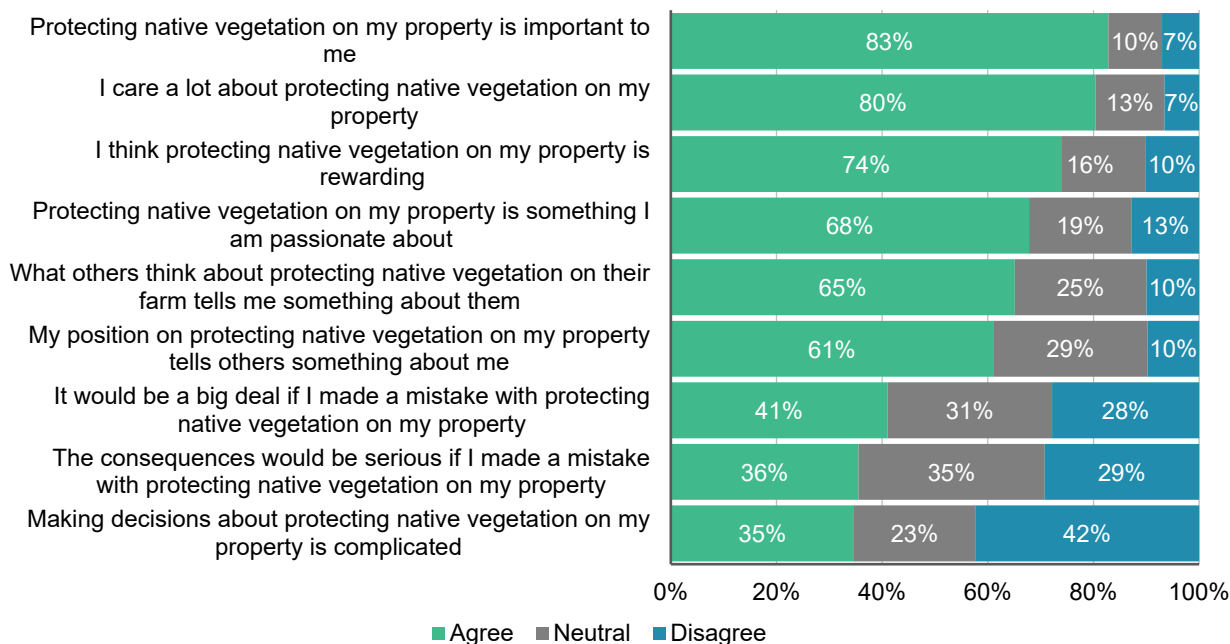
Most respondents indicated that they are personally motivated to protect native vegetation:

- **Protecting native vegetation on my property is important to me (83%)**
- **I care a lot about protecting native vegetation on my property (80%)**
- **I think protecting native vegetation on my property is rewarding (74%)**
- **Protecting native vegetation on my property is something I am passionate about (68%)**

Figure 12 Views on Protecting Native Vegetation on Property – Agree/Disagree

Q21. To what extent would you agree or disagree that...

Base: Online Survey Respondents (n=1763)





6. MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

KEY CATEGORY DIFFERENCES

- Those with one farm were most likely to agree with most of these statements (the exceptions being “The consequences would be serious...” (36% agree), “It would be a big deal if I made a mistake...” (42% agree) and “Making decisions about protecting native vegetation...is complicated” (34% agree), where results were similar by farm size).
- Those earning 100% of revenue off-farm were most likely to agree with all statements except “Making decisions about protecting native vegetation...is complicated” (33% agree) and “I care a lot about protecting native vegetation on my property” (85% agree).
- Cropping and cattle farmers were least likely to agree with all nine statements *except* “The consequences would be serious if I made a mistake...”, “It would be a big deal if I made a mistake...” and “Making decisions about protecting native vegetation...is complicated”, where their views were similar to other sectors.
- Lifestyle and hobby farmers were most likely to agree with almost all statements, though *least* likely to agree that “Making decisions about protecting native environment...is complicated”.

Native Vegetation Management Activities in Last Five Years

The management activities carried out by most respondents in the past five years were also the most important to respondents:

- **Planting and protecting native vegetation**
- **Clearing land to prevent personal injury or property damage, inc. firebreaks**
- **Clearing for environmental protection works**

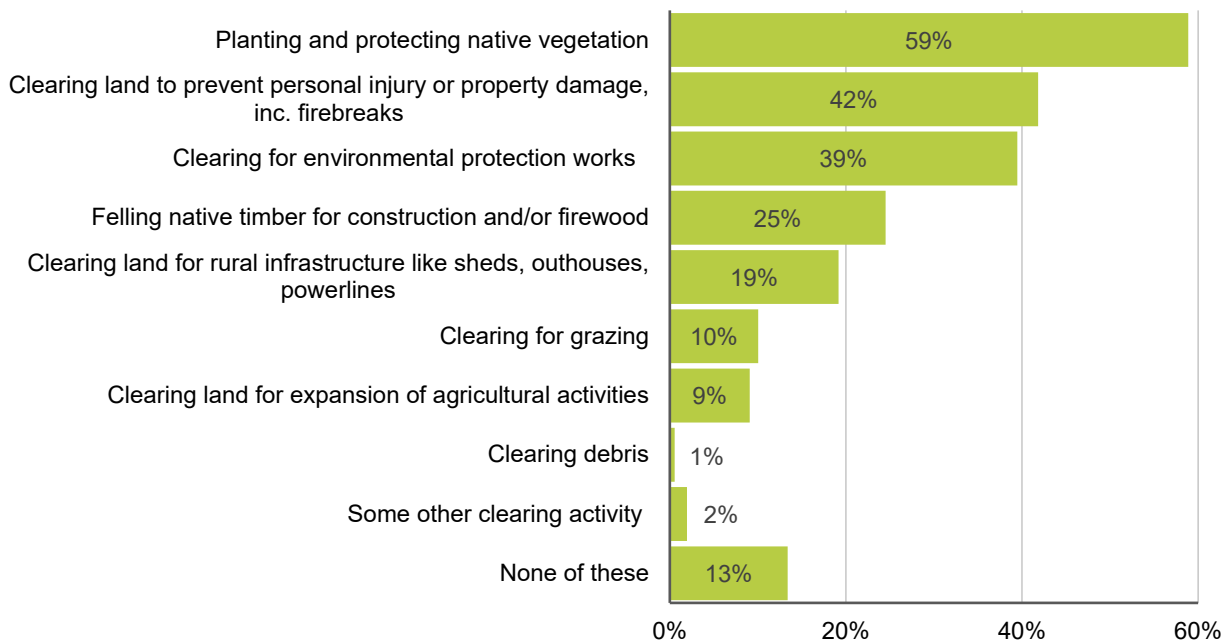


6. MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

Figure 13 Native Vegetation Management Activities Carried Out in Last Five Years

Q11. In the last five years, which of the following native vegetation management activities have you carried out on your rural property? Please select all that apply.

Base: All Respondents (n=2400)



KEY CATEGORY DIFFERENCES

- Those managing the largest properties were most likely to have cleared land to prevent personal injury or property damage (53%), felled native timber for construction/firewood (29%), cleared land for rural infrastructure (28%), cleared for grazing (17%) and cleared for expansion of agricultural activities (18%).
- Cropping respondents were most likely to have cleared land for rural infrastructure (29%) and for expansion of agricultural activities (22%).
- Cattle and sheep farmers were most likely to have cleared land for grazing (16% and 14% respectively).

Most Important Native Vegetation Management Activities

Of those activities they had undertaken, respondents were asked to nominate the two MOST important ones for managing their property. Again, the major activities cited were:

- **Planting and protecting native vegetation (48%)**
- **Clearing land to prevent personal injury or property damage, inc. firebreaks (35%)**
- **Clearing for environmental protection works (33%)**

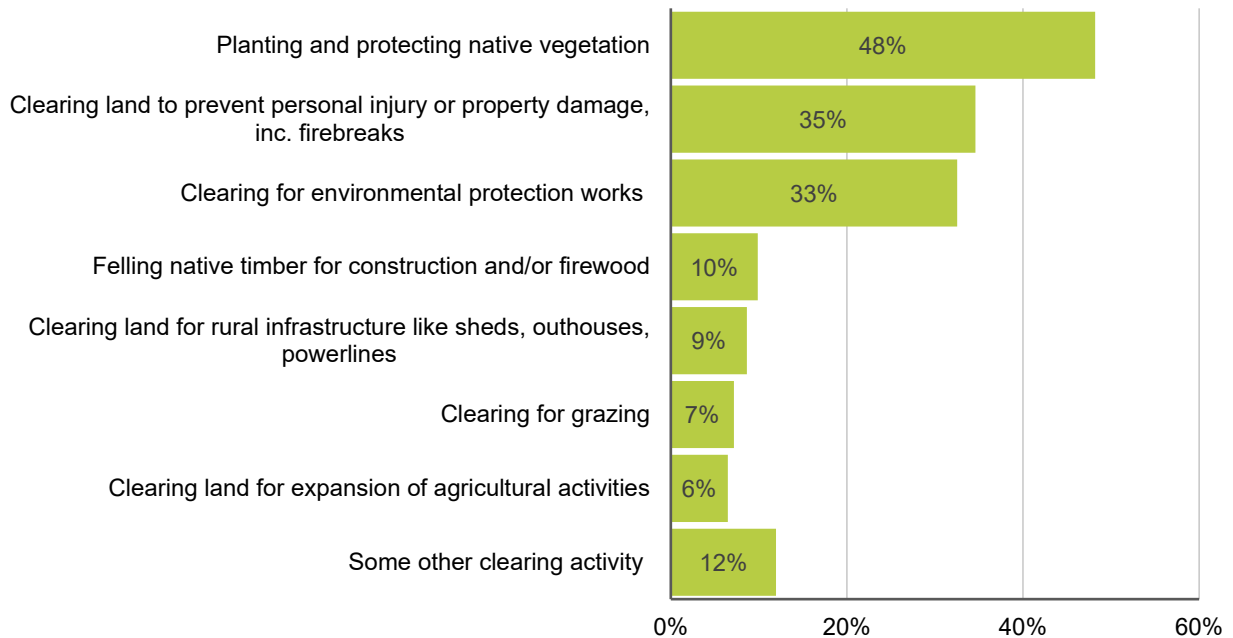
7. CONTACT WITH LLS / INFORMATION SOURCES



Figure 14 Most Important Native Vegetation Management Activities

Q11A. And which of those activities are the most important management activities for managing your property? Please choose up to two only.

Base: Sunset of Q11 Respondents (n=2078)



KEY CATEGORY DIFFERENCES

- Results were relatively similar between different groups in this question.
- However there was an inverse relationship between number of farms and likelihood to plant and protect native vegetation – from 52% for one farm down to 31% for four farms (but then back to 40% for five farms or more).
- Cropping and cattle farmers were least likely to say that “Planting and protecting native vegetation” was of high importance (39% and 44% respectively) compared with the highest result of 55% for lifestyle and hobby farmers).
- Sheep farmers were least likely to say that “Clearing land for environment protection works” was of high importance (26%).

Contact with Local Land Services

- **Only three out of ten (29%) landholders reported that they had contacted Local Land Services (LLS) about managing native vegetation.**

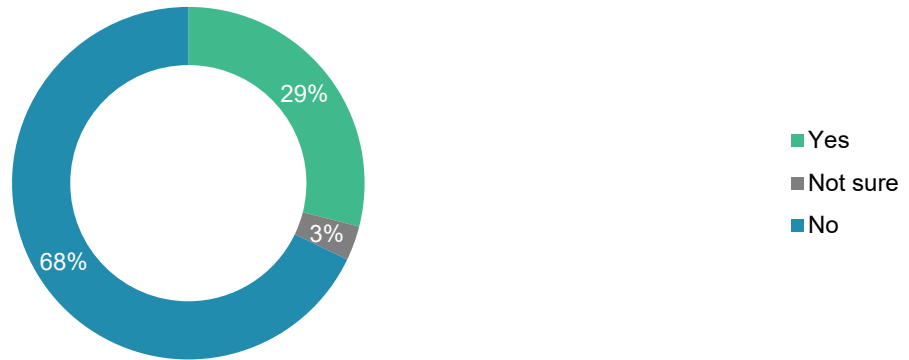


7. CONTACT WITH LLS / INFORMATION SOURCES

Figure 15 Contact with Local Land Services

Q12. Have you contacted Local Land Services about managing native vegetation?

Base: All Respondents (n=2400)



KEY CATEGORY DIFFERENCES

- Those with most experience (31+ years managing) were least likely to have contacted LLS about managing native vegetation (23%), as were those on the smallest (0-20 ha) farms (21%, vs. 36% of those with 500+ ha farms).
- Sheep farmers (35%) were the most likely to have contacted LLS.
- One-third of university graduates had contacted LLS, significantly above average.

Reasons for Contacting Local Land Services

The top reasons for contacting LLS were to apply for grants (19%) or to obtain information on land clearing rules (17%).

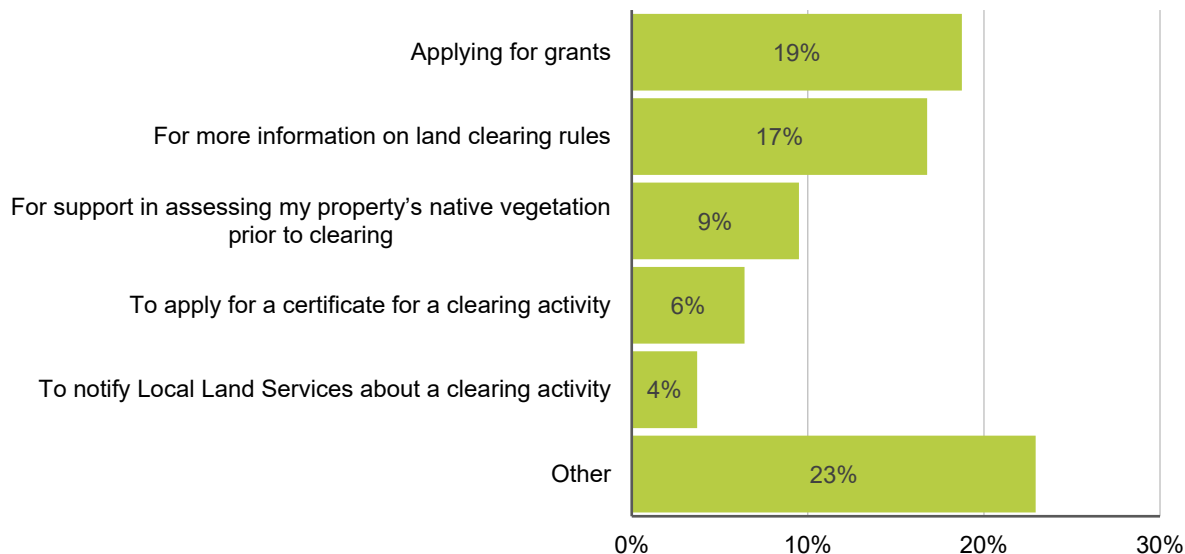


7. CONTACT WITH LLS / INFORMATION SOURCES

Figure 16 Reasons for Contacting Local Land Services

Q13. Why did you contact them? Select all that apply.

Base: Respondents who had contacted LLS about managing native vegetation (n=697)



KEY CATEGORY DIFFERENCES

- Those managing larger farms (500+ ha) were the most likely to have contacted LLS to apply for a certificate for a clearing activity (12% vs. 6% overall) but less likely to have done so to apply for grants (13% vs. 19% overall).
- Cattle and sheep farmers were more likely to have contacted LLS to apply for a certificate for a clearing activity (9% and 10% respectively vs. 6% overall).
- Lifestyle or hobby farmers were more likely to have contacted LLS to apply for grants (25% vs. 19% overall).

Sources of Information about Managing Native Vegetation

The top three sources cited for finding information about managing native vegetation were:

- **LLS website/news**
- **Landcare or similar environmental groups, and**
- **LLS staff**

The three sources above were also nominated as 'the most useful' by 51% of landholders.

The importance of local knowledge cannot be understated with local farmers, local community, local Council and/or family being noted sources of information for 41% of landholders.



7. CONTACT WITH LLS / INFORMATION SOURCES

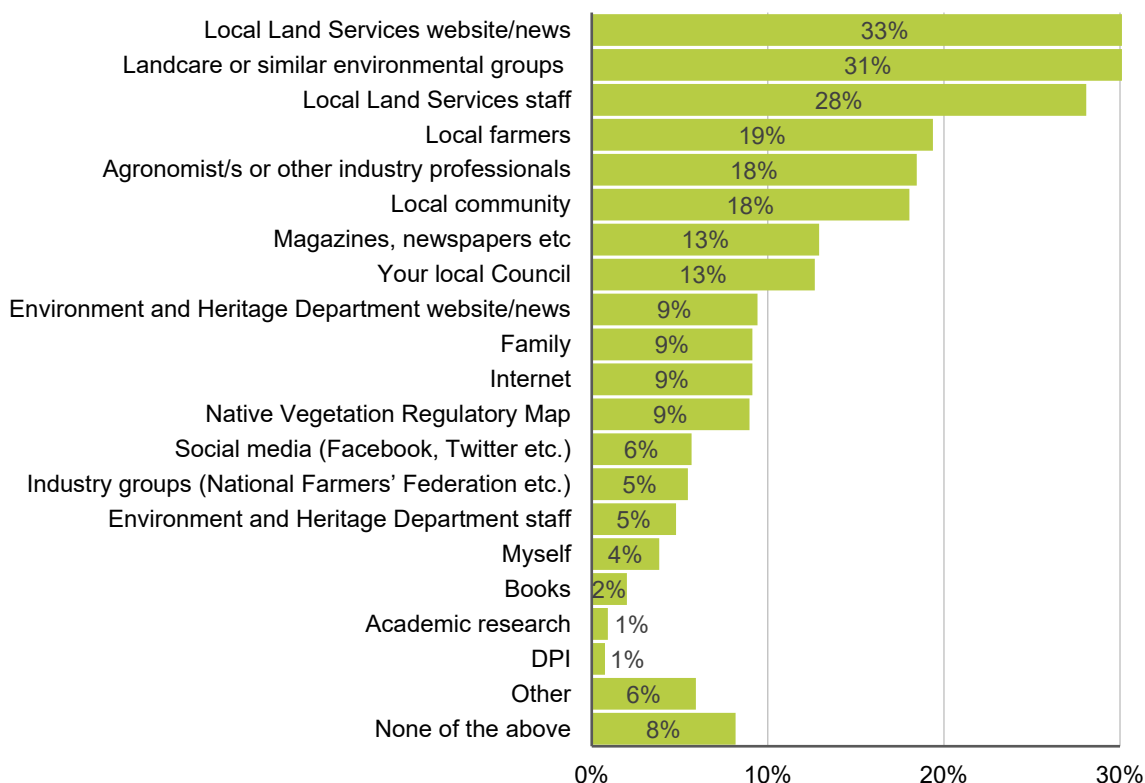
Agronomists or other industry professionals were a key source for nearly one-fifth of landholders (17%).

The Native Vegetation Regulatory Map was cited as a source of information by only 9% of landholders.

Figure 17 Sources of Information: Managing Native Vegetation

Q14. Where do you find information about managing native vegetation on your land? Select all that apply.

Base: All Respondents (n=2400)



KEY CATEGORY DIFFERENCES

- Those with one farm were most likely to seek information from Landcare or similar groups (34% vs. 31% overall).
- Those with most management experience (31+ years) were least likely seek out information from the LLS website/news (22% vs. 29%) and most likely to select None of these (11% vs. 8% overall).
- Those on the smallest farms (0-20 ha) were most likely to seek information from the local community (25% vs. 13% of those on farms 500 ha and above) and their local Council (21% vs. 4% for the largest farms).
- Those on larger farms were also less likely to seek information from Landcare or similar groups (24% vs. 31% overall).



8. NATIVE VEGETATION REGULATORY MAP

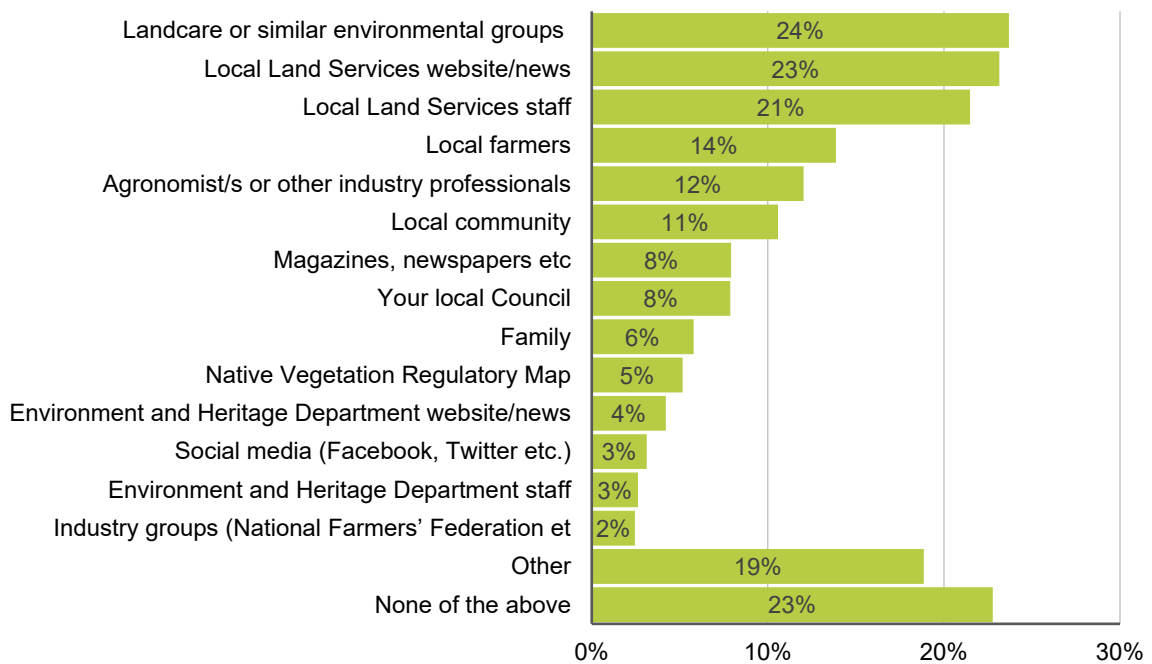
- Cattle farmers' top sources of information were LLS website/news (36%), LLS staff (32%), Landcare or similar groups (28%), and local farmers (22%).
- Tourism/recreation farmers and Horticulturalists were more likely to have found information via the Native Vegetation Regulatory Map (18% and 16% respectively) than other groups.
- Lifestyle and hobby farmers were more likely to have sought information from the LLS website or news (39%), Landcare or similar groups (38%), local community (26%), their local council (19%) and the Environment and Heritage website or news (13%).

As shown in **Figure 18**, below, the most useful information sources were strongly aligned with those used most often by respondents:

Figure 18 Most Useful Sources of Information: Managing Native Vegetation

Q15. And which of those sources are the most useful? Select up to three only.

Base: All Respondents (n=2400)



Awareness and Use of Native Vegetation Regulatory Map

Several questions about the Native Vegetation Regulatory Map were asked to landholders in the Online survey (n=1763).

- **Just over a third of landholders (38%) had heard of the Native Vegetation Regulatory Map (NVRM).**
- **Just over half of those aware of the Map (55%) had looked at it for information about native vegetation clearing on their property (n=374).**

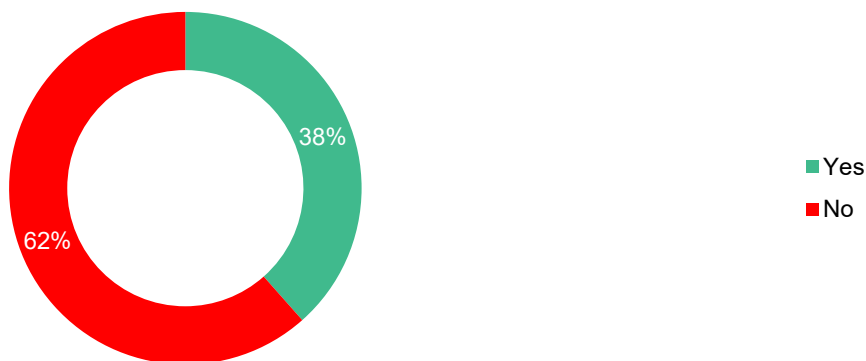


8. NATIVE VEGETATION REGULATORY MAP

Figure 19 Awareness of Native Vegetation Regulatory Map

Q22. Have you heard of a Native Vegetation Regulatory Map?

Base: Online Survey Respondents (n=1763)



KEY CATEGORY DIFFERENCES

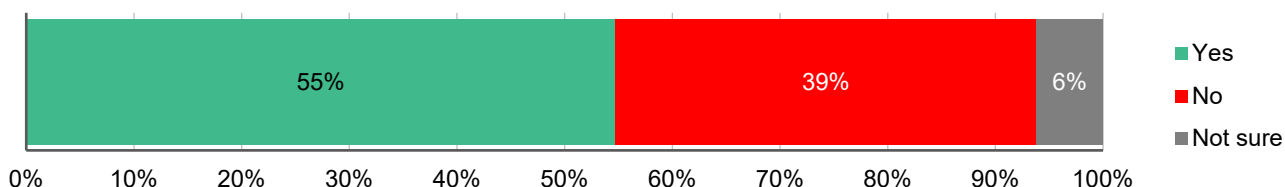
- Those with five or more farms were more likely to have heard of the NVRM (57% vs. 35% for those with one farm).
- Likewise, those with largest farms (500+ ha) were also more likely to have heard of it (55% vs. 26% of those with 0-20 ha farms).
- Those deriving the majority of their income from on-farm were significantly more likely to have heard of the map than those deriving the majority of their income off-farm.
- Cropping (46%), horticulture (46%) and cattle (45%) farmers were most likely to have heard of the NVRM, while 'other livestock' farmers were least likely to have heard of it (30%).

Of those (38% of respondents) aware of the Map, over half (55%) said they had used the map for information on native vegetation clearing on their property.

Figure 20 Use of Native Vegetation Regulatory Map

Q23. Have you looked at the Native Vegetation Regulatory Map for information about native vegetation clearing on your property?

Base: Those aware of the Map (n=680)



There were no significant differences between different groups.



8. NATIVE VEGETATION REGULATORY MAP

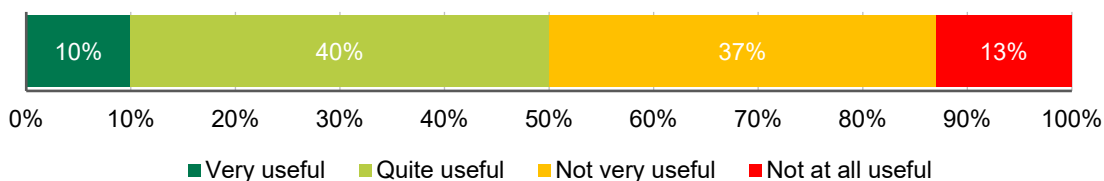
Usefulness of Map

- Half of the landholders (51%) who had used the Map for information about native vegetation clearing on their property rated it as 'Very useful' or 'Quite useful'.

Figure 21 Usefulness of Native Vegetation Regulatory Map

Q24. Please rate how useful the Native Vegetation Regulatory Map is in providing information about your property's native vegetation.

Base: Those who looked at the Map for information (n=374)



Again, there were no significant differences between different groups.

Of the 49% (n=184) who rated the Map 'Not very useful' or 'Not at all useful', the following reasons were provided (Q25):

- Doubt accuracy (30%)
- Don't know how to use the Map (14%)
- Does not show useful information (13%)
- Lacking detail (11%)
- Cannot access online (9%)
- Incomplete (7%)
- I know better (4%)
- Not applicable to me (3%)
- Too complicated (3%)
- Disagree with government regulation on my property (2%)
- Limits what I can do on my land (2%)
- Other reason (9%)

Confidence in Information Accuracy of Native Vegetation Regulatory Map

- Under half (44%) of those who had used the Map felt confident in the accuracy of the information.

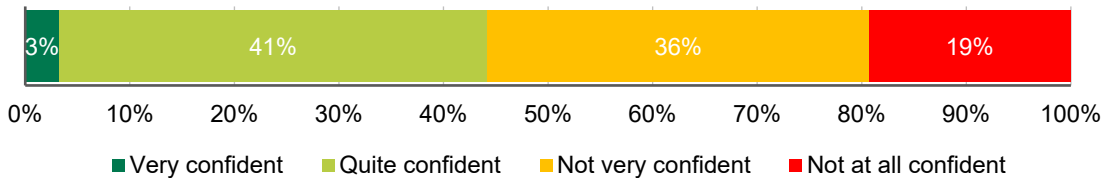


9. THE LAND MANAGEMENT CODE

Figure 22 Confidence in Information Accuracy of Native Vegetation Regulatory Map

Q26. How confident were you in the accuracy of the Map information?

Base: Those who looked at the Map for information (n=374)



Of the 56% (n=208) who were 'Not very confident' or 'Not at all confident' in the accuracy of the Map information, the following reasons were selected (Q27):

- The map data does not reflect what I know about my property (70%)
- The map doesn't contain enough detail about the vegetation on my property (55%)
- Waiting for final map to be released (15%)
- I still had to seek more information from LLS staff (12%)
- Information in the map is contrary to other sources (1%)
- I don't understand it (1%)

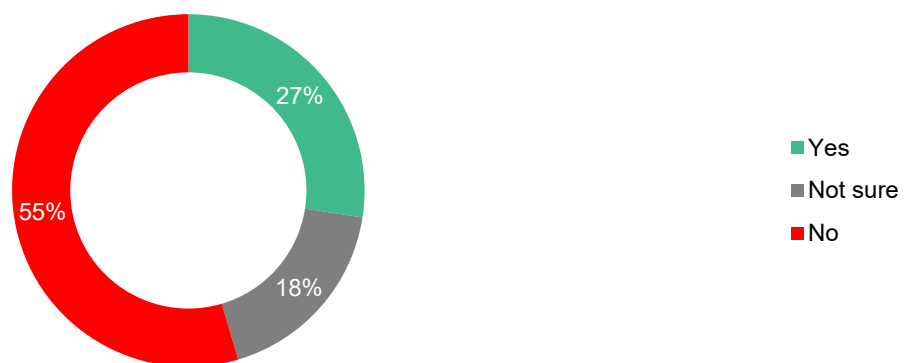
Awareness of The Land Management Code

- Only three out of ten (27%) landholders claimed they had heard about the NSW Land Management (Native Vegetation) Code ('the Code').

Figure 23 Awareness of Land Management Code

Q28A. Are you aware of the Land Management Code?

Base: Online Survey Respondents (n=1763)





9. THE LAND MANAGEMENT CODE

KEY CATEGORY DIFFERENCES

- Awareness was lowest among those with one farm (25%), farm owners (22%), those with smallest (0-20 ha) farms (18%), and passive managers (19%).
- Awareness was highest among cattle farmers (32%) and lowest for lifestyle farmers (21%).
- Among those with the most awareness were university graduates (32%) and those with largest (500+ ha) farms (40%).

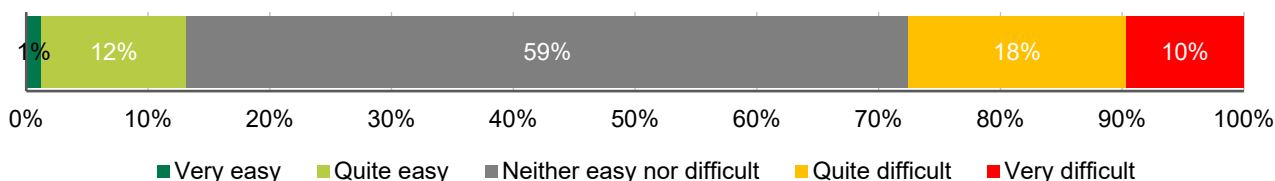
Ease of Understanding

Of the landholders aware of the Code (n=484), over one-quarter (28%) rated the specific conditions and definitions of the code as 'Quite difficult' or 'Very difficult' to understand.

Figure 24 Ease of Understanding Conditions and Definitions of the Code

Q28B. To what extent do you think specific conditions and definitions of the code are easy to understand?

Base: Those aware of the Code (n=484)



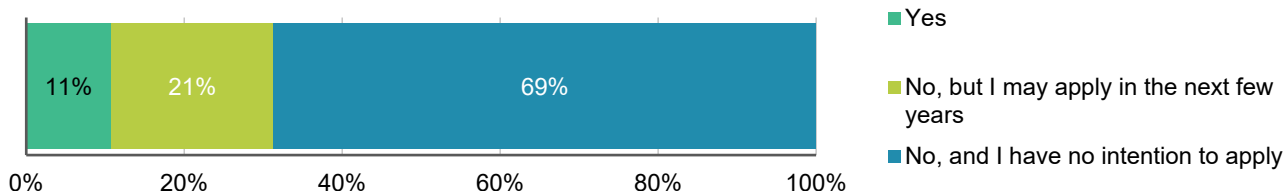
Applied to Clear Land under the Code

- Of the landholders aware of the Code (n=484), only 11% reported that they had applied to clear any land under the Code in the last five years.¹

Figure 25 Extent of Approval

Q29. In the last 5 years, have you applied to clear any land under the Code?

Base: Those aware of The Code (n=52)



¹ Due to small sample size (n=52 or less), Figures 25-33 do not include breakdowns of statistically significant differences between sub-groups.



9. THE LAND MANAGEMENT CODE

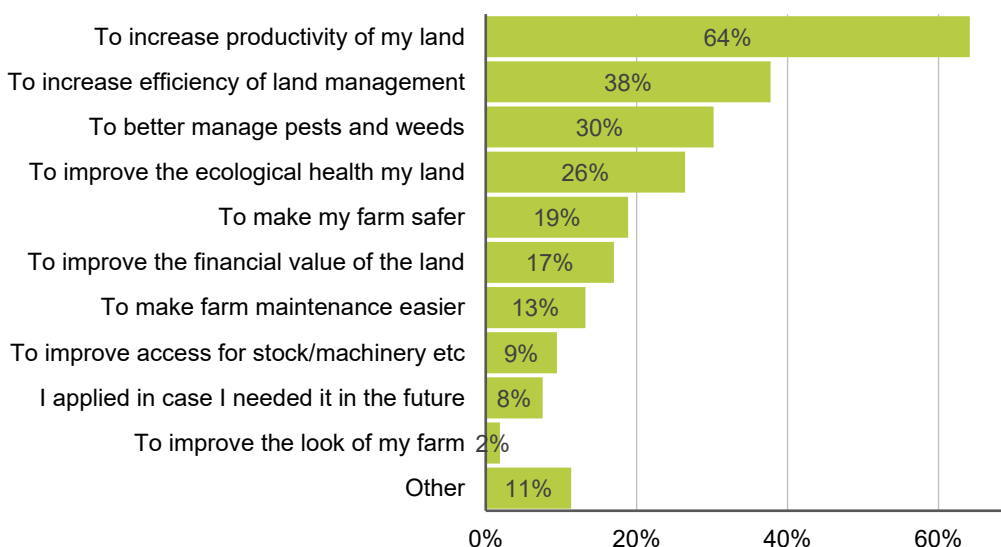
Reasons for Application

- The most common reasons for applying to clear land under the Code were to increase productivity and efficiency, however managing pests and weeds and ecological health were also important.

Figure 26 Reasons for Application to Clear Land

Q30. Why did you apply? Please select up to THREE reasons only. You may add a reason if it is not in the list, as 'other'.

Base: Those who applied to clear land under the Code (n=52)



Ease of Application

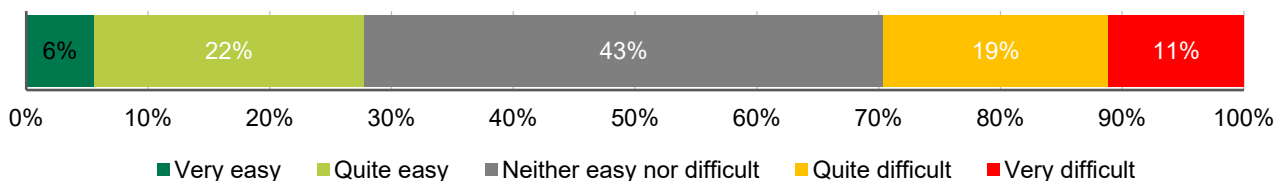
Of the landholders who made an application to clear land under the Code (n=53):

- More than one-quarter (28%) rated the application process 'easy'.

Figure 27 Ease of Making Application

Q33. How easy or difficult was it to make an application under the code?

Base: Those who applied to clear land under the Code (n=52)





9. THE LAND MANAGEMENT CODE

Extent of Approval and Satisfaction

Of the landholders who made an application to clear land under the Code (n=52):

- The majority (80%) reported that they got 'all' or 'most' of what they wanted from the application.
- The majority (79%) also reported that they felt satisfied with what was approved.

Figure 28 Extent of Approval

Q35. How much of what you applied for was approved by Local Land Services?

Base: Those who applied to clear land under the Code (n=52)

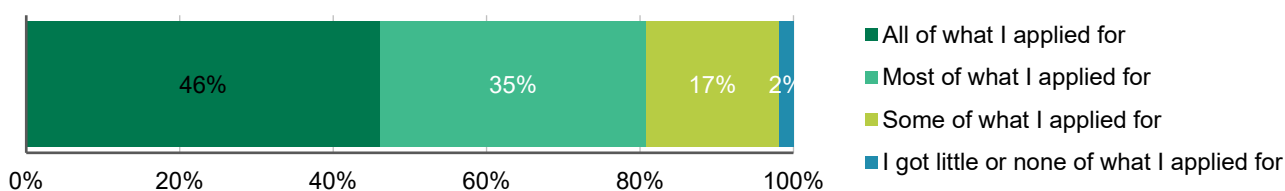
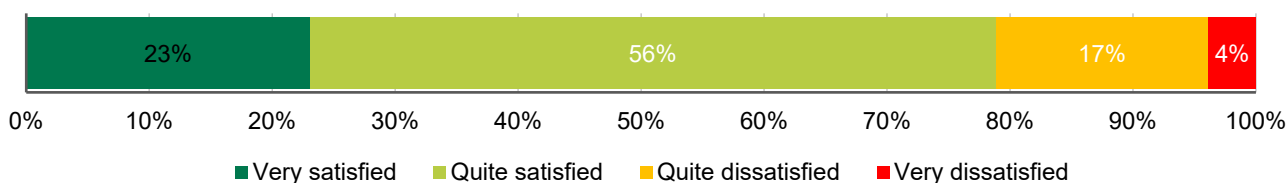


Figure 29 Satisfaction with Approval

Q36. To what extent were you satisfied with what was approved?

Base: Those who applied to clear land under the Code (n=52)



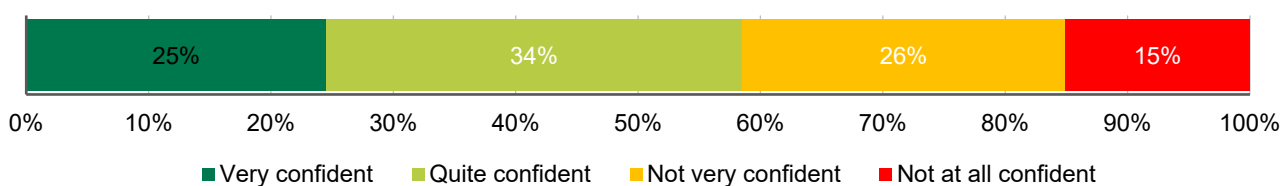
Confidence in Self-Assessment

- Over half (58%) of those who made an application under the Code reported that they would be confident in undertaking self-assessment against the Code where the land management activity they undertook did not require certification.

Figure 30 Confidence in Self-Assessment

Q39. If the land management activity you undertook did not require certification, how confident were you in undertaking self-assessment against the Code?

Base: Those who applied to clear land under the Code (n=52)





9. THE LAND MANAGEMENT CODE

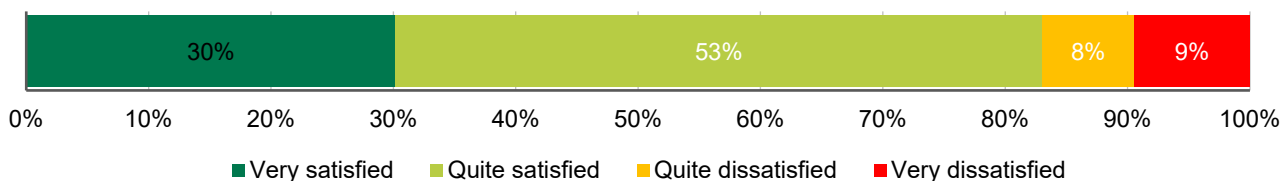
Satisfaction with Information and Support from Local Land Services

- The majority (83%) of those who made an application to clear land under the Code were satisfied with the information and support from LLS during the application process.

Figure 31 Satisfaction with Information and Support from Local Land Services

Q40. To what extent were you satisfied with the information and support from Local Land Services during the application process?

Base: Those who applied to clear land under the Code (n=52)



Whether Undertaken Approved Works

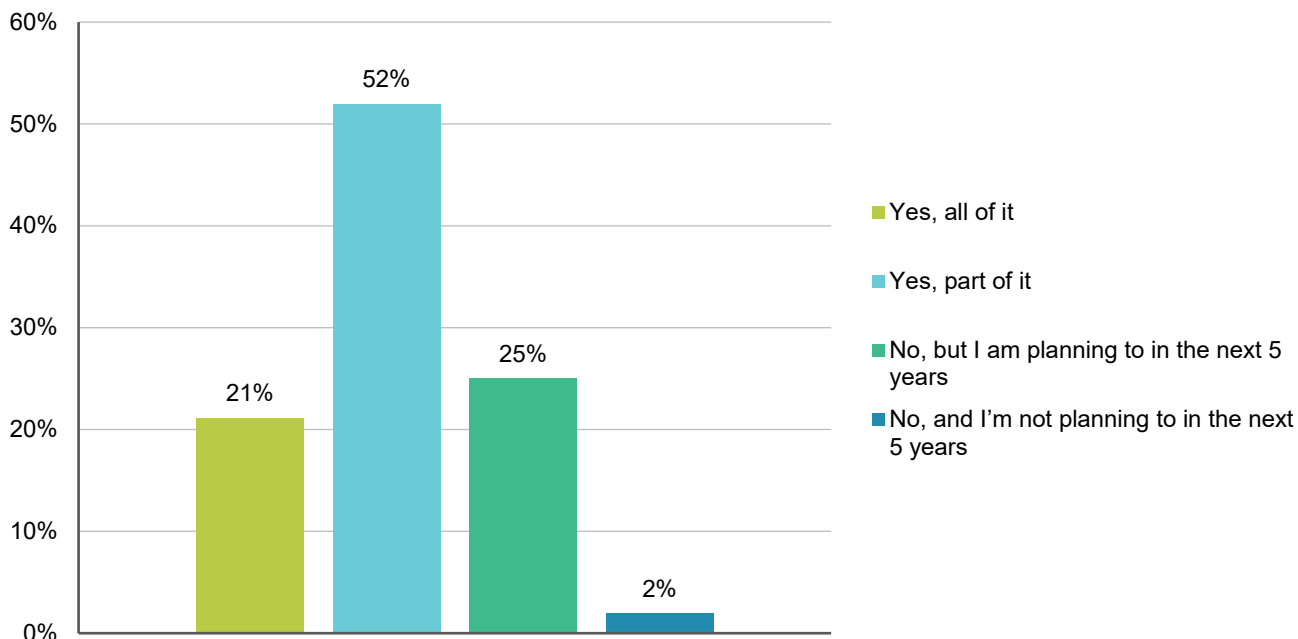
Of the landholders who made an application to clear land under the Code (n=52):

- Half (52%) reported they had undertaken 'part' of the approved works, and a fifth (21%) had undertaken 'all' of the approved works.
- One-quarter (25%) had not yet undertaken the approved work but were planning to in the next five years.
- Only 4% reported they were not planning to undertake the approved work in the next five years.

Figure 32 Whether Undertaken Approved Works

Q42. Have you undertaken the approved works?

Base: Those who applied to clear land under the Code (n=52)





9. THE LAND MANAGEMENT CODE

Achievement

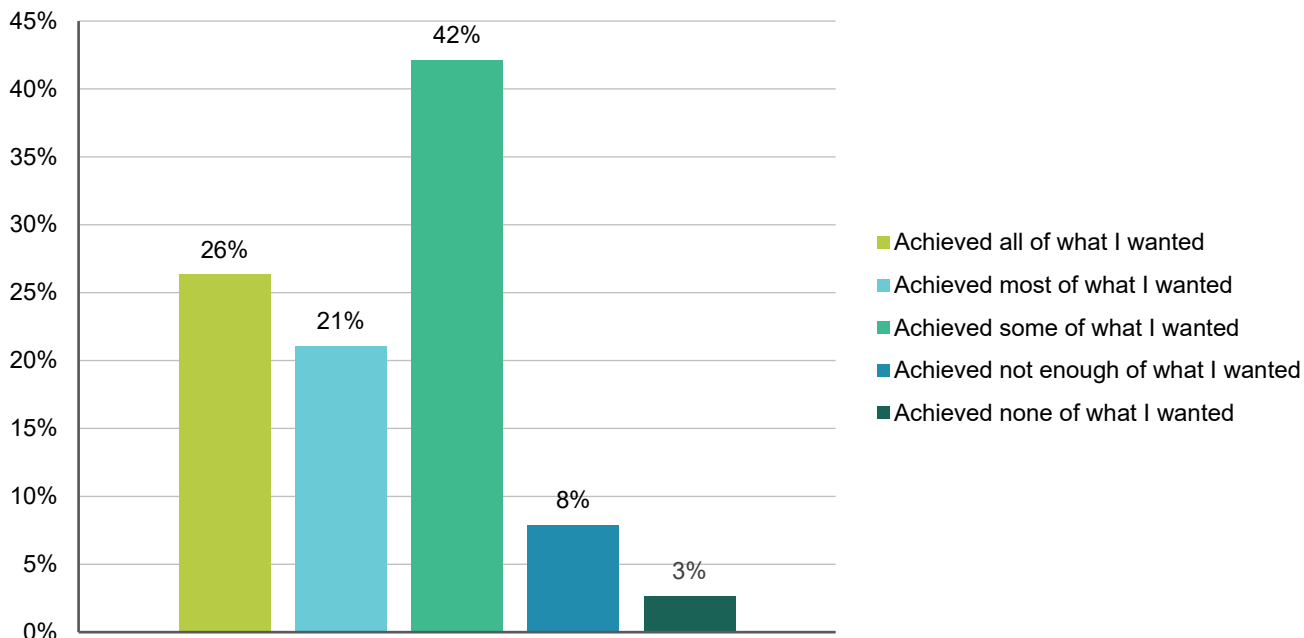
Of the landholders who had undertaken all or part of the approved works (n=38):

- **Almost half (47%) had achieved 'all' or 'most' of what they wanted.**
- Less than half (42%) had achieved 'some' of what they wanted.
- The remaining 11% achieved 'not enough' or 'none' of what they wanted.

Figure 33 Achievement

Q43. To what extent do you think you achieved what you wanted?

Base: Those who applied to clear land under the Code and have undertaken all or part of approved works (n=38)



Awareness of Set Asides

Several questions about set asides were asked to landholders in the Online survey (n=1763).

- **Only one-third of landholders (32%) reported that they were aware of set asides.**
- Of those aware of set asides, most did not know how set asides apply.
- The majority of landholders (68%) reported that they 'don't know anything' about set asides (Q48).

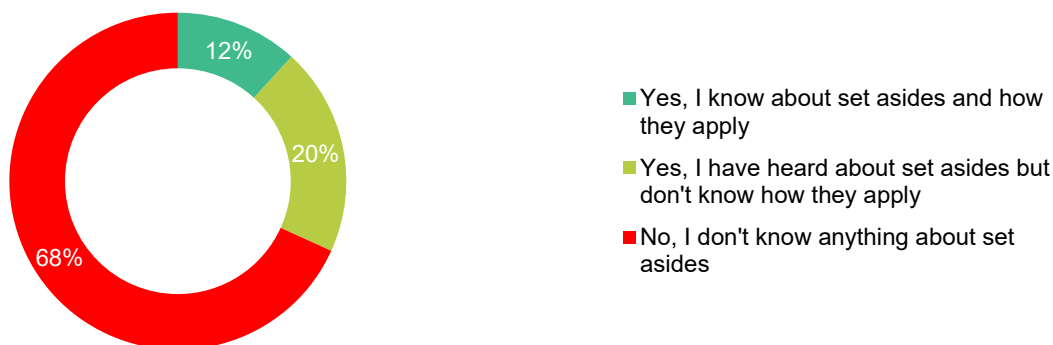


9. THE LAND MANAGEMENT CODE

Figure 34 Awareness of Set Asides

Q48. Are you aware of what set asides are and how they apply to approvals?

Base: Online Survey Respondents (n=1763)



KEY CATEGORY DIFFERENCES

- Those most likely to say they were aware of set-asides included those with five or more farms (29% knowing how they apply, 35% aware but unsure how they apply), and those with largest (500+ ha) farms (23% and 27%).
- Cropping, cattle and sheep farmers had above-average awareness of set-asides (21%, 15% and 17% respectively).

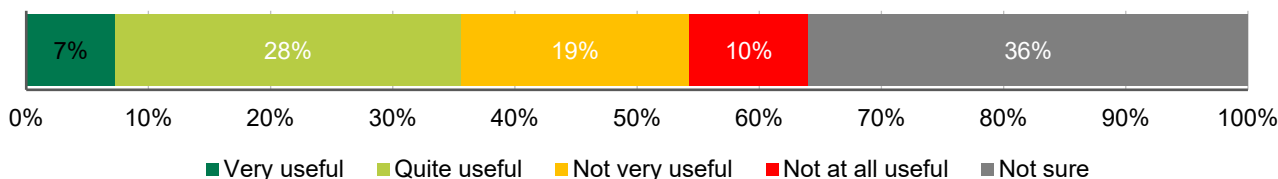
Usefulness of Set Asides

- **Of the landholders aware of set asides, 36% were not sure if having the set aside option available would be useful or not.**

Figure 35 Usefulness of Set Aside Option

Q49. Do you think having the set aside option available is...?

Base: Those aware of set asides (n=559)



There were no significant differences between different groups.



9. THE LAND MANAGEMENT CODE

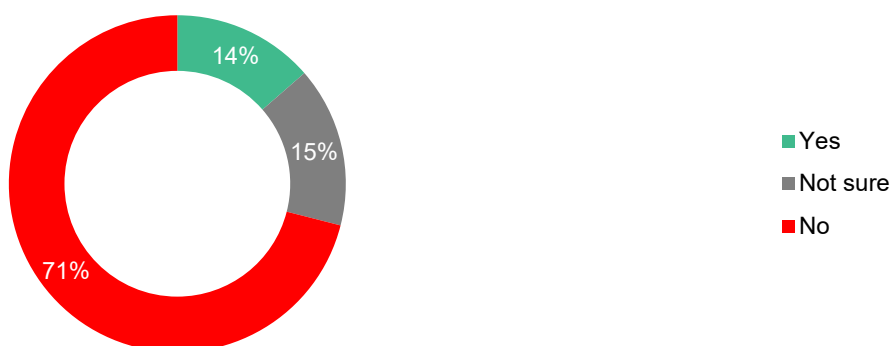
Prevalence of Set Aside on Properties

- Only 14% of landholders aware of set asides had one on their property.
- 15% were not sure if they had a set aside on their property or not.

Figure 36 Prevalence of Set Aside on Property

Q50. Do you have a set aside on your property?

Base: Those aware of set asides (n=559)



KEY CATEGORY DIFFERENCES

- Those with one farm were least likely to have set-asides (10%).
- By segment, intensive managers were most likely to have them (21%), while conservation managers were least likely (4%).

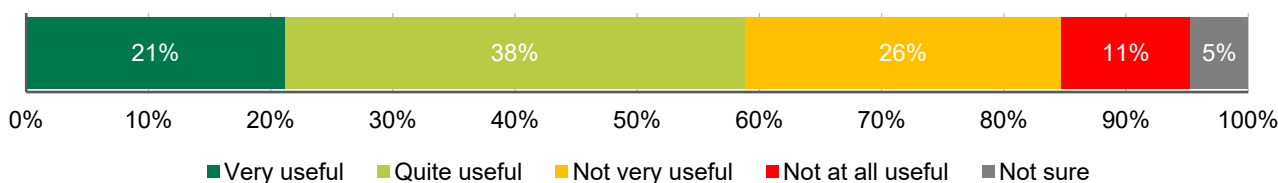
Usefulness of Set Aside on Property

- The majority of landholders with set asides (59%) thought the size and type of land in the set aside was useful for protecting the native vegetation on their property.

Figure 37 Usefulness of Set Aside on Property

Q51. To what extent do you think the size and type of land in the set aside was useful for protecting the native vegetation on your property?

Base: Those with set asides (n=76)



Note that due to the small sample size, there are no significant differences noted in Figures 37-39.



9. THE LAND MANAGEMENT CODE

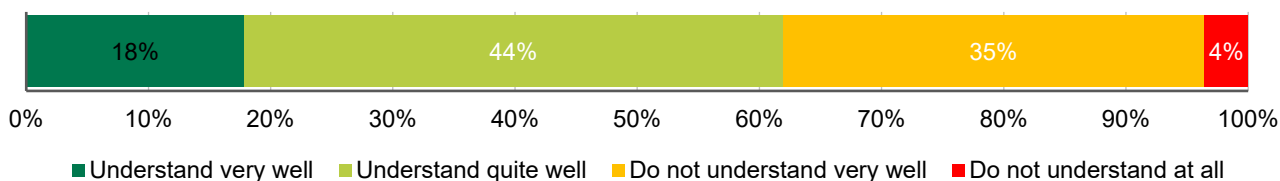
Understanding of Management Obligations

- The majority of landholders with set asides (62%) claimed to understand the management obligations of the set aside (e.g. for monitoring and maintenance).

Figure 38 Understanding of Management Obligations

Q52. To what extent do you understand the management obligations of the set aside, e.g. for monitoring and maintenance?

Base: Those with set asides (n=76)



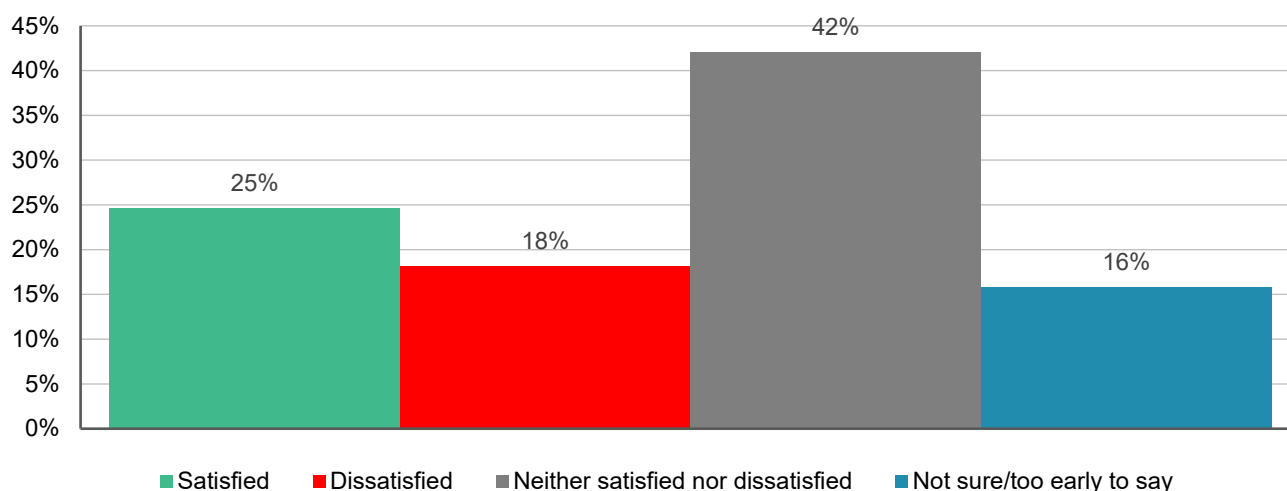
Satisfaction with Set Aside and Obligations Negotiated

- One-quarter of landholders with set asides (25%) were satisfied with the set aside and obligations negotiated with LLS for its management.
- More than half (57%) were neither satisfied nor dissatisfied, or reported they were 'not sure/too early to say'.

Figure 39 Satisfaction with Set Aside and Obligations Negotiated with LLS

Q53. To what extent were you satisfied with the set aside and obligations negotiated with Local Land Services?

Base: Those with set asides (n=76)





10. NATIVE VEGETATION PANEL

Awareness of Native Vegetation Panel

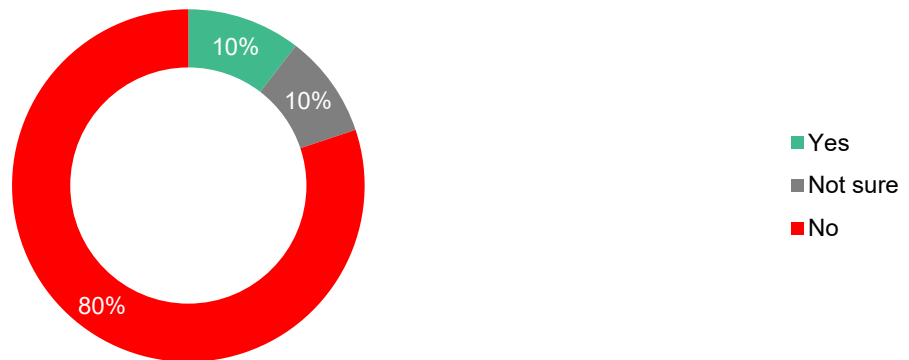
Several questions about the Native Vegetation Panel were asked to landholders in the Online survey (n=1763).

- **Only one-tenth of landholders (10%) were aware of the Native Vegetation Panel.**
- **Eighty percent (80%) were not aware.**
- The remaining 9.5% were not sure if they were aware or not.

Figure 40 Awareness of Native Vegetation Panel

Q55. Are you aware of the Native Vegetation Panel?

Base: Online Survey Respondents (n=1763)



KEY CATEGORY DIFFERENCES

- Awareness of the Native Vegetation Panel was highest among those with five or more farms (27%), horticulturalists (19%) and those with farms of 500+ ha (15%).
- There were no statistically significant differences by segment.

Inquiry / Application to Panel

- **Of the landholders who were aware of the Native Vegetation Panel (n=182), the overwhelming majority (96%) had not made an inquiry or an application to the Panel.**
- Only 2% made an inquiry, 1% made an application, and another 1% made both an enquiry and application. (Q56)



11. LLS MONITORING, EVALUATION & REPORTING

Satisfaction with Information Provided

The landholders that had made an inquiry and/or application to the Panel (n=7) gave mixed responses to a question about their satisfaction with the information provided; some were satisfied, some felt dissatisfied (Q57).

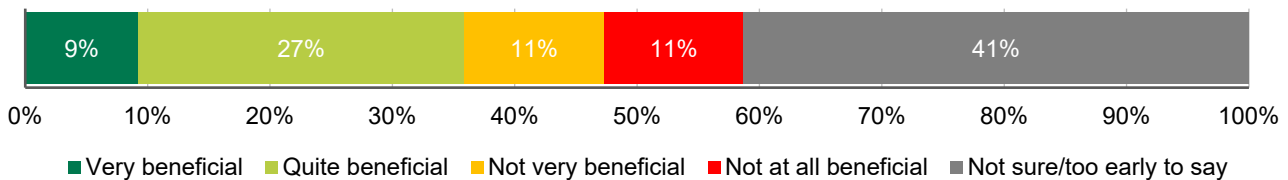
Benefit of Having Native Vegetation Panel Available

- Of the landholders who were aware of the Native Vegetation Panel (n=184), over one-third (36%) thought it was beneficial.

Figure 41 Benefit of Having Native Vegetation Panel Available

Q59. To what extent do you think it is beneficial having the Native Vegetation Panel available?

Base: Those aware of Native Vegetation Panel (n=184)



There were no statistically significant differences between groups.

Awareness of Reporting by Local Land Services

Several questions about Local Land Services were asked to landholders in the Online survey (n=1763).

- Less than a tenth of landholders (8%) were aware that LLS reports on native vegetation clearing and what it reports on.
- Thirty percent (30%) were aware that LLS does report but did not know what it reports on.
- Sixty-two percent (62%) were not aware of the reporting.



11. LLS MONITORING, EVALUATION & REPORTING

Figure 42 Awareness of Reporting by Local Land Services

Q61. To what extent are you aware of the native vegetation reporting by Local Land Services (LLS)?

Base: Online Survey Respondents (n=1763)



KEY CATEGORY DIFFERENCES

- Those with largest farms (500+ ha) were most likely to claim awareness of LLS native vegetation reporting (12%).
- Croppers, cattle and sheep farmers were least likely to say they were not aware of the reporting (48%, 58% and 54% respectively).

Awareness of Guidance by Local Land Services

- Only one out of ten landholders (13%) were aware and had used the guidance materials and information on native vegetation clearing that LLS provides on their website.
- A further group of 37% were aware of the information but had not used it.
- Half (50%) were not aware that this guidance and information was available.



11. LLS MONITORING, EVALUATION & REPORTING

Figure 43 Awareness of Guidance by Local Land Services

Q62. To what extent are you aware of the landholder guidance materials and information Local Land Services (LLS) provides on native vegetation clearing?

Base: Online Survey Respondents (n=1763)



KEY CATEGORY DIFFERENCES

- Those with 6-10 years of experience were most likely to claim they were “aware LLS provides information on its website and I’ve used it” (20% vs. 13% overall).
- Those with 500+ ha farms were least likely to say “I am not aware of the information” (41% vs. 49% overall).

Other Helpful Information for Managing Native Vegetation

In the Online survey, two optional questions were asked, and a subset of landholders answered. The key themes are captured below:

What other information could Local Land Services provide that would be helpful in managing native vegetation? (Q63) (n=597)

- Existing LLS services – pest animals, weeds, biosecurity, land management, emergency management, livestock management (27% of those who answered)
- Better communications (e.g. website, guidelines, newsletters) (12%)
- Fund/provide resources to manage land (9%)
- Enhanced ecologist support (8%)
- Carbon offsets / natural capital (4%)
- More information sessions (4%)
- Extension services (3%)



12. OBJECTIVES AND INTENT OF THE ACT

What information could landholders provide to Local Land Services that would be helpful in managing native vegetation? (Q64) (n=504)

- Property-specific data (17%)
- Native species notification and identification (16%)
- Weed/pest species notification and identification (12%)
- Agricultural practice (7%)
- Weed/pest management activities (5%)
- Compliance monitoring data (4%)
- Farm/property planning (2%)

Control over Native Vegetation Clearing under Current Laws

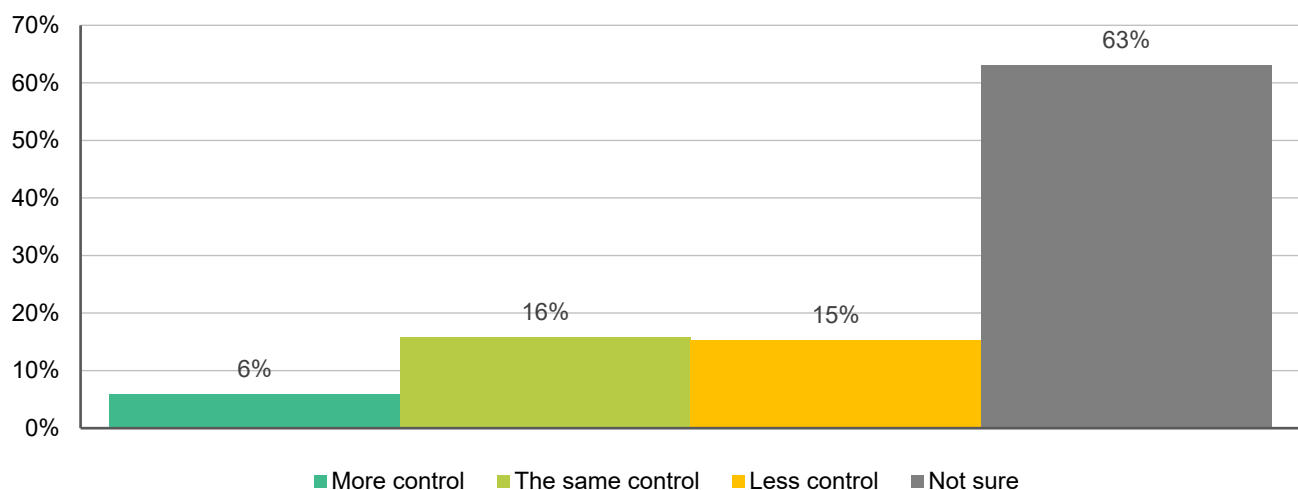
- The majority of landholders (63%) were not sure if they had more or less control over native vegetation clearing on their property under the current laws introduced in 2017.
- Sixteen percent (16%) felt they had the same control.
- Fifteen percent (15%) felt they had less control.
- Six percent (6%) felt they had more control.

The top reason for feeling 'more control' was *greater flexibility to manage my native vegetation* (54%), followed by *more confident about what I can and can't do* (24%).

Figure 44 Control Over Native Vegetation Clearing Under Current Laws

Q65. Now we just have a few questions about the rule changes introduced in 2017. Would you say you had more, less or about the same control over native vegetation clearing on your property under the current laws, compared to the previous laws in place before 2017?

Base: Online Survey Respondents (n=1763)





12. OBJECTIVES AND INTENT OF THE ACT

KEY CATEGORY DIFFERENCES

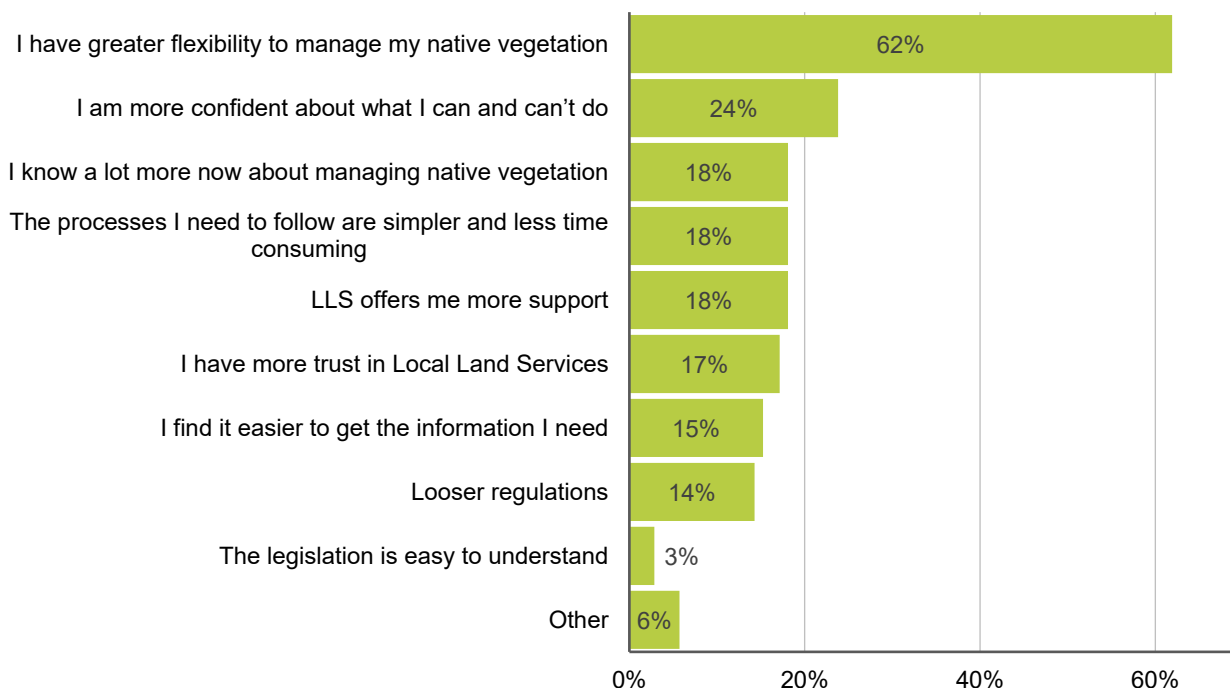
- Those with five farms or more were most likely to say they had less control (37%), while those with most experience (31+ years) in managing farms were most likely to say it offered the same control (21%).
- Interestingly, those with 500+ ha farms were most likely to say it offered more control (10%), but also most likely to say it offered less (25%) – but were much less likely than other groups to say they were unsure.
- Only 11% of lifestyle/hobby farmers said they had less control, but 70% were unsure.

Reasons for 'More Control' over Native Vegetation Clearing

Figure 45 Reasons for 'More Control' over Native Vegetation Clearing

Q66. What are the top reasons why you have more control? Please select up to three reasons.

Base: Those who answered 'More control' (n=104)





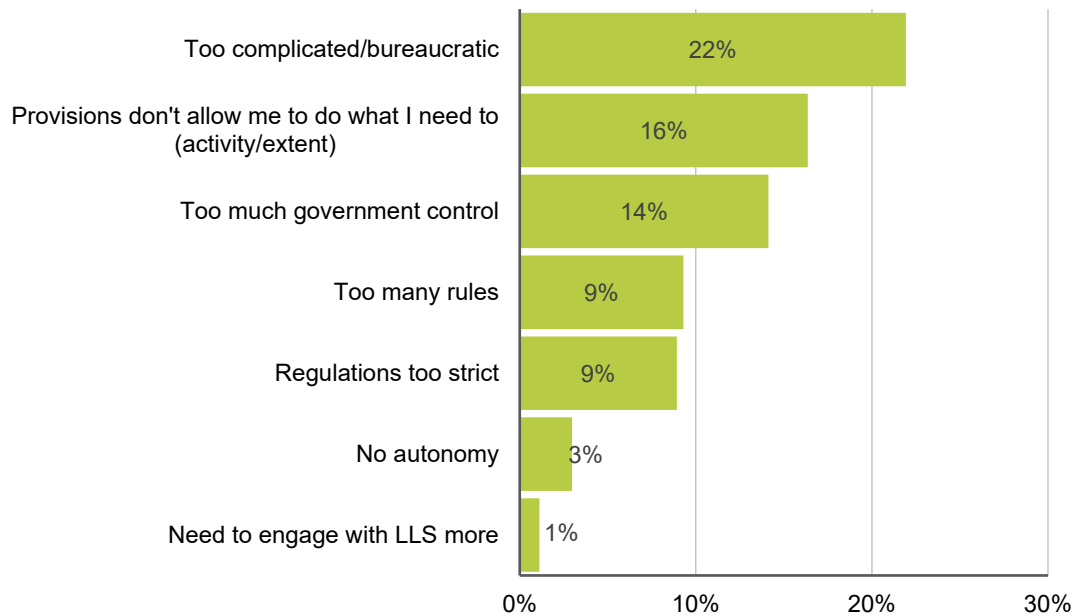
13. COMPLIANCE AND ENFORCEMENT

Reasons for 'Less Control' over Native Vegetation Clearing

Figure 46 Reasons for 'Less Control' over Native Vegetation Clearing

Q67. Why do you feel you have less control?

Base: Those who answered 'less control' (n=269)



Awareness of Enforcement Actions for Illegal Clearing

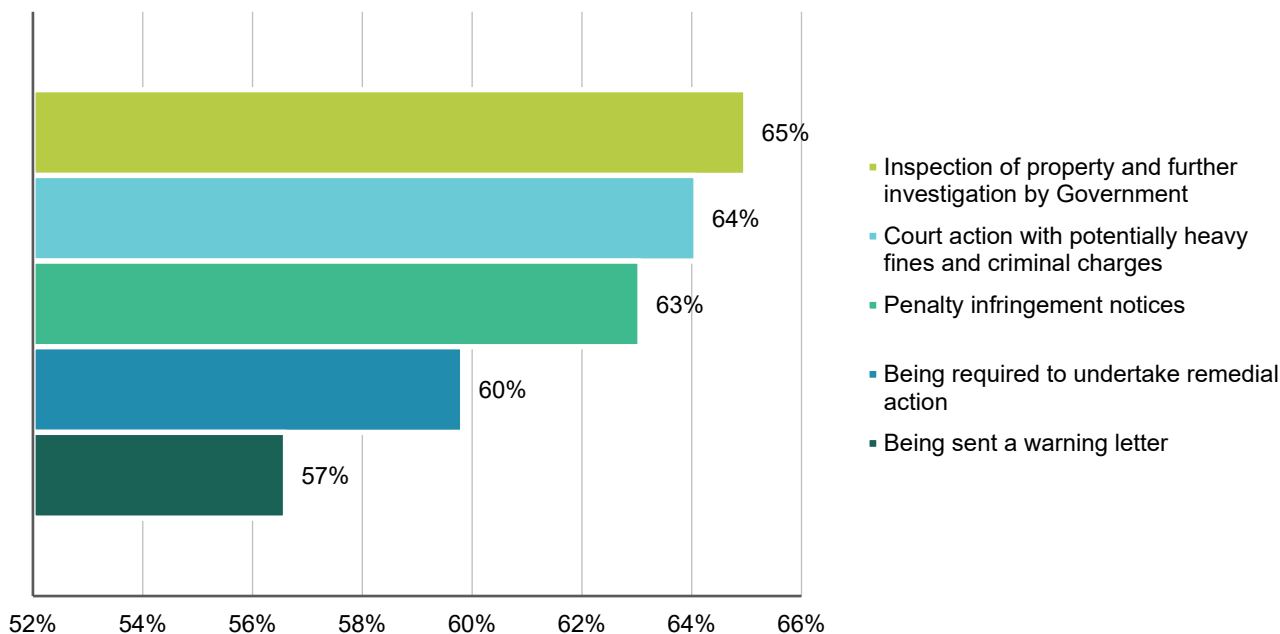
- The majority (72%) of landholders claimed to be aware of at least one of the five enforcement actions for illegal clearing of native vegetation.
- Half (49%) of all respondents claimed to be aware of all five measures.



13. COMPLIANCE AND ENFORCEMENT

Figure 47 Awareness of Enforcement Actions for Illegal Clearing

Q68. Are you aware of the following enforcement actions for illegal clearing of native vegetation? (% answering Yes)
Base: Online Survey Respondents (n=1763)



KEY CATEGORY DIFFERENCES

- Those with largest farms (500+ ha) claimed highest awareness of all enforcement types, including 75% each for inspection and court action, and 73% for penalty infringement notice.
- There were no other significant differences.

Perceived Effectiveness of Actions to Conserve Native Vegetation

Landholders felt that the most effective ways for the NSW Government to promote the conservation of native vegetation would be as follows (based on the percentage who thought it would be 'very' or 'moderately' effective):

- **More government grants to protect native vegetation management (76%)**
- **More support from LLS to landholders to better understand and implement native vegetation practices (75%)**
- **More support from LLS to understand and implement progressive or regenerative farming practices (74%)**
- **More opportunities to generate income from environmental markets such as carbon and biodiversity (68%)**

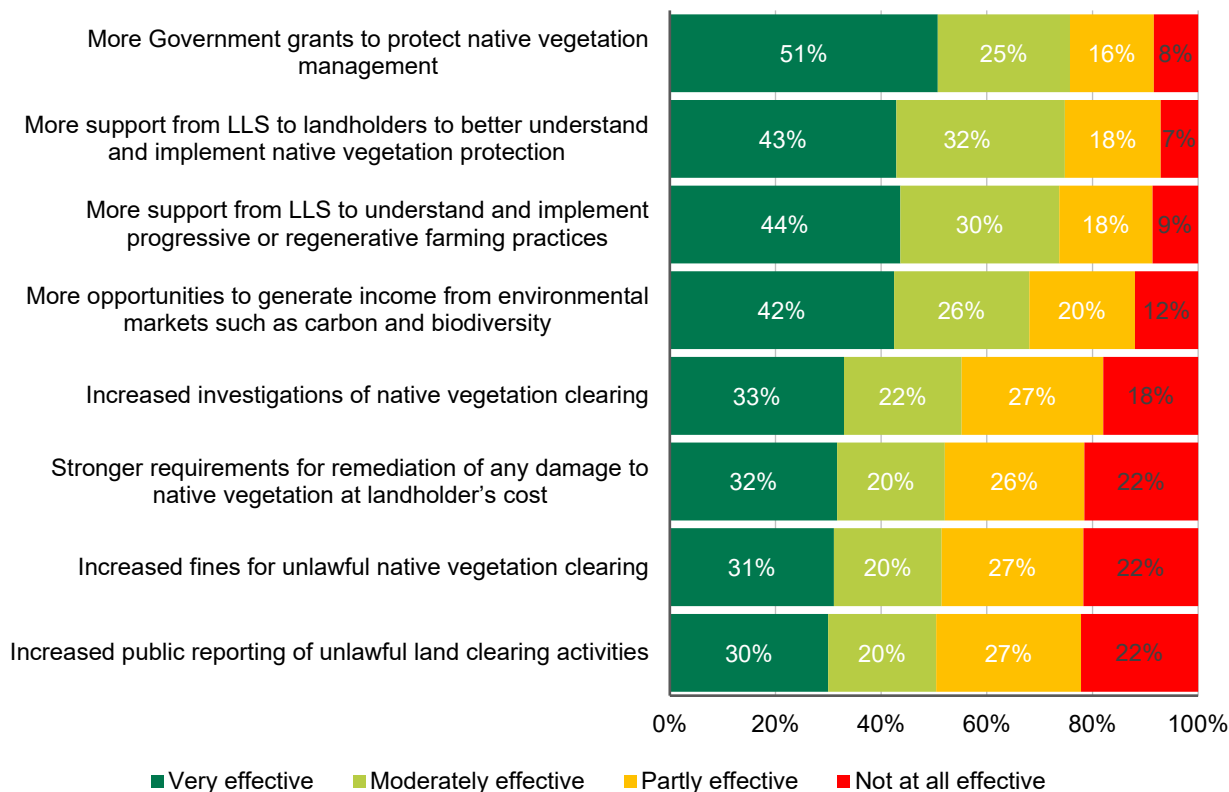


13. COMPLIANCE AND ENFORCEMENT

Figure 48 Perceived Effectiveness of Actions to Conserve Native Vegetation

Q69. The NSW Government could promote the conservation of native vegetation in many ways. How effective do you think the following would be?

Base: Online Survey Respondents (n=1763)



KEY CATEGORY DIFFERENCES

- Those with one farm and those on smallest farms were generally least likely to think these measures would be effective.
- Conversely, those managing large farms (500+ha) were generally most likely to claim they would be effective.

Actions to Promote Compliance on Native Vegetation Regulations

Three-quarters (76%) of landholders preferred one of the following methods, believing them to be most important to promote the conservation of native vegetation:

- **More support from LLS to landholders to better understand and implement native vegetation practices (21%)**
- **More opportunities to generate income from environmental markets such as carbon and biodiversity (19%)**
- **More government grants to protect native vegetation management (19%)**

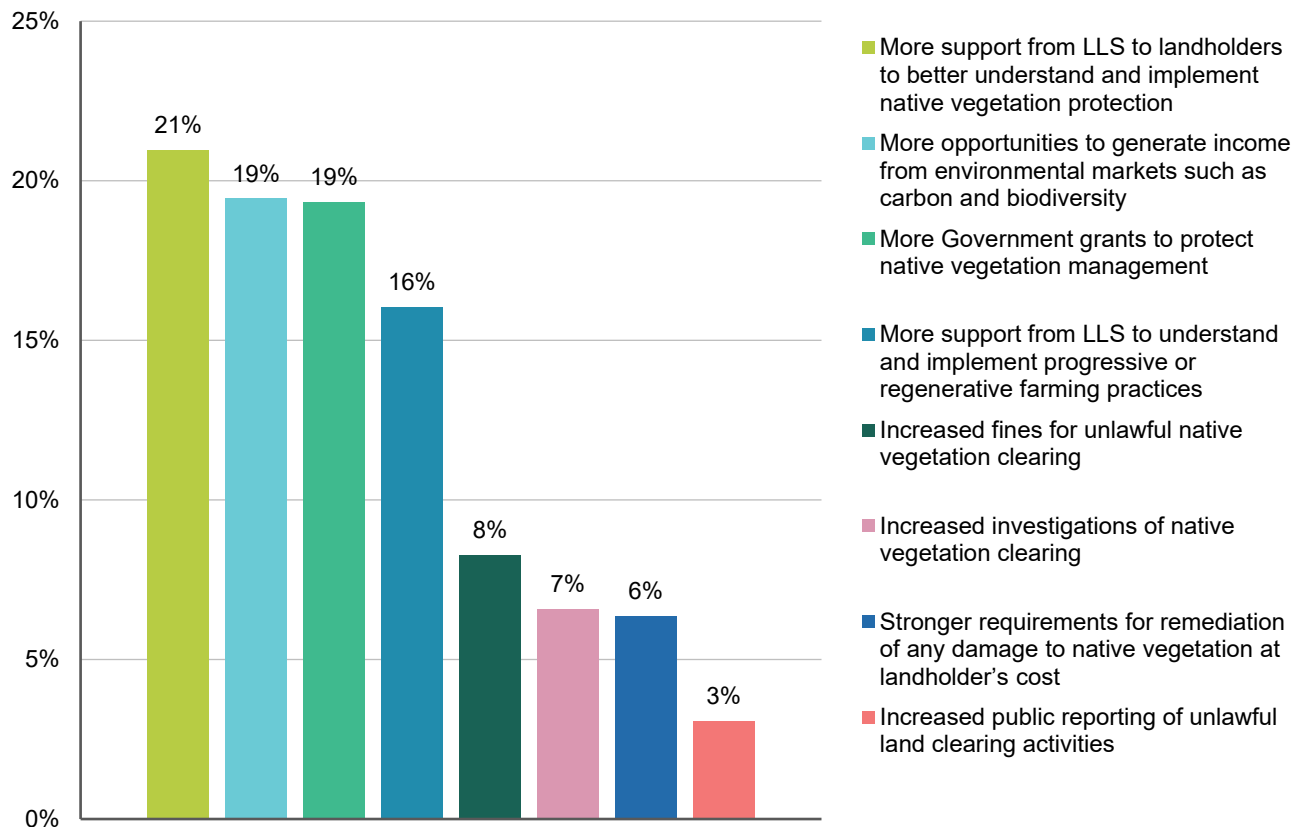


13. COMPLIANCE AND ENFORCEMENT

- More support from LLS to understand and implement progressive or regenerative farming practices (16%)

Figure 49 Prioritisation of Actions to Conserve Native Vegetation

Q70. And which of these would you prioritise as the most important? Select one only.
Base: Online Survey Respondents (n=1763)



KEY CATEGORY DIFFERENCES

- Those on largest farms (500+ ha) and farm developers were most likely to prioritise more opportunities to generate income from environmental markets (28% and 32% respectively).



14. APPENDIX I: SEGMENTATION ANALYSIS

NSW LLS Native Vegetation Segment Analysis (2023)

Report prepared for Local Land Services by Dr Geoff Kaine, Senior Researcher, Economics. Landcare Research New Zealand Limited, Hamilton, New Zealand, May 2023. *Note: There is a separate version of this Segmentation Analysis which includes Figures.*

Segmentation Analysis

Respondents were classified into five 'value and management' segments based on their perceptions of the attributes of their native vegetation and its management (Q20).

Segment one: Resource managers (25%)

These respondents view their native vegetation as generating environmental, productive, cultural and aesthetic services (Figs. 1 and 4). Consequently, they view their native vegetation as contributing to the productive capacity and value of their properties (Fig. 2). They do have a problem with feral and native pest animals (Fig. 1). They invest time and effort in actively managing their native vegetation (Fig. 3).

These respondents use their native vegetation for environmental services, grazing, timber, and recreational activities (Fig. 4). They have planted natives and engaged in activities to protect their native vegetation. They have cleared land for environmental protection works and to prevent personal injury or property damage (Figs. 5 and 6).

These respondents have high functional, experiential and identity involvement with protecting the native vegetation on their property (Fig. 7).

Segment two: Passive managers (16%)

These respondents view their native vegetation as mainly generating environmental and aesthetic services. Consequently, they view their native vegetation as making a limited contribution to the productive capacity and value of their properties. They do not have a serious problem with feral and native pest animals or weeds. They invest limited time and effort in managing their native vegetation.

These respondents use their native vegetation for environmental services, shade and shelter for stock and aesthetic enjoyment. They have planted natives and engaged in activities to protect their native vegetation. A minority have cleared land for environmental protection works and to prevent personal injury or property damage.

These respondents have moderate functional, experiential and identity involvement with protecting the native vegetation on their property.



14. APPENDIX I: SEGMENTATION ANALYSIS

Segment three: Farm developers (9%)

These respondents do not see their native vegetation as generating any useful services. Rather, they mainly see it as a source of serious problems with weeds, feral and native pests and that it is a fire hazard. Consequently, they feel their native vegetation reduces the productive capacity and value of their properties and they spend too much time, effort and money managing it.

These respondents mainly use their native vegetation for shade and shelter for stock. They have cleared land primarily to expand their agricultural activities including grazing, to prevent personal injury or property damage, and for environmental protection works.

These respondents have mild involvement with protecting the native vegetation on their property.

Segment four: Intensive managers (25%)

These respondents view their native vegetation as generating environmental, productive, cultural and aesthetic services. However, they also see it as a source of serious problems with weeds, feral and native pests and that is a fire hazard. Consequently, they view their native vegetation as making a limited contribution to the productive capacity and value of their properties and they spend too much time, effort and money managing it.

These respondents mainly use their native vegetation for environmental services, grazing, shade and shelter for stock, and timber. They have planted natives and engaged in activities to protect their native vegetation. Most of these respondents have planted natives and engaged in activities to protect their native vegetation. A minority have cleared land for environmental protection works and to prevent personal injury or property damage.

These respondents have high functional involvement and moderate experiential and identity involvement with protecting the native vegetation on their property.

Segment five: Conservation managers (25%)

These respondents view their native vegetation as generating environmental, productive, cultural and aesthetic services. Consequently, they view their native vegetation as contributing to the productive capacity and value of their properties. They do not have a problem with weeds, feral and native pests or believe their native vegetation creates a fire risk. They believe it should be left to grow as nature intended and so invest a limited amount of time and effort in managing their native vegetation.

These respondents mainly use their native vegetation for environmental services, shade and shelter for stock, cultural recreational activities, and enjoying its aesthetics. They have planted natives and engaged in activities to protect their native vegetation. A minority have cleared land for environmental protection works and to prevent personal injury or property damage.

These respondents have high functional involvement, experiential and identity involvement and moderate consequence involvement with protecting the native vegetation on their property.



14. APPENDIX I: SEGMENTATION ANALYSIS

Key findings

1. All respondents except those in the farm development segment have moderate to high involvement in protecting their native vegetation. This suggests these respondents will notice, and attend to, promotional information about regulations if that information is framed in terms of helping to manage their native vegetation, particularly in relation to clearing land for environmental protection works and to prevent personal injury or property damage, and engaging in activities to protect their native vegetation.
2. As LLS and Landcare groups are the sources most frequently used for information about managing native vegetation (depending on segment), then promotional activities should be concentrated on these channels.
3. Classifying farms into segments creates the opportunity to customise promotional activities (including extension). For example:
 - a. Respondents in the farm development segment have mild to low involvement in protecting their native vegetation. The interest these respondents have in regulations on the management of native vegetation is driven by their desire to clear land and increase farm production. These respondents mostly rely on LLS and other farmers for information about native vegetation management. Consequently, there is an opportunity for LLS to build on the services it provides to farmers in this segment.
 - b. Respondents in the intensive management segment have moderate to high involvement in protecting their native vegetation. However these respondents find managing their native vegetation time consuming and expensive. These respondents rely on LLS and Landcare groups for information about native vegetation management. Consequently, there is an opportunity for LLS to build on the services it provides to farmers in this segment by offering advice that reduces the time and effort required to manage their native vegetation.
 - c. Respondents in the conservation management segment have high involvement in protecting their native vegetation. These respondents rely on LLS and Landcare groups for information about native vegetation management. Consequently, there is an opportunity for LLS to build on the services it provides to farmers in this segment by offering advice around planting natives and other activities to protect their native vegetation in collaboration with Landcare and similar groups.
4. Respondents in the segments that are most likely to clear land (the farm developer and intensive manager segments) are more likely to comply with regulations governing the management of native vegetation if they are offered financial incentives that reward conserving native vegetation (grants and environmental markets) and support from LLS regarding farm production and vegetation management rather than facing increased penalties (fines, remediation costs, public reporting).
5. Respondents from every segment are present in each region. There may be merit in investigating the relationship between segment membership in each region and the varying characteristics of native vegetation in each region to better understand farmer's perceptions of their features of their native vegetation and its management.



14. APPENDIX I: SEGMENTATION ANALYSIS

Awareness analysis

There were some statistically significant differences across the segments regarding Native Vegetation Regulatory map, the Land Management Code, and set asides that were substantial (Fig. 8). Briefly:

- A relatively high number of respondents in the farm development segment (though a minority of the entire sample) were aware of Native Vegetation Regulatory map, perhaps reflecting their relatively greater engagement with land clearing.
- A minority of respondents in each segment had heard of the Land Management Code. A relatively high proportion of respondents in the farm development and intensive management segments anticipate applying to clear land under the Code in the next few years.

Awareness of set asides is low and few respondents in the conservation management segment have set asides.

Compliance analysis

There were statistically significant and substantial differences across the segments regarding methods to encourage compliance with native vegetation regulations (Fig. 9). These were:

- A relatively high number (though a minority) of respondents in the conservation management segment thought more investigations, public reporting of breaches and increased fines would encourage greater compliance.
- Only a minority of respondents in each segment thought more support from LLS would increase compliance.
- A relatively high proportion of respondents in the intensive management and farm development segments believed that more opportunities to generate income from environmental markets such as for carbon and biodiversity and more government grants to protect native vegetation would increase compliance.

Perceptions of control

There were statistically significant and substantial differences across the segments regarding perceptions about the impact of legislative change on control over decision-making (Fig. 10). These were:

- Respondents in the conservation management and passive management segments were more likely to feel they now had greater control compared to respondents in other segments.
- Respondents in the intensive management and farm development segments were more likely to feel they now had less control compared to respondents in other segments.



14. APPENDIX I: SEGMENTATION ANALYSIS

Property characteristics and location

There were statistically significant and substantial differences across the segments regarding property characteristics. These were:

- Respondents in the conservation management and passive management segments were managers of smaller farms compared to other segments while respondents in the intensive management and farm development segments were managing relatively larger farms compared to respondents in other segments (Fig. 11).
- Respondents in the farm development segment were more likely to have cropping and livestock operations than respondents in other segments (Fig. 12).
- Respondents in the resource manager, passive manager and conservation manager segments were more likely to describe themselves as hobby or lifestyle farmers compared to respondents in the farm development and intensive manager segments (Fig. 12).
- A relatively high proportion of respondents from the coast and tableland regions were conservation managers compared to other regions while a relatively high proportion of respondents from the tableland and western regions were farm developers compared to other regions (Fig. 13).
- A slightly smaller proportion of respondents in the passive manager and farm developer segments were owner-managers (approximately 67%) compared to the proportion of respondents in other segments (approximately 75%).

Information sources for managing native vegetation

There were statistically significant and substantial differences across the segments regarding information sources (Fig. 14). These were:

- Respondents in the conservation management segment were more likely to rely on Landcare and similar groups for information, and less likely to rely on LLS and other farmers, than respondents in other segments.
- Respondents in the resource manager and intensive manager segments appear to use greater diversity of information sources than respondents in other segments.
- Respondents in the farm development segment are more likely to rely on LLS staff, LLS websites and news, and local farmers for information and are less likely to rely on Landcare and similar groups for information.
- Respondents in the passive management segment are more likely to rely on LLS staff, LLS websites and news, local farmers for information and Landcare and similar groups for information.

There were no significant or substantial differences among the segments in relation to other sources of information.



14. APPENDIX I: SEGMENTATION ANALYSIS

Other analyses

- Ownership: respondents in the intensive manager and farm developer segments were slightly less likely to be owner-managers than respondents in other segments (67% vs 75%)
- Use of Map: no differences between segments.
- Top reasons for application: no differences between segments.
- Confidence in self-assessment: no differences between segments, most confident.
- Why not all approved works undertaken: too few respondents to draw insights.
- Why not undertaking at all in next 5 years: too few respondents to draw insights.
- Awareness of Panel: no differences between segments, generally low awareness.
- Inquiry / application to Panel: too few respondents to draw insights.
- Awareness of compliance actions: no differences between segments, majority aware.
- Awareness of LLS guides: influenced by involvement and clearing for timber, infrastructure, environmental works and farm expansion. Awareness of LLS reporting was influenced by involvement and clearing for grazing.
- Contact with LLS: influenced by involvement and clearing for infrastructure, environmental works, grazing and farm expansion and planting activities.
- Awareness of the Code: influenced by involvement and clearing for timber, environmental works, and farm expansion.
- Awareness of the Map: influenced by clearing for timber, environmental works, grazing and farm expansion and planting activities



15. APPENDIX II: SURVEY INSTRUMENTS

As outlined in **Section 3 - Research Design**, the **NSW Landholders Survey 2023** comprised a CATI (Computer-Assisted Telephone Interview) survey, as well as online surveys, achieving a total sample size of n=2400. The surveys were implemented according to ISO 20252 Standards.

The CATI (telephone) survey (n=750) had 38 questions. An additional 76 questions were asked to CATI survey participants via the 'Extra' online survey (n=113). The 'Combined' online survey featured 110 questions. Question wording was consistent, tailored slightly since online research is self-completed.

15.1. CATI (TELEPHONE) SURVEY

INTRODUCTION & SCREENING

INTRO: Good afternoon/evening, my name is (name) and I'm calling from Taverner Research on behalf of NSW Local Land Services, a NSW State Government organisation. We are conducting a survey of NSW landholders aged 18 and above. It takes around 12 minutes. Responses are confidential. Would you be willing to assist Local Land Services with the research?

If respondent answers 'No', try to arrange callback. Otherwise find another member of household willing to take part. Otherwise thank and terminate. If in doubt, ask if they are over 18.

1. Yes CONTINUE
2. No THANK AND TERMINATE

S1. Thanks so much. Can I just confirm you own or manage rural zoned land in NSW and you are one of the main decision makers?

We are looking for the main decision maker (or co-decision maker) for the property.

If respondent answers 'No'. try to find another member of household eligible to take part. Otherwise thank and terminate.

1. Yes CONTINUE
2. No THANK AND TERMINATE

D1. And could I just have your first name so I know how to address you?

RECORD



15. APPENDIX II: SURVEY INSTRUMENTS

SECTION 1: Your Farm and Your Role

Q1. Thanks (Name / D1). To get an idea of your farm, we just have a few questions. How many rural properties do you own or manage?

1. One
2. Two
3. Three
4. Four
5. Five or more

Q2. What is the approximate size of [your property / all of your properties]? You can answer in acres or hectares.

If respondent owns and/or manages more than one property, ask them to combine the size of all properties. They only need to answer in acres or hectares, not both.

SINGLE RESPONSE

1. Specify number of acres
2. Specify number of hectares

ASK Q3A IF Q1=1 (ONE PROPERTY). ALL OTHERS SKIP TO Q3B.

Q3A. What is the local government area of your rural property?

RECORD NAME OF LGA. If they cannot answer, record suburb and state.

ASK Q3B IF Q1=2-5 (MORE THAN ONE PROPERTY)

Q3B. What is the main local government area of your rural properties?

RECORD NAME OF LGA. If they cannot answer the LGA, record suburb and state. If the properties are in more than one LGA, ask them for LGA of largest property.

ASK ALL

Q4. And your nearest major town is...?

RECORD NAME OF TOWN. Ask them to spell it, if not clear at first.

Q5. Do you own or manage your property, or both?

1. Own
2. Manage
3. Own and manage
4. Other (PLEASE SPECIFY)



15. APPENDIX II: SURVEY INSTRUMENTS

Q6. How long have you owned or managed the property?

RECORD IN MONTHS AND/OR YEARS USING NUMBERS

INTERVIEWER INSTRUCTION: If they mention how long family has owned property, ask how long they personally have owned or managed it.

DISPLAY LABELLED TEXT BOXES THAT ACCEPT NUMERICAL INPUTS

1. [INSERT NUMBER] years
2. [INSERT NUMBER] months

Q7. Approximately what percentage of your total household income comes from off-farm revenue?

RECORD A SINGLE NUMBER OR RANGE, e.g., 20% or 10-20%

DISPLAY LABELLED TEXT BOX THAT ACCEPTS NUMBER OR RANGE

1. [INSERT PERCENTAGE] %

SECTION 2: Uses and Values

Q8. Thinking about your rural property, to what extent do you agree or disagree with these statements about native vegetation? Native vegetation includes trees, shrubs, herbs and grasses that are indigenous to NSW.

We'll use a 5-point agreement scale, where 1 means you strongly disagree, 3 means you are neutral or unsure, and 5 means you strongly agree.

Native vegetation...

READ OUT

Interviewer Note: All landowners will have some kind of native vegetation – if there is little awareness tell them they should still be able to answer the questions.

RANDOMISE ITEMS

1. Protects and helps manage environmental aspects such as water quality, soil conservation, native plants and animals
2. Is important for stock grazing
3. Is important for shade or shelter
4. Is an important source of timber for my own use (e.g. firewood, property infrastructure)
5. Helps protect cultural heritage
6. Is important for recreational activities (e.g. camping, picnics, bike riding, horse riding)
7. Provides an economic return from activities other than timber and grazing, such as biodiversity offsets, carbon credits
8. Is important for the natural scenery and aesthetic
9. Provides an economic return from timber and/or grazing



15. APPENDIX II: SURVEY INSTRUMENTS

1. Strongly disagree
2. Somewhat disagree
3. Neutral or unsure
4. Somewhat agree
5. Strongly agree

Q9. And do you agree or disagree with these statements about the knowledge and experience needed to manage native vegetation?

Again, using a 5-point agreement scale...

READ OUT

Remind if needed: 1 means you strongly disagree, 3 means you are neutral or unsure, and 5 means you strongly agree.

RANDOMISE ITEMS

1. My experience on my property makes me the best person to make decisions about managing my native vegetation
2. You need to be a qualified ecologist to know about all the native species on my property
3. I'm capable of assessing native vegetation on my property
4. I seek out information to better understand and manage the native vegetation on my property
5. I rely on Local Land Services or other experts to identify and provide advice about the native vegetation on my property

1. Strongly disagree
2. Somewhat disagree
3. Neutral or unsure
4. Somewhat agree
5. Strongly agree

Q10. And do you agree or disagree with these statements relating to protecting native vegetation?

Again, using a 5-point agreement scale...

READ OUT

Remind if needed: 1 means you strongly disagree, 3 means you are neutral or unsure, and 5 means you strongly agree.

RANDOMISE ITEMS

1. A lot of other landholders in my community are concerned about protecting native vegetation



15. APPENDIX II: SURVEY INSTRUMENTS

2. Protecting native vegetation is important for maintaining the natural beauty or aesthetic qualities of my area
3. It's important to consider the community when making decisions about protecting the native vegetation on my property.
4. Protecting native vegetation will be important for future generations of my family
5. Protecting native vegetation is important for the future of my community

1. Strongly disagree
2. Somewhat disagree
3. Neutral or unsure
4. Somewhat agree
5. Strongly agree

SECTION 3: Native Vegetation Management Activities

Q11. In the last five years, which of the following native vegetation management activities have you carried out on your rural property?

READ OUT

MULTI RESPONSE

RANDOMISE ITEMS

1. Felling native timber for construction and/or firewood
2. Clearing land for rural infrastructure like sheds, outhouses, powerlines
3. Planting and protecting native vegetation
4. Clearing for environmental protection works (may incl. work related to re-vegetation or bush regeneration; wetland protection; erosion protection; dune restoration; ecological burning; controlling weeds)
5. Clearing for grazing
6. Clearing land to prevent personal injury or property damage, inc. firebreaks
7. Clearing land for expansion of agricultural activities
8. Some other clearing activity (PLEASE SPECIFY)
9. (None of these) [EXCLUSIVE] Skip to Q12

Q11A. And which of those activities are the most important management activities for managing your property? Please choose up to two only.

ALLOW UP TO 2 RESPONSES ONLY

DO NOT PROMPT UNLESS NECESSARY



15. APPENDIX II: SURVEY INSTRUMENTS

1. Felling native timber for construction and/or firewood
2. Clearing land for rural infrastructure like sheds, outhouses, powerlines
3. Planting and protecting native vegetation
4. Clearing for environmental protection works (may incl. work related to re-vegetation or bush regeneration; wetland protection; erosion protection; dune restoration; ecological burning; controlling weeds)
5. Clearing for grazing
6. Clearing land to prevent personal injury or property damage, inc. firebreaks
7. Clearing land for expansion of agricultural activities
8. [PIPE IN 'OTHER' RESPONSE FROM Q11]

SECTION 4: Contact with Local Land Services & Sources of Information

Q12. Have you contacted Local Land Services about managing native vegetation?

1. Yes
2. No
3. Not sure

ASK Q13 IF Q12=1 (CONTACTED LLS). ALL OTHERS SKIP TO Q14.

Q13. Why did you contact them?

AID ONLY IF NECESSARY

PROBE FOR MULTIPLES

1. For more information on land clearing rules
2. Applying for grants
3. To notify Local Land Services about a clearing activity
4. To apply for a certificate for a clearing activity
5. For support in assessing my property's native vegetation prior to clearing
6. Other reason (PLEASE SPECIFY)

ASK ALL

Q14. Where do you find information about managing native vegetation on your land?

DO NOT AID. PROBE FOR MULTIPLES

MULTI RESPONSE. CODE 16 IS EXCLUSIVE

1. Local Land Services staff
2. Environment and Heritage Department staff
3. Local Land Services website/news
4. Environment and Heritage Department website/news



15. APPENDIX II: SURVEY INSTRUMENTS

5. Native Vegetation Regulatory Map
6. Local farmers
7. Local community
8. Family
9. Your local Council
10. Agronomist/s or other industry professionals
11. Industry groups (National Farmers' Federation etc.)
12. Magazines, newspapers etc
13. Social media (Facebook, Twitter etc.)
14. Landcare or similar environmental groups (e.g. Western Lands, Western Land Care, part of Crown Lands)
15. Other (PLEASE SPECIFY)
16. None of the above [EXCLUSIVE]

ASK Q15 IF 4 OR MORE INFORMATION SOURCES (IN Q14). ALL OTHERS SKIP TO Q17.

Q15. And which of those sources are the most useful? Select up to THREE only.

AID IF REQUIRED

DISPLAY SELECTIONS MADE IN Q14

MULTI RESPONSE OF UP TO THREE

No Q16

ASK ALL

Q17. And finally, thinking of the property you own or manage, what is it primarily used for?

READ OUT. Ask them to focus on the primary use. Note for Cropping and Horticulture, we need to know if it's dryland or irrigated. Also, please ask what type of crop / horticulture.

MULTI RESPONSE

DISPLAY TEXT BOX IF CODES 9-11 ARE SELECTED

1. Cropping – dryland (PLEASE SPECIFY CROP TYPE)
2. Cropping – irrigated (PLEASE SPECIFY CROP TYPE)
3. Cattle (PLEASE SPECIFY – beef, dairy)
4. Sheep (PLEASE SPECIFY – for wool, meat)
5. Other livestock (PLEASE SPECIFY)
6. Horticulture – dryland (PLEASE SPECIFY HORTICULTURE TYPE)
7. Horticulture – irrigated (PLEASE SPECIFY HORTICULTURE TYPE)
8. Lifestyle or hobby farming



15. APPENDIX II: SURVEY INSTRUMENTS

9. Tourism or farm stays
10. Paid conservation land use
11. Aboriginal land use
12. Recreation (including shooting and/or fishing)
13. Paid carbon farming
14. Other use (PLEASE SPECIFY)

DEMOGRAPHICS

D2. And lastly, are you...

READ OUT

1. 18-29
2. 30-39
3. 40-49
4. 50-59
5. 60-69
6. 70+
7. (Prefer not to answer)

D3. And with which gender do you identify?

READ OUT

1. Male
2. Female
3. Non-binary or other
4. (Prefer not to answer)

Q18. Thanks so much (D1), that's the end of this survey. Local Land Services greatly appreciates your time and feedback. We also have an online survey about the impact the current legislation and policies are having on landholders and native vegetation management. That survey takes about 20 minutes and feedback is completely confidential.

If you complete the survey, you will receive a \$25 [eGiftcard](#), or you can donate \$25 to your choice of Landcare, NSW CWA, or NSW Rural Fire Service.

Would you be okay providing your email address so we can send you a survey link?

Record email address if willing and read it back slowly to confirm it is correct.

1. Yes (specify email address)
2. No THANK AND CONCLUDE



15. APPENDIX II: SURVEY INSTRUMENTS

Q19. Thank you, please look out for the Online survey link in your email.

IF ASKED: They will be able to choose the \$25 egiftcard or donation once they complete Online survey. Survey link will be sent automatically now to them.

CLOSE

This market research is carried out in compliance with the Privacy Act, and the information you provided will be used only for research purposes.

TEXT FOR FOLLOW-UP EMAIL

On behalf of NSW Local Land Services, thank you for agreeing to answer some further questions in relation to managing vegetation on your property. The survey should only take 15-20 minutes to complete, and most questions simply require you to tick the relevant box or boxes.

Survey completion deadline is 9am on 8th May 2023.

Just a reminder that by completing this survey you can choose to either receive a \$25 gift card, or to donate \$25 to one of the NSW Country Women's Association, Landcare, or the NSW Rural Fire Service.

To commence the survey, simply click on the link below

or – if you prefer - cut and paste the link into your web browser. If you need to pause the survey part-way through, you can then use this link to return to the last question you answered.

This survey is being conducted by Taverner Research on behalf of NSW Local Land Services. For any queries relating to the content of the survey, please email lm.info@lls.nsw.gov.au. For any technical issues relating to completing the survey, please email research@taverner.com.au

Thank you again for taking part in this important research.

Kind regards,

Taverner Research



15. APPENDIX II: SURVEY INSTRUMENTS

15.2. 'EXTRA' ONLINE SURVEY

INTRODUCTION

Thank you for agreeing to complete this online survey. It will take about 20 minutes to complete, and all answers are confidential. At the end of the survey, you will be given the choice of receiving a \$25 [eGiftcard](#), or donating \$25 to your choice of either Landcare, the NSW Country Women's Association, or the NSW Rural Fire Service.

The NSW Government is carrying out a statutory review on the native vegetation provisions of the Local Land Services Act 2013, to assess how effective the Act is and where there might be opportunities to improve. These provisions are used to guide and regulate native vegetation management on private NSW land.

This survey asks questions about landholders' experiences managing native vegetation on their property: what has worked well, what hasn't, and how things could be done better. Any person aged over 18 who owns or manages farmland in rural NSW can participate

Any information you provide will be kept confidential, secure and de-identified. The responses you provide will not be identifiable in any outputs from the Review.

If you would like to participate, please click on the following link to complete the online survey. Completion of the survey will be taken as your consent to participate.

If there is anything you do not understand, or you have questions, please contact lm.info@lls.nsw.gov.au

More information on the Statutory Review is available [here](#).

Survey completion deadline is 9am on 8th May, 2023.

To commence the survey, click "Next".



15. APPENDIX II: SURVEY INSTRUMENTS

**Q20. Native vegetation includes trees, shrubs, herbs and grasses that are indigenous to NSW.²²
To what extent would you agree or disagree that...**

RANDOMISE ITEMS

1. My native vegetation is important for the conservation of native plants & animals
2. My native vegetation is important to control erosion and protect water quality
3. My native vegetation shelters feral animals
4. My native vegetation should be managed to produce timber products (e.g. sawlogs, firewood, fence posts)
5. My native vegetation requires active management
6. My native vegetation adds to my property's value
7. My native vegetation should be used to contribute as much as possible to income from my property
8. My native vegetation reduces the productive capacity of my property
9. My native vegetation is a harbour for weeds
10. My native vegetation is a fire hazard
11. My native vegetation should be left to grow as nature intended (i.e. without human intervention)
12. My native vegetation harbours native pest animals
13. My native vegetation is costly to manage
14. My native vegetation increases the productive capacity of my property
15. Managing my native vegetation takes too much time
16. How I manage the native vegetation on my private property should be up to me

1. Strongly disagree
2. Somewhat disagree
3. Neutral or unsure
4. Somewhat agree
5. Strongly agree



15. APPENDIX II: SURVEY INSTRUMENTS

Q21. To what extent would you agree or disagree that...

RANDOMISE ITEMS

1. I think protecting native vegetation on my property is rewarding
2. The consequences would be serious if I made a mistake with protecting native vegetation on my property
3. Protecting native vegetation on my property is something I am passionate about
4. It would be a big deal if I made a mistake with protecting native vegetation on my property
5. My position on protecting native vegetation on my property tells others something about me
6. Protecting native vegetation on my property is important to me
7. Making decisions about protecting native vegetation on my property is complicated
8. What others think about protecting native vegetation on their farm tells me something about them
9. I care a lot about protecting native vegetation on my property

1. Strongly disagree
2. Somewhat disagree
3. Neutral or unsure
4. Somewhat agree
5. Strongly agree

Q22. Have you heard of a Native Vegetation Regulatory Map?

1. Yes
2. No Skip to Q28

ASK Q23 IF Q22=1 (HEARD OF NVRM). ALL OTHERS GO TO Q28.

Q23. Have you looked at the Native Vegetation Regulatory Map for information about native vegetation clearing on your property?

1. Yes
2. No Skip to Q28
3. Not sure Skip to Q28

ASK Q24 IF Q23=1 (LOOKED AT NVRM). ALL OTHERS SKIP TO Q28.

Q24. Please rate how useful the Native Vegetation Regulatory Map is in providing information about your property's native vegetation.

ROTATE ORDER (1-4 OR 4-1)



15. APPENDIX II: SURVEY INSTRUMENTS

1. Very useful **Skip to Q26**
2. Quite useful **Skip to Q26**
3. Not very useful
4. Not at all useful

ASK Q25 IF Q24=3,4 (NVRM WAS NOT USEFUL). ALL OTHERS SKIP TO Q26.
DISPLAY Q25 ON SAME SCREEN WITH Q24.

Q25. Why do you say that?

MULTI RESPONSE

1. Don't know how to use the Map
2. Cannot access online
3. Other (PLEASE SPECIFY)

ASK Q26 IF Q23=1 (LOOKED AT NVRM). ALL OTHERS SKIP TO Q28.

Q26. How confident were you in the accuracy of the map information?

ROTATE ORDER (1-4 OR 4-1)

1. Very confident **Skip to Q28**
2. Quite confident **Skip to Q28**
3. Not very confident
4. Not at all confident

ASK Q27 IF Q26=3,4 (NOT CONFIDENT IN ACCURACY OF MAP INFORMATION). ALL OTHERS SKIP TO Q28.

DISPLAY Q27 ON SAME SCREEN WITH Q26.

Q27. Are there any particular reasons why not? Please select all that apply, or add other reasons as "other"

MULTI RESPONSE

1. Waiting for final map to be released
2. The map data does not reflect what I know about my property
3. I still had to seek more information from LLS staff
4. The map doesn't contain enough detail about the vegetation on my property
5. Other (PLEASE SPECIFY)

ASK ALL

Q28A. Have you heard about the NSW Land Management (Native Vegetation) Code ('The Code')?



15. APPENDIX II: SURVEY INSTRUMENTS

1. Yes
2. No, I have not heard about it Skip to Q48
3. Not sure Skip to Q48

ASK Q28B IF Q28A=1 (HEARD ABOUT LMC). ALL OTHERS SKIP TO Q48.

Q28B. To what extent do you think specific conditions and definitions of The Code are easy to understand?

ROTATE ORDER (1-5 OR 5-1)

1. Very easy Skip to Q29
2. Quite easy Skip to Q29
3. Neither easy nor difficult Skip to Q29
4. Quite difficult
5. Very difficult

ASK Q28C IF Q28B=4,5 (CODE PROVISIONS AND DEFINITIONS WERE DIFFICULT TO UNDERSTAND). ALL OTHERS SKIP TO Q29.

DISPLAY Q28C ON SAME SCREEN WITH Q28B.

Q28C. Can you briefly explain which parts were difficult to understand?

ASK Q29 IF Q28A=1 (HEARD ABOUT LMC).

Q29. In the last 5 years, have you applied to clear any land under the Code?

SINGLE RESPONSE

1. No, and I have no intention to apply Skip to Q48
2. No, but I may apply in the next few years Skip to Q48
3. Yes

ASK Q30 IF Q29=3 (APPLIED UNDER THE CODE). ALL OTHERS SKIP TO Q48.

DISPLAY Q30 ON SAME SCREEN WITH Q29.

Q30. Why did you apply?

Please select up to THREE reasons only. You may add a reason if it is not in the list, as “other”

MULTI RESPONSE – ALLOW THREE SELECTIONS

1. To increase productivity of my land
2. To increase efficiency of land management
3. To improve the look of my farm
4. To make my farm safer



15. APPENDIX II: SURVEY INSTRUMENTS

5. To make farm maintenance easier
6. To improve the financial value of the land
7. To better manage pests and weeds
8. To improve access for stock/machinery etc
9. To improve the ecological health my land
10. To adjust farm outputs/commodities for better market value
11. I was uncertain if I had to, so applied just in case
12. I applied in case I needed it in the future
13. Other (PLEASE SPECIFY)

No Q31 or Q32.

ASK Q33 IF Q29=3 (APPLIED UNDER THE CODE). ALL OTHERS SKIP TO Q48.

Q33. How easy or difficult was it to make an application under the Code?

ROTATE ORDER (1-5 OR 5-1)

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------|
| 1. Very easy | Skip to Q35 |
| 2. Quite easy | Skip to Q35 |
| 3. Neither easy nor difficult | Skip to Q35 |
| 4. Quite difficult | |
| 5. Very difficult | |

ASK Q34 IF Q33=4,5 (DIFFICULT TO MAKE APPLICATION). ALL OTHERS SKIP TO Q35.
DISPLAY Q34 ON SAME SCREEN WITH Q33.

Q34. Can you briefly explain why it was difficult to make an application?

ASK Q35 IF Q29=3 (APPLIED UNDER THE CODE). ALL OTHERS SKIP TO Q48.

Q35. How much of what you applied for was approved by Local Land Services?

ROTATE ORDER (1-5 OR 5-1)

1. All of what I applied for
2. Most of what I applied for
3. Some of what I applied for
4. I got little or none of what I applied for



15. APPENDIX II: SURVEY INSTRUMENTS

ASK Q36 IF Q29=3 (APPLIED UNDER THE CODE). ALL OTHERS SKIP TO Q48.

Q36. To what extent were you satisfied with what was approved?

ROTATE ORDER (1-4 OR 4-1)

1. Very dissatisfied
2. Quite dissatisfied
3. Quite satisfied Skip to Q39
4. Very satisfied Skip to Q39

ASK Q37 IF Q36=1,2 (DISSATISFIED WITH WHAT WAS APPROVED)
DISPLAY Q37 ON SAME SCREEN WITH Q36.

Q37. Can you briefly explain what were you dissatisfied about?

No Q38.

ASK Q39 IF Q29=3 (APPLIED UNDER THE CODE). ALL OTHERS SKIP TO Q48.

Q39. If the land management activity you undertook did not require certification, how confident were you in undertaking self-assessment against the Code?

1. Very confident
2. Quite confident
3. Not very confident
4. Not at all confident

ASK Q40 IF Q29=3 (APPLIED UNDER THE CODE). ALL OTHERS SKIP TO Q48.

Q40. To what extent were you satisfied with the information and support from Local Land Services during the application process?

ROTATE ORDER (1-4 OR 4-1)

1. Very dissatisfied
2. Quite dissatisfied
3. Quite satisfied Skip to Q42
4. Very satisfied Skip to Q42

ASK Q41 IF Q40=1,2 (DISSATISFIED WITH INFORMATION / SUPPORT). ALL OTHERS SKIP TO Q42.
DISPLAY Q41 ON SAME SCREEN WITH Q40.

Q41. Can you briefly explain what was unsatisfactory about the information and support you experienced?



15. APPENDIX II: SURVEY INSTRUMENTS

ASK Q42 IF Q29=3 (APPLIED UNDER THE CODE). ALL OTHERS SKIP TO Q48.

Q42. Have you undertaken the approved works?

- | | |
|--|--------------|
| 1. Yes, all of it | Skip to Q43 |
| 2. Yes, part of it | Skip to Q42A |
| 3. No, but I am planning to in the next 5 years | Skip to Q46 |
| 4. No, and I'm not planning to in the next 5 years | Skip to Q47 |

ASK Q42A IF Q42=2 (UNDERTAKEN PART OF APPROVED WORKS). IF Q42=1 (ALL OF IT), SKIP TO Q43. IF Q42=3,4 SKIP TO Q46.

Q42A. Why haven't you completed all the works approved?

ASK Q43 IF Q42=1,2 (HAVE UNDERTAKEN ALL OR PART OF APPROVED WORKS).

Q43. To what extent do you think you achieved what you wanted?

ROTATE ORDER (1-5 OR 5-1)

- | | |
|---|-------------|
| 1. Achieved all of what I wanted | Skip to Q48 |
| 2. Achieved most of what I wanted | Go to Q44 |
| 3. Achieved some of what I wanted | Go to Q44 |
| 4. Achieved not enough of what I wanted | Go to Q44 |
| 5. Achieved none of what I wanted | Go to Q44 |

ASK Q44 IF Q43=2-5 (DID NOT ACHIEVE ALL OF WHAT THEY WANTED). ALL OTHERS SKIP TO Q45.

Q44. What stopped you achieving all of what you wanted?

No Q45.

ASK Q46 IF Q42=3 (PLANNING TO UNDERTAKE APPROVED WORKS IN NEXT 5 YEARS). ALL OTHERS SKIP TO Q47.

Q46. When are you planning to do the works and why has it been delayed?

ASK Q47 IF Q42=4 (NOT PLANNING TO UNDERTAKE APPROVED WORKS IN NEXT 5 YEARS). ALL OTHERS SKIP TO Q48

Q47. Why won't you undertake the approved work in the next five years?



15. APPENDIX II: SURVEY INSTRUMENTS

ASK ALL

Q48. Are you aware of what set asides are and how they apply to approvals?

1. Yes, I know about set asides and how they apply
2. Yes, I have heard of set asides but don't know how they apply
3. No, I don't know anything about set asides **Skip to Q55**

ASK Q49 IF Q48 =1,2 (AWARE OF SET ASIDES). ALL OTHERS SKIP TO Q55.

Q49. Do you think having the set aside option available is...?

ROTATE ORDER (1-4 OR 4-1). KEEP CODE 5 LAST.

1. Very useful
2. Quite useful
3. Not very useful
4. Not at all useful
5. Not sure

ASK Q50 IF Q48 =1,2 (AWARE OF SET ASIDES). ALL OTHERS SKIP TO Q55.

Q50. Do you have a set aside on your property?

1. Yes
2. No **Skip to Q55**
3. Not sure **Skip to Q55**

ASK Q51 IF Q50=1 (HAVE A SET ASIDE ON PROPERTY). ALL OTHERS SKIP TO Q55.

Q51. To what extent do you think the size and type of land in the set aside was useful for protecting the native vegetation on your property?

ROTATE ORDER (1-4 OR 4-1). KEEP CODE 5 LAST.

1. Very useful
2. Quite useful
3. Not very useful
4. Not at all useful
5. Not sure

ASK Q52 IF Q50=1 (HAVE A SET ASIDE ON PROPERTY). ALL OTHERS SKIP TO Q55.



15. APPENDIX II: SURVEY INSTRUMENTS

Q52. To what extent do you understand the management obligations of the set aside, e.g. for monitoring and maintenance?

ROTATE ORDER (1-4 OR 4-1)

1. Understand very well
2. Understand quite well
3. Do not understand very well
4. Do not understand at all

ASK Q53 IF Q50=1 (HAVE A SET ASIDE ON PROPERTY). ALL OTHERS SKIP TO Q55.

Q53. To what extent were you satisfied with the set aside and obligations negotiated with Local Land Services?

ROTATE ORDER (1-5 OR 5-1). KEEP CODE 6 LAST.

1. Very satisfied Skip to Q55
2. Quite satisfied Skip to Q55
3. Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied Skip to Q55
4. Quite dissatisfied
5. Very dissatisfied
6. Not sure/too early to say Skip to Q55

ASK Q54 IF Q53=4,5 (DISSATISFIED WITH SET ASIDE AND OBLIGATIONS)
DISPLAY Q54 ON SAME SCREEN WITH Q53.

Q54. Can you briefly explain what you were dissatisfied about?

ASK ALL

Q55. Are you aware of the Native Vegetation Panel?

1. Yes
2. No Skip to Q61
3. Not sure Skip to Q61

ASK Q56 IF Q55=1 (AWARE OF NATIVE VEGETATION PANEL). ALL OTHERS SKIP TO Q59.

Q56. Have you made an inquiry or an application to the Panel?

1. Made an inquiry
2. Made an application
3. Made an inquiry and an application
4. No, neither [EXCLUSIVE] Skip to Q59



15. APPENDIX II: SURVEY INSTRUMENTS

ASK Q57 IF Q56=1-3 (MADE INQUIRY AND/OR APPLICATION). ALL OTHERS SKIP TO Q59.

Q57. To what extent were you satisfied with the information that was provided?

ROTATE ORDER (1-5 OR 5-1). KEEP CODE 6 LAST.

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------|
| 1. Very satisfied | Skip to Q59 |
| 2. Quite satisfied | Skip to Q59 |
| 3. Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied | Skip to Q59 |
| 4. Quite dissatisfied | |
| 5. Very dissatisfied | |
| 6. Not sure/too early to say | Skip to Q59 |

ASK Q58 IF Q57=4,5 (DISSATISFIED WITH INFORMATION PROVIDED)

DISPLAY Q58 ON SAME SCREEN WITH Q57.

Q58. Can you briefly explain what you were dissatisfied about?

ASK Q59 IF Q55=1 (AWARE OF NATIVE VEGETATION PANEL). ALL OTHERS SKIP TO Q61.

Q59. To what extent do you think it is beneficial having the Native Vegetation Panel available?

ROTATE ORDER (1-4 OR 4-1). KEEP CODE 5 LAST.

- | | |
|------------------------------|-------------|
| 1. Very beneficial | Skip to Q61 |
| 2. Quite beneficial | Skip to Q61 |
| 3. Not very beneficial | |
| 4. Not at all beneficial | |
| 5. Not sure/too early to say | Skip to Q61 |

ASK Q60 IF Q59=4,5 (NOT BENEFICIAL)

DISPLAY Q60 ON SAME SCREEN WITH Q59.

Q60. Why do you think it is not beneficial? Please briefly explain.

ASK ALL

Q61. To what extent are you aware of the native vegetation reporting by Local Land Services (LLS)?

ROTATE ORDER (1-3 OR 3-1).

1. I'm aware LLS reports on native vegetation clearing and what it reports on
2. I'm aware LLS reports on native vegetation clearing but I don't know what it reports on
3. I'm not aware of the reporting



15. APPENDIX II: SURVEY INSTRUMENTS

Q62. To what extent are you aware of the landholder guidance materials and information Local Land Services (LLS) provides on native vegetation clearing?

ROTATE ORDER (1-3 OR 3-1)

1. I'm aware LLS provides information on its website and I've used it
2. I'm aware LLS provides information on its website but have not used it
3. I am not aware of the information

Q63. What other information could Local Land Services provide that would be helpful in managing native vegetation? (This question is optional. If you don't wish to answer it, click "Next".)

Q64. What information could landholders provide to Local Land Services that would be helpful in managing native vegetation? (This question is optional. If you don't wish to answer it, click "Next".)

Q65. Now we just have a few questions about the rule changes introduced in 2017. Would you say you had more, less or about the same control over native vegetation clearing on your property under the current laws, compared to the previous laws in place before 2017?

ROTATE ORDER (1-3 OR 3-1). KEEP CODE 4 LAST.

1. More control
2. The same control Skip to Q68
3. Less control
4. Not sure Skip to Q68

ASK Q66 IF Q65=1 (MORECONTROL). ALL OTHERS GO TO Q67.

Q66. What are the top reasons why you have more control? Please select up to three reasons.

RANDOMISE ITEMS

MULTI RESPONSE – ALLOW UP TO THREE

1. I have more trust in Local Land Services
2. I am more confident about what I can and can't do
3. I have greater flexibility to manage my native vegetation
4. LLS offers me more support
5. I find it easier to get the information I need
6. The processes I need to follow are simpler and less time consuming
7. The legislation is easy to understand
8. I know a lot more now about managing native vegetation



15. APPENDIX II: SURVEY INSTRUMENTS

9. Other – (PLEASE SPECIFY)

ASK Q67 IF Q65=3 (LESS CONTROL). ALL OTHERS GO TO Q68.

Q67. Why do you feel you have less control?

OPEN ENDED

ASK ALL

Q68. Are you aware of the following enforcement actions for illegal clearing of native vegetation?

1. Inspection of property and further investigation by Government
2. Being sent a warning letter
3. Penalty infringement notices
4. Being required to undertake remedial action
5. Court action with potentially heavy fines and criminal charges

1. Yes – aware
2. No - not aware

Q69. The NSW Government could promote the conservation of native vegetation in many ways. How effective do you think the following would be?

RANDOMISE ITEMS

1. Increased fines for unlawful native vegetation clearing
2. Increased public reporting of unlawful land clearing activities
3. Increased investigations of native vegetation clearing
4. More support from LLS to landholders to better understand and implement native vegetation protection
5. Stronger requirements for remediation of any damage to native vegetation at landholder's cost
6. More support from LLS to understand and implement progressive or regenerative farming practices
7. More opportunities to generate income from environmental markets such as carbon and biodiversity
8. More Government grants to protect native vegetation management

1. Very effective
2. Moderately effective



15. APPENDIX II: SURVEY INSTRUMENTS

3. Partly effective
4. Not at all effective

Q70. And which of these would you prioritise as the most important? Select one only.

SINGLE RESPONSE

1. Increased fines for unlawful native vegetation clearing
2. Increased public reporting of unlawful land clearing activities
3. Increased investigations of native vegetation clearing
4. More support from LLS to landholders to better understand and implement native vegetation protection
5. Stronger requirements for remediation of any damage to native vegetation at landholder's cost
6. More support from LLS to understand and implement progressive or regenerative farming practices
7. More opportunities to generate income from environmental markets such as carbon and biodiversity
8. More Government grants to protect native vegetation management

Q71. Is there anything else you would like to say about how Government regulates native vegetation on private land? (This question is optional – if you do not wish to answer, just click 'Next')

ANSWER NOT REQUIRED

DEMOGRAPHICS

D2. Just before we finish, what is your highest level of education?

1. Primary school
2. Secondary school
3. Agricultural college
4. TAFE
5. University
6. Other (PLEASE SPECIFY)



15. APPENDIX II: SURVEY INSTRUMENTS

D3. And are you of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin?

1. Yes
2. No
3. Prefer not to answer

Q71. Finally, would you be interested in participating in an interview about your farming and land management, how you engage with government, and any experiences with the Code?

This interview should take about 30 minutes at a time that suits you (either in person or over the phone). Would you be interested in participating in an interview?

1. Yes
2. No **Skip to CLOSE**

HIDE Q72 IF Q71=2 (NOT INTERESTED)

Q72. Please provide your first name and a daytime contact number, below. There are limited spots available for an interview. Depending on availability, a member of the research team may follow up with you. (Note these details will not be linked to your survey answers which remain confidential.)

1. First name
2. Daytime phone or mobile

CLOSE

Q73. Thanks so much, that's the end of the survey. Taverner Research and NSW Local Land Services greatly appreciate your time and feedback.

Would you like a \$25 gift for yourself (via an [Giftpay](#) e-gift card, redeemable at both major supermarkets and most major retailers) or would you like us to donate \$25 to Landcare, the NSW Country Women's Association, or the NSW Rural Fire Service?

SINGLE RESPONSE

1. Giftpay e-gift card
2. Donation to Landcare
3. Donation to NSW Country Women's Association (CWA)
4. Donation to NSW Rural Fire Service
5. NONE OF THESE – I do not wish to receive a gift card or have a donation made

DISPLAY Q74 IF Q73=1 (GIFTPAY EGIFT CARD CHOSEN)



15. APPENDIX II: SURVEY INSTRUMENTS

Q74. Your Giftpay voucher will be emailed to the same email address that you had provided for receiving the link to this survey. Please check your spam folder if you have not received that within the next 5-7 working days.

This market research is carried out in compliance with the Privacy Act, and the information you provided will be used only for research purposes.



15. APPENDIX II: SURVEY INSTRUMENTS

15.3. 'COMBINED' ONLINE SURVEY

Thank you for completing this online survey. It will take about 25 minutes and all answers are confidential.

The NSW Government is carrying out a statutory review on the native vegetation provisions of the Local Land Services Act 2013, to assess how effective the Act is and where there might be opportunities to improve. These provisions are used to guide and regulate native vegetation management on private NSW land.

This survey asks questions about landholders' experiences managing native vegetation on their property: what has worked well, what hasn't, and how things could be done better. Any person aged over 18 who owns or manages farmland in rural NSW can participate

Any information you provide will be kept confidential, secure and de-identified. The responses you provide will not be identifiable in any outputs from the Review.

If you would like to participate, please click on the following link to continue. Completion of the survey will be taken as your consent to participate.

If there is anything you do not understand, or you have questions, please contact lm.info@lls.nsw.gov.au

More information on the Statutory Review is available [here](#).

Survey completion deadline is 9am on 8th May, 2023.

To commence the survey, click "Next".

S1. Do you own or manage rural zoned land in NSW, and you are one of the main decision makers?

1. Yes CONTINUE
2. No TERMINATE



15. APPENDIX II: SURVEY INSTRUMENTS

SECTION 1: Your Farm and Your Role

Q1. To get an idea of your farm, we have a few questions. How many rural properties do you own or manage?

1. One
2. Two
3. Three
4. Four
5. Five or more

Q2. What is the approximate size of [your property / all of your properties]? You can answer in acres or hectares.

If you own and/or manage more than one property, combine the size of all properties.

SINGLE RESPONSE

1. Specify number of acres
2. Specify number of hectares

ASK Q3A IF Q1=1 (ONE PROPERTY). ALL OTHERS SKIP TO Q3B.

Q3A. What is the Local Government Area (LGA) of your rural property? If you don't know the LGA, please type in the nearest major town or city.

DISPLAY TEXT BOX

ASK Q3B IF Q1=2-5 (MORE THAN ONE PROPERTY)

Q3B. What is the main Local Government Area (LGA) of your rural properties? If your properties are in more than one LGA, please provide the LGA of your largest property. If you don't know the LGA, please type in the nearest major town or city.

DISPLAY TEXT BOX

ASK ALL

Q4. What is your nearest major town?

DISPLAY TEXT BOX

Q5. Do you own or manage your property, or both?

SINGLE RESPONSE

1. Own
2. Manage



15. APPENDIX II: SURVEY INSTRUMENTS

3. Own and manage
4. Other (PLEASE SPECIFY)

Q6. How long have you owned or managed the property? If the property has been owned or managed by your family for a long time, please answer for how long you personally have owned or managed it.

Please answer in months and/or years, using numbers.

DISPLAY LABELLED TEXT BOXES THAT ACCEPT NUMERICAL INPUTS

1. [INSERT NUMBER] years
2. [INSERT NUMBER] months

Q7. Approximately what percentage of your total household income comes from off-farm revenue? Please enter a numerical percentage.

DISPLAY LABELLED TEXT BOX THAT ACCEPTS NUMBER OR RANGE

1. [INSERT PERCENTAGE] %
2. Don't know
3. Prefer not to answer

SECTION 2: Uses and Values

Q8. Thinking about your rural property, to what extent do you agree or disagree with these statements about native vegetation? Native vegetation includes trees, shrubs, herbs and grasses that are indigenous to NSW.

Native vegetation...

RANDOMISE ITEMS.

DISPLAY THE LABELLED 5 POINT AGREEMENT SCALE

1. Protects and helps manage environmental aspects such as water quality, soil conservation, native plants and animals
2. Is important for stock grazing
3. Is important for shade or shelter
4. Is an important source of timber for my own use (e.g. firewood, property infrastructure)
5. Helps protect cultural heritage
6. Is important for recreational activities (e.g. camping, picnics, bike riding, horse riding)
7. Provides an economic return from activities other than timber and grazing, such as biodiversity offsets, carbon credits
8. Is important for the natural scenery and aesthetic



15. APPENDIX II: SURVEY INSTRUMENTS

9. Provides an economic return from timber and/or grazing

1. Strongly disagree
2. Somewhat disagree
3. Neutral or unsure
4. Somewhat agree
5. Strongly agree

Q9. And do you agree or disagree with these statements about the knowledge and experience needed to manage native vegetation?

RANDOMISE ITEMS.

DISPLAY THE LABELLED 5 POINT AGREEMENT SCALE

1. My experience on my property makes me the best person to make decisions about managing my native vegetation
2. You need to be a qualified ecologist to know about all the native species on my property
3. I'm capable of assessing native vegetation on my property
4. I seek out information to better understand and manage the native vegetation on my property
5. I rely on Local Land Services or other experts to identify and provide advice about the native vegetation on my property

1. Strongly disagree
2. Somewhat disagree
3. Neutral or unsure
4. Somewhat agree
5. Strongly agree

Q10. And do you agree or disagree with these statements relating to protecting native vegetation?

RANDOMISE ITEMS.

DISPLAY THE LABELLED 5 POINT AGREEMENT SCALE

1. A lot of other landholders in my community are concerned about protecting native vegetation
2. Protecting native vegetation is important for maintaining the natural beauty or aesthetic qualities of my area
3. It's important to consider the community when making decisions about protecting the native vegetation on my property.
4. Protecting native vegetation will be important for future generations of my family



15. APPENDIX II: SURVEY INSTRUMENTS

5. Protecting native vegetation is important for the future of my community

1. Strongly disagree
2. Somewhat disagree
3. Neutral or unsure
4. Somewhat agree
5. Strongly agree

SECTION 3: Native Vegetation Management Activities

Q11. In the last five years, which of the following native vegetation management activities have you carried out on your rural property? Please select all that apply.

MULTI RESPONSE

RANDOMISE ITEMS

1. Felling native timber for construction and/or firewood
2. Clearing land for rural infrastructure like sheds, outhouses, powerlines
3. Planting and protecting native vegetation
4. Clearing for environmental protection works (may incl. work related to re-vegetation or bush regeneration; wetland protection; erosion protection; dune restoration; ecological burning; controlling weeds)
5. Clearing for grazing
6. Clearing land to prevent personal injury or property damage, inc. firebreaks
7. Clearing land for expansion of agricultural activities
8. Some other clearing activity (PLEASE SPECIFY)
9. None of these [EXCLUSIVE]

Q11A. And which of those activities are the most important management activities for managing your property? Please choose up to two only.

DISPLAY FULL LIST AGAIN

ALLOW UP TO 2 RESPONSES ONLY

1. Felling native timber for construction and/or firewood
2. Clearing land for rural infrastructure like sheds, outhouses, powerlines
3. Planting and protecting native vegetation
4. Clearing for environmental protection works (may incl. work related to re-vegetation or bush regeneration; wetland protection; erosion protection; dune restoration; ecological burning; controlling weeds)



15. APPENDIX II: SURVEY INSTRUMENTS

5. Clearing for grazing
6. Clearing land to prevent personal injury or property damage, inc. firebreaks
7. Clearing land for expansion of agricultural activities
8. [PIPE IN 'OTHER' RESPONSE FROM Q11]

SECTION 4: Contact with Local Land Services & Sources of Information

Q12. Have you contacted Local Land Services about managing native vegetation?

1. Yes
2. No
3. Not sure

ASK Q13 IF Q12=1 (CONTACTED LLS). ALL OTHERS SKIP TO Q14.

Q13. Why did you contact them? Select all that apply.

MULTI RESPONSE

1. For more information on land clearing rules
2. Applying for grants
3. To notify Local Land Services about a clearing activity
4. To apply for a certificate for a clearing activity
5. For support in assessing my property's native vegetation prior to clearing
6. Other reason (PLEASE SPECIFY)

ASK ALL

Q14. Where do you find information about managing native vegetation on your land? Select all that apply.

MULTI RESPONSE. CODE 16 IS EXCLUSIVE

1. Local Land Services staff
2. Environment and Heritage Department staff
3. Local Land Services website/news
4. Environment and Heritage Department website/news
5. Native Vegetation Regulatory Map
6. Local farmers
7. Local community
8. Family
9. Your local Council



15. APPENDIX II: SURVEY INSTRUMENTS

10. Agronomist/s or other industry professionals
11. Industry groups (National Farmers' Federation etc.)
12. Magazines, newspapers etc
13. Social media (Facebook, Twitter etc.)
14. Landcare or similar environmental groups (e.g. Western Lands, Western Land Care, part of Crown Lands)
15. Other (PLEASE SPECIFY)
16. None of the above [EXCLUSIVE]

ASK Q15 IF 4 OR MORE INFORMATION SOURCES (IN Q14). ALL OTHERS SKIP TO Q17.

Q15. And which of those sources are the most useful? Select up to THREE only.

DISPLAY SELECTIONS MADE IN Q14

MULTI RESPONSE OF UP TO THREE

No Q16

ASK ALL

Q17. Thinking of the property you own or manage, what is it primarily used for? Please focus on the primary use.

MULTI RESPONSE

DISPLAY TEXT BOX IF CODES 9-11 ARE SELECTED

1. Cropping - dryland (PLEASE SPECIFY CROP TYPE)
2. Cropping – irrigated (PLEASE SPECIFY CROP TYPE)
3. Cattle (PLEASE SPECIFY – beef, dairy)
4. Sheep (PLEASE SPECIFY – for wool, meat)
5. Other livestock (PLEASE SPECIFY)
6. Horticulture - dryland (PLEASE SPECIFY HORTICULTURE TYPE)
7. Horticulture – irrigated (PLEASE SPECIFY HORTICULTURE TYPE)
8. Lifestyle or hobby farming
9. Tourism or farm stays
10. Paid conservation land use
11. Aboriginal land use
12. Recreation (including shooting and/or fishing)
13. Paid carbon farming



15. APPENDIX II: SURVEY INSTRUMENTS

14. Other use (PLEASE SPECIFY)

No Q18 or Q19

Q20. Native vegetation includes trees, shrubs, herbs and grasses that are indigenous to NSW. To what extent would you agree or disagree that...

RANDOMISE ITEMS

1. My native vegetation is important for the conservation of native plants & animals
2. My native vegetation is important to control erosion and protect water quality
3. My native vegetation shelters feral animals
4. My native vegetation should be managed to produce timber products (e.g. sawlogs, firewood, fence posts)
5. My native vegetation requires active management
6. My native vegetation adds to my property's value
7. My native vegetation should be used to contribute as much as possible to income from my property
8. My native vegetation reduces the productive capacity of my property
9. My native vegetation is a harbour for weeds
10. My native vegetation is a fire hazard
11. My native vegetation should be left to grow as nature intended (i.e. without human intervention)
12. My native vegetation harbours native pest animals
13. My native vegetation is costly to manage
14. My native vegetation increases the productive capacity of my property
15. Managing my native vegetation takes too much time
16. How I manage the native vegetation on my private property should be up to me

1. Strongly disagree
2. Somewhat disagree
3. Neutral or unsure
4. Somewhat agree
5. Strongly agree



15. APPENDIX II: SURVEY INSTRUMENTS

Q21. To what extent would you agree or disagree that...

RANDOMISE ITEMS

1. I think protecting native vegetation on my property is rewarding
2. The consequences would be serious if I made a mistake with protecting native vegetation on my property
3. Protecting native vegetation on my property is something I am passionate about
4. It would be a big deal if I made a mistake with protecting native vegetation on my property
5. My position on protecting native vegetation on my property tells others something about me
6. Protecting native vegetation on my property is important to me
7. Making decisions about protecting native vegetation on my property is complicated
8. What others think about protecting native vegetation on their farm tells me something about them
9. I care a lot about protecting native vegetation on my property

1. Strongly disagree
2. Somewhat disagree
3. Neutral or unsure
4. Somewhat agree
5. Strongly agree

Q22. Have you heard of a Native Vegetation Regulatory Map?

1. Yes
2. No Skip to Q28

ASK Q23 IF Q22=1 (HEAD OF NVRM). ALL OTHERS GO TO Q28.

Q23. Have you looked at the Native Vegetation Regulatory Map for information about native vegetation clearing on your property?

1. Yes
2. No Skip to Q28
3. Not sure Skip to Q28

ASK Q24 IF Q23=1 (LOOKED AT NVRM). ALL OTHERS SKIP TO Q28.

Q24. Please rate how useful the Native Vegetation Regulatory Map is in providing information about your property's native vegetation.

ROTATE ORDER (1-4 OR 4-1)



15. APPENDIX II: SURVEY INSTRUMENTS

1. Very useful **Skip to Q26**
2. Quite useful **Skip to Q26**
3. Not very useful
4. Not at all useful

ASK Q25 IF Q24=3,4 (NVRM WAS NOT USEFUL). ALL OTHERS SKIP TO Q26.
DISPLAY Q25 ON SAME SCREEN WITH Q24.

Q25. Why do you say that?

MULTI RESPONSE

1. Don't know how to use the Map
2. Cannot access online
3. Other (PLEASE SPECIFY)

ASK Q26 IF Q23=1 (LOOKED AT NVRM). ALL OTHERS SKIP TO Q28.

Q26. How confident were you in the accuracy of the map information?

ROTATE ORDER (1-4 OR 4-1)

1. Very confident **Skip to Q28**
2. Quite confident **Skip to Q28**
3. Not very confident
4. Not at all confident

ASK Q27 IF Q26=3,4 (NOT CONFIDENT IN ACCURACY OF MAP INFORMATION). ALL OTHERS SKIP TO Q28.

DISPLAY Q27 ON SAME SCREEN WITH Q26.

Q27. Are there any particular reasons why not? Please select all that apply, or add other reasons as "other"

MULTI RESPONSE

1. Waiting for final map to be released
2. The map data does not reflect what I know about my property
3. I still had to seek more information from LLS staff
4. The map doesn't contain enough detail about the vegetation on my property
5. Other (PLEASE SPECIFY)

ASK ALL

Q28A. Have you heard about the NSW Land Management (Native Vegetation) Code ('The Code')?



15. APPENDIX II: SURVEY INSTRUMENTS

1. Yes
2. No, I have not heard about it Skip to Q48
3. Not sure Skip to Q48

ASK Q28B IF Q28A=1 (HEARD ABOUT LMC). ALL OTHERS SKIP TO Q48.

Q28B. To what extent do you think specific conditions and definitions of The Code are easy to understand?

ROTATE ORDER (1-5 OR 5-1)

1. Very easy Skip to Q29
2. Quite easy Skip to Q29
3. Neither easy nor difficult Skip to Q29
4. Quite difficult
5. Very difficult

ASK Q28C IF Q28B=4,5 (CODE PROVISIONS AND DEFINITIONS WERE DIFFICULT TO UNDERSTAND). ALL OTHERS SKIP TO Q29.

DISPLAY Q28C ON SAME SCREEN WITH Q28B.

Q28C. Can you briefly explain which parts were difficult to understand?

ASK Q29 IF Q28A=1 (HEARD ABOUT LMC).

Q29. In the last 5 years, have you applied to clear any land under the Code?

SINGLE RESPONSE

1. No, and I have no intention to apply Skip to Q48
2. No, but I may apply in the next few years Skip to Q48
3. Yes

ASK Q30 IF Q29=3 (APPLIED UNDER THE CODE). ALL OTHERS SKIP TO Q48.

DISPLAY Q30 ON SAME SCREEN WITH Q29.

Q30. Why did you apply?

Please select up to THREE reasons only. You may add a reason if it is not in the list, as “other”

MULTI RESPONSE – ALLOW THREE SELECTIONS

1. To increase productivity of my land
2. To increase efficiency of land management
3. To improve the look of my farm
4. To make my farm safer



15. APPENDIX II: SURVEY INSTRUMENTS

5. To make farm maintenance easier
6. To improve the financial value of the land
7. To better manage pests and weeds
8. To improve access for stock/machinery etc
9. To improve the ecological health my land
10. To adjust farm outputs/commodities for better market value
11. I was uncertain if I had to, so applied just in case
12. I applied in case I needed it in the future
13. Other (PLEASE SPECIFY)

No Q31 or Q32.

ASK Q33 IF Q29=3 (APPLIED UNDER THE CODE). ALL OTHERS SKIP TO Q48.

Q33. How easy or difficult was it to make an application under the Code?

ROTATE ORDER (1-5 OR 5-1)

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------|
| 1. Very easy | Skip to Q35 |
| 2. Quite easy | Skip to Q35 |
| 3. Neither easy nor difficult | Skip to Q35 |
| 4. Quite difficult | |
| 5. Very difficult | |

ASK Q34 IF Q33=4,5 (DIFFICULT TO MAKE APPLICATION). ALL OTHERS SKIP TO Q35.
DISPLAY Q34 ON SAME SCREEN WITH Q33.

Q34. Can you briefly explain why it was difficult to make an application?

ASK Q35 IF Q29=3 (APPLIED UNDER THE CODE). ALL OTHERS SKIP TO Q48.

Q35. How much of what you applied for was approved by Local Land Services?

ROTATE ORDER (1-5 OR 5-1)

1. All of what I applied for
2. Most of what I applied for
3. Some of what I applied for
4. I got little or none of what I applied for

ASK Q36 IF Q29=3 (APPLIED UNDER THE CODE). ALL OTHERS SKIP TO Q48.



15. APPENDIX II: SURVEY INSTRUMENTS

Q36. To what extent were you satisfied with what was approved?

ROTATE ORDER (1-4 OR 4-1)

1. Very dissatisfied
2. Quite dissatisfied
3. Quite satisfied Skip to Q39
4. Very satisfied Skip to Q39

ASK Q37 IF Q36=1,2 (DISSATISFIED WITH WHAT WAS APPROVED)
DISPLAY Q37 ON SAME SCREEN WITH Q36.

Q37. Can you briefly explain what were you dissatisfied about?

No Q38.

ASK Q39 IF Q29=3 (APPLIED UNDER THE CODE). ALL OTHERS SKIP TO Q48.

Q39. If the land management activity you undertook did not require certification, how confident were you in undertaking self-assessment against the Code?

1. Very confident
2. Quite confident
3. Not very confident
4. Not at all confident

ASK Q40 IF Q29=3 (APPLIED UNDER THE CODE). ALL OTHERS SKIP TO Q48.

Q40. To what extent were you satisfied with the information and support from Local Land Services during the application process?

ROTATE ORDER (1-4 OR 4-1)

1. Very dissatisfied
2. Quite dissatisfied
3. Quite satisfied Skip to Q42
4. Very satisfied Skip to Q42

ASK Q41 IF Q40=1,2 (DISSATISFIED WITH INFORMATION / SUPPORT). ALL OTHERS SKIP TO Q42.
DISPLAY Q41 ON SAME SCREEN WITH Q40.

Q41. Can you briefly explain what was unsatisfactory about the information and support you experienced?



15. APPENDIX II: SURVEY INSTRUMENTS

ASK Q42 IF Q29=3 (APPLIED UNDER THE CODE). ALL OTHERS SKIP TO Q48.

Q42. Have you undertaken the approved works?

- | | |
|--|--------------|
| 1. Yes, all of it | Skip to Q43 |
| 2. Yes, part of it | Skip to Q42A |
| 3. No, but I am planning to in the next 5 years | Skip to Q46 |
| 4. No, and I'm not planning to in the next 5 years | Skip to Q47 |

ASK Q42A IF Q42=2 (UNDERTAKEN PART OF APPROVED WORKS). IF Q42=1 (ALL OF IT), SKIP TO Q43. IF Q42=3,4 SKIP TO Q46.

Q42A. Why haven't you completed all the works approved?

ASK Q43 IF Q42=1,2 (HAVE UNDERTAKEN ALL OR PART OF APPROVED WORKS). ALL OTHERS SKIP TO Q45.

Q43. To what extent do you think you achieved what you wanted?

ROTATE ORDER (1-5 OR 5-1)

- | | |
|---|-------------|
| 1. Achieved all of what I wanted | Skip to Q48 |
| 2. Achieved most of what I wanted | Go to Q44 |
| 3. Achieved some of what I wanted | Go to Q44 |
| 4. Achieved not enough of what I wanted | Go to Q44 |
| 5. Achieved none of what I wanted | Go to Q44 |

ASK Q44 IF Q43=2-5 (DID NOT ACHIEVE ALL OF WHAT THEY WANTED). ALL OTHERS SKIP TO Q45.

Q44. What stopped you achieving all of what you wanted?

No Q45.

ASK Q46 IF Q42=3 (PLANNING TO UNDERTAKE APPROVED WORKS IN NEXT 5 YEARS). ALL OTHERS SKIP TO Q47.

Q46. When are you planning to do the works and why has it been delayed?

ASK Q47 IF Q42=4 (NOT PLANNING TO UNDERTAKE APPROVED WORKS IN NEXT 5 YEARS). ALL OTHERS SKIP TO Q48

Q47. Why won't you undertake the approved work in the next five years?



15. APPENDIX II: SURVEY INSTRUMENTS

ASK ALL

Q48. Are you aware of what set asides are and how they apply to approvals?

1. Yes, I know about set asides and how they apply
2. Yes, I have heard of set asides but don't know how they apply
3. No, I don't know anything about set asides Skip to Q55

ASK Q49 IF Q48 =1,2 (AWARE OF SET ASIDES). ALL OTHERS SKIP TO Q55.

Q49. Do you think having the set aside option available is...?

ROTATE ORDER (1-4 OR 4-1). KEEP CODE 5 LAST.

1. Very useful
2. Quite useful
3. Not very useful
4. Not at all useful
5. Not sure

ASK Q50 IF Q48 =1,2 (AWARE OF SET ASIDES). ALL OTHERS SKIP TO Q55.

Q50. Do you have a set aside on your property?

1. Yes
2. No Skip to Q55
3. Not sure Skip to Q55

ASK Q51 IF Q50=1 (HAVE A SET ASIDE ON PROPERTY). ALL OTHERS SKIP TO Q55.

Q51. To what extent do you think the size and type of land in the set aside was useful for protecting the native vegetation on your property?

ROTATE ORDER (1-4 OR 4-1). KEEP CODE 5 LAST.

1. Very useful
2. Quite useful
3. Not very useful
4. Not at all useful
5. Not sure

ASK Q52 IF Q50=1 (HAVE A SET ASIDE ON PROPERTY). ALL OTHERS SKIP TO Q55.

Q52. To what extent do you understand the management obligations of the set aside, e.g. for monitoring and maintenance?



15. APPENDIX II: SURVEY INSTRUMENTS

ROTATE ORDER (1-4 OR 4-1)

1. Understand very well
2. Understand quite well
3. Do not understand very well
4. Do not understand at all

ASK Q53 IF Q50=1 (HAVE A SET ASIDE ON PROPERTY). ALL OTHERS SKIP TO Q55.

Q53. To what extent were you satisfied with the set aside and obligations negotiated with Local Land Services?

ROTATE ORDER (1-5 OR 5-1). KEEP CODE 6 LAST.

1. Very satisfied Skip to Q55
2. Quite satisfied Skip to Q55
3. Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied Skip to Q55
4. Quite dissatisfied
5. Very dissatisfied
6. Not sure/too early to say Skip to Q55

ASK Q54 IF Q53=4,5 (DISSATISFIED WITH SET ASIDE AND OBLIGATIONS)
DISPLAY Q54 ON SAME SCREEN WITH Q53.

Q54. Can you briefly explain what you were dissatisfied about?

ASK ALL

Q55. Are you aware of the Native Vegetation Panel?

1. Yes
2. No Skip to Q61
3. Not sure Skip to Q61

ASK Q56 IF Q55=1 (AWARE OF NATIVE VEGETATION PANEL). ALL OTHERS SKIP TO Q59.

Q56. Have you made an inquiry or an application to the Panel?

1. Made an inquiry
2. Made an application
3. Made an inquiry and an application
4. No, neither [EXCLUSIVE] Skip to Q59



15. APPENDIX II: SURVEY INSTRUMENTS

ASK Q57 IF Q56=1-3 (MADE INQUIRY AND/OR APPLICATION). ALL OTHERS SKIP TO Q59.

Q57. To what extent were you satisfied with the information that was provided?

ROTATE ORDER (1-5 OR 5-1). KEEP CODE 6 LAST.

1. Very satisfied Skip to Q59
2. Quite satisfied Skip to Q59
3. Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied Skip to Q59
4. Quite dissatisfied
5. Very dissatisfied
6. Not sure/too early to say Skip to Q59

ASK Q58 IF Q57=4,5 (DISSATISFIED WITH INFORMATION PROVIDED)

DISPLAY Q58 ON SAME SCREEN WITH Q57.

Q58. Can you briefly explain what you were dissatisfied about?

ASK Q59 IF Q55=1 (AWARE OF NATIVE VEGETATION PANEL). ALL OTHERS SKIP TO Q61.

Q59. To what extent do you think it is beneficial having the Native Vegetation Panel available?

ROTATE ORDER (1-4 OR 4-1). KEEP CODE 5 LAST.

1. Very beneficial Skip to Q61
2. Quite beneficial Skip to Q61
3. Not very beneficial
4. Not at all beneficial
5. Not sure/too early to say Skip to Q61

ASK Q60 IF Q59=4,5 (NOT BENEFICIAL)

DISPLAY Q60 ON SAME SCREEN WITH Q59.

Q60. Why do you think it is not beneficial? Please briefly explain.

ASK ALL

Q61. To what extent are you aware of the native vegetation reporting by Local Land Services (LLS)?

ROTATE ORDER (1-3 OR 3-1).

1. I'm aware LLS reports on native vegetation clearing and what it reports on
2. I'm aware LLS reports on native vegetation clearing but I don't know what it reports on
3. I'm not aware of the reporting



15. APPENDIX II: SURVEY INSTRUMENTS

Q62. To what extent are you aware of the landholder guidance materials and information Local Land Services (LLS) provides on native vegetation clearing?

ROTATE ORDER (1-3 OR 3-1)

1. I'm aware LLS provides information on its website and I've used it
2. I'm aware LLS provides information on its website but have not used it
3. I am not aware of the information

Q63. What other information could Local Land Services provide that would be helpful in managing native vegetation? (This question is optional. If you don't wish to answer it, click "Next".)

ANSWER NOT REQUIRED

Q64. What information could landholders provide to Local Land Services that would be helpful in managing native vegetation? (This question is optional. If you don't wish to answer it, click "Next".)

ANSWER NOT REQUIRED

Q65. Now we just have a few questions about the rule changes introduced in 2017. Would you say you had more, less or about the same control over native vegetation clearing on your property under the current laws, compared to the previous laws in place before 2017?

ROTATE ORDER (1-3 OR 3-1). KEEP CODE 4 LAST.

1. More control
2. The same control Skip to Q68
3. Less control
4. Not sure Skip to Q68

ASK Q66 IF Q65=1 (MORECONTROL). ALL OTHERS GO TO Q67.

Q66. What are the top reasons why you have more control? Please select up to three reasons.

RANDOMISE ITEMS

MULTI RESPONSE – ALLOW UP TO THREE

1. I have more trust in Local Land Services
2. I am more confident about what I can and can't do
3. I have greater flexibility to manage my native vegetation
4. LLS offers me more support
5. I find it easier to get the information I need
6. The processes I need to follow are simpler and less time consuming
7. The legislation is easy to understand



15. APPENDIX II: SURVEY INSTRUMENTS

8. I know a lot more now about managing native vegetation
9. Other – (PLEASE SPECIFY)

ASK Q67 IF Q65=3 (LESS CONTROL). ALL OTHERS GO TO Q68.

Q67. Why do you feel you have less control?

OPEN ENDED

ASK ALL

Q68. Are you aware of the following enforcement actions for illegal clearing of native vegetation?

1. Inspection of property and further investigation by Government
2. Being sent a warning letter
3. Penalty infringement notices
4. Being required to undertake remedial action
5. Court action with potentially heavy fines and criminal charges

1. Yes – aware
2. No - not aware

Q69. The NSW Government could promote the conservation of native vegetation in many ways. How effective do you think the following would be?

RANDOMISE ITEMS

1. Increased fines for unlawful native vegetation clearing
2. Increased public reporting of unlawful land clearing activities
3. Increased investigations of native vegetation clearing
4. More support from LLS to landholders to better understand and implement native vegetation protection
5. Stronger requirements for remediation of any damage to native vegetation at landholder's cost
6. More support from LLS to understand and implement progressive or regenerative farming practices
7. More opportunities to generate income from environmental markets such as carbon and biodiversity
8. More Government grants to protect native vegetation management

1. Very effective
2. Moderately effective
3. Partly effective



15. APPENDIX II: SURVEY INSTRUMENTS

4. Not at all effective

Q70. And which of these would you prioritise as the most important? Select one only.

SINGLE RESPONSE

1. Increased fines for unlawful native vegetation clearing
2. Increased public reporting of unlawful land clearing activities
3. Increased investigations of native vegetation clearing
4. More support from LLS to landholders to better understand and implement native vegetation protection
5. Stronger requirements for remediation of any damage to native vegetation at landholder's cost
6. More support from LLS to understand and implement progressive or regenerative farming practices
7. More opportunities to generate income from environmental markets such as carbon and biodiversity
8. More Government grants to protect native vegetation management

Q71. Is there anything else you would like to say about how Government regulates native vegetation on private land? (This question is optional. If you don't wish to answer it, click "Next".)

ANSWER NOT REQUIRED

Q71a. Finally, would you be interested in participating in an interview about your farming and land management, how you engage with government, and any experiences with the Code?

This interview should take about 30 minutes at a time that suits you (either in person or over the phone). Would you be interested in participating in an interview?

1. Yes
2. No Skip to CLOSE

HIDE Q72 IF Q71=2 (NOT INTERESTED)

Q72. Please provide your first name and a daytime contact number, below. There are limited spots available for an interview. Depending on availability, a member of the research team may follow up with you. (Note these details will not be linked to your survey answers, which remain confidential.)

1. First name
2. Daytime phone or mobile



15. APPENDIX II: SURVEY INSTRUMENTS

CLOSE

Q73. Thanks so much, that's the end of the survey. Taverner Research and NSW Local Land Services greatly appreciate your time and feedback.

This market research is carried out in compliance with the Privacy Act, and the information you provided will be used only for research purposes.