



# Sustainable Grazing Allowable Activity Guideline on Rural Regulated Land

This guideline has been developed for landholders considering the 'use' of native vegetation for ongoing grazing purposes that has the potential to modify the nature of the vegetation under the Sustainable Grazing Allowable Activity. The Sustainable Grazing Allowable Activity can be applied to Rural Regulated Land under Part 5A of the *Local Land Services Act 2013*.

## Overview

Allowable activities cover a range of routine land management activities where the clearing of native vegetation is associated with agriculture and other common practices in rural areas. Clearing of native vegetation under allowable activities does not require approval (such as a notification or certificate) under the *Local Land Services Act 2013*.

However, the *Local Land Services Act 2013* requires that clearing for an allowable activity must be to the minimum extent necessary and carried out by the landholder or on the landholder's behalf. In addition, clearing for an allowable activity on Category 2 – Sensitive regulated land must also achieve the purpose of the clearing in a manner that minimises the risk of soil erosion.

## What is Sustainable Grazing?

Sustainable grazing on Regulated Rural Land is described in the *Local Land Services Act 2013* as:

### Schedule 5A Section 25 Sustainable Grazing

- (1) Clearing of native vegetation during the course of sustainable grazing.
- (2) Sustainable grazing is grazing by livestock, and the management of grasslands used for grazing, that is not likely to result in the substantial long-term decline in the structure and composition of native vegetation. Management of grasslands includes (without limitation) the over-sowing or fertilisation of grasslands.

This Sustainable Grazing Allowable Activity does not restrict sustainable grazing activities beyond what is outlined below – i.e. timing, selectivity, and intensity, number of stock and duration of grazing as well as pasture improvement activities. Instead, this guideline provides advice to landholders undertaking the management of native grasslands under the Sustainable Grazing Allowable Activity. However, a landholder following these guidelines can be confident that they are using this allowable activity in an appropriate way.

**Landholders are required to undertake allowable activities to the minimum extent necessary for that purpose. Landholders undertaking sustainable grazing on Rural Regulated Land that does not meet the requirements of the Sustainable Grazing Allowable Activity, as outlined in the *Local Land Services Act 2013*, may be required to apply for approval under the *Local Land Services Act 2013*. Contact your nearest Local Land Services office for more information if you are unsure.**

## Where can Sustainable Grazing occur under the Allowable Activity?

### Regulatory context under the *Local Land Services Act 2013*

The Sustainable Grazing Allowable Activity applies to Rural Regulated Land under the *Local Land Services Act 2013*. For further details, refer to Appendix 2.

### Why is the Allowable Activity important?

Much of NSW's native grasslands have been cleared, or significantly modified by 'pasture improvement' activities. This includes cultivation, application of chemical fertilisers and sowing of introduced grass and legume species to

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lift productivity in the short-term (Keith 2004). Few native plants are able to persist and compete under these modified conditions, especially when these are combined with moderate to high levels of grazing (Keith 2004). The change in structure and composition of native grasslands has had significant impacts on ecological values and processes, as well as soil biodiversity and soil carbon levels. Many of these changes have associated impacts on agricultural production.

## Understanding the Allowable Activity

The allowable activity can be broken down into two components:

### 1. Clearing of native vegetation during the course of sustainable grazing

This allows landholders to graze and impact on native vegetation (such as grasses or other groundcover within grasslands) by livestock as part of their sustainable grazing activities. Sustainable grazing is grazing by livestock, and the management of grasslands used for grazing, that is not likely to result in the substantial long-term decline in the structure and composition of native vegetation.

Grazing of native vegetation more broadly, including other vegetation types (e.g. grassy woodlands, arid shrublands, dry sclerophyll forest, etc.), is not considering clearing as defined by the *Local Land Services Act 2013* unless the grazing is cutting down, felling, uprooting, thinning, killing, destroying, poisoning, ringbarking, burning or otherwise removing native vegetation.



Figure 1 – Example of intact grassy woodland – North West NSW (LLS 2019).

### 2. Management of grasslands

The second component of the Sustainable Grazing Allowable Activity refers to the management of grasslands used for grazing by livestock. It only applies to grasslands, and not to other groundcover outside the definition of grasslands. It also does not apply to grasslands that are not used for grazing.

This guideline supports the following definitions of grasslands:

#### 1. Natural grasslands

Natural grasslands (defined by Keith 2004) are described by the following:

- large perennial tussock grasses
- a low abundance or absence of woody plants
- the presence of broad-leaved herbs in the grassy matrix.

These areas are naturally treeless or sparsely treed. For example, the Natural Temperate Grasslands of the Southern Eastern Highlands (found in the Monaro region), and the Natural Grasslands on Basalt and fine-textured alluvial plains of Northern New South Wales and Southern Queensland (found around the Liverpool Plains and Moree areas). For the purposes of this guideline, a grassland is defined as having  $\leq 10\%$  tree and shrub projected foliage cover within a defined management unit (e.g. paddock, area of treatment, etc.). Grasslands include derived (or secondary) native grasslands that were once above 10% tree cover.

#### 2. Derived grasslands

Derived (or secondary) native grasslands can occur in areas where trees have been lost from the original vegetation community (e.g. grassy woodlands or forest). To meet the definition for the purposes of the allowable activity they must have  $\leq 10\%$  tree and shrub projected foliage cover.



Figure 2 – Example of a derived grassland (derived Grassy Woodland) in North West NSW (LLS 2019).

As long as you are grazing these areas, you are permitted to undertake pasture fertilisation and over-sowing activities to improve the pastures in order to improve productivity. However, this can only be undertaken as long as there is no substantial long-term decline in the structure and composition of native vegetation, not just grasses but to other native herbs and forbs that are within the grasslands as well.

The Sustainable Grazing Allowable Activity is not able to be applied outside of the definition of grasslands above. This includes for example, an intact grassy woodland or an arid shrubland or grassy dry sclerophyll forest or an area that consists of a groundcover that is not defined as a grassland (e.g. large areas of Lomandra or Black Roly Poly).

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Natural grasslands tend to be of high conservation value, but derived communities can also be of high conservation value in their own right (IGGAM 2017). Both natural and derived grasslands are included within the scope of this guideline.

## 1. Clearing on Rural Regulated Land – Category 2 Sensitive Regulated Land

The Sustainable Grazing Allowable Activity is permitted on Category 2 – Sensitive regulated land under the *Local Land Services Act 2013*. These are areas that have been mapped for their sensitive biodiversity values such as critically endangered ecological communities. On Category 2 – Sensitive regulated land, the Sustainable Grazing Allowable Activity also must be undertaken in a manner that minimises the risk of soil erosion.

Local Land Services recommends that the over sowing and fertilisation of native grasslands is not undertaken in high conservation value grasslands, such as those associated with the following threatened ecological communities, including:

- Porcupine Grass—Red Mallee—Gum Coolabah hummock grassland/low sparse woodland in the Broken Hill Complex Bioregion – [Critically Endangered Ecological Community](#)
- Themeda grassland on seacliffs and coastal headlands in the NSW North Coast, Sydney Basin and South East Corner Bioregions – [Endangered Ecological Community](#)
- White Box - Yellow Box - Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Woodland and Derived Native Grassland in the NSW North Coast, New England Tableland, Nandewar, Brigalow Belt South, Sydney Basin, South Eastern Highlands, NSW South Western Slopes, South East Corner and Riverina Bioregions – [Critically Endangered Ecological Community](#)
- Monaro Tableland Cool Temperate Grassy Woodland in the South Eastern Highlands Bioregion – [Critically Endangered Ecological Community](#)
- Werriwa Tablelands Cool Temperate Grassy Woodland in the South Eastern Highlands and South East Corner Bioregions – [Critically Endangered Ecological Community](#)

The invasion of native plant communities by exotic perennial grasses is a Key Threatening Process under the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016*.

## To the minimum extent necessary

Clearing of native vegetation under the Sustainable Grazing Allowable Activity is limited to the minimum extent necessary, which includes grazing and management of grasslands used for grazing. This only includes activities necessary to support grazing by livestock, and the management of grasslands used for grazing that are not likely to result in the long-term decline in the structure and composition of native vegetation compared to its current or starting species composition and structure prior to applying this allowable activity, keeping in mind seasonal variations

beyond your control.

## Where is use of the Sustainable Grazing Allowable Activity NOT allowed?

- The Sustainable Grazing Allowable Activity does not allow grazing of native vegetation where grazing activities have not previously or are not currently occurring.
- Where the primary outcome of the management of native grasslands is to change the use of the land, for example, from grazing to cropping or to change the native grassland to an exotic grassland (e.g. by planting non-native perennial pastures or through the application rate of fertilisers that is likely to result in the substantial long-term decline in the structure and composition of native vegetation).
- Where clearing native vegetation during the course of management of grasslands for grazing activities are on native vegetation that does not meet the definition of grasslands.

## What does substantial and long-term decline mean?

**Substantial** – this includes changing the dominant species mix or changing the species mix or reducing the species richness of an area of native grassland (e.g. a native grassland becoming dominated by exotic plant species).

**Long-term** – a change in grassland species mix, species richness and grassland structure that results in irreversible or permanent change, irrespective of the number of years.

**Decline** – a decrease in species richness and/or loss of grazing sensitive species and loss of structure of native vegetation in comparison with the current or starting composition (e.g. 20% decline in native species). Local Land Services can provide landholders with a range of advice and support to develop a sustainable grazing plan including a monitoring program to identify and manage against potential substantial long-term decline of their natural grasslands.

## What is meant by structure and composition?

**Structure** – The structure of vegetation is defined as the height, total cover and vertical arrangement of plants that grow together (Keith 2004). In the context of this guideline, decline in structure relates to the loss or significant change of a structural layer of native vegetation that was present prior to applying the Sustainable Grazing Allowable Activity (e.g. the loss of native forbs (non-grass groundcover). Decline in structure could also include actions that lead to the introduction of an exotic structural layer (or species) (e.g. the establishment of African Boxthorn or African Lovegrass not previously found in the paddock).

**Composition** – Within native grasslands, the composition (the different types of species occurring with the native

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grassland) can vary widely because most native groundcover is a mix of species including a variety of native grasses, herbs, forbs and legumes. Most native groundcover, due to historical and current land management practices will also contain some introduced species, such as introduced weeds and pasture species including sub-clovers.

In the context of this guideline, a substantial long-term decline in species composition can be defined as a change that will likely result in the permanent loss of some or all native species typically present in different seasons prior to applying a management activity. It can also be defined as the change from a High Conservation Value Grassland to a Medium Conservation Value Grassland or a Medium Conservation Value Grassland to a Low Conservation Value Grassland<sup>1</sup>.

Whether or not an activity meets the requirements of the Sustainable Grazing Allowable Activity will be a question of fact and will depend on the circumstances of each situation in a paddock or across a landholding. **Appendix 1** provides general guidance to landholders on how their sustainable grazing activities may or may not contribute to the substantial long-term decline in the structure and composition of native vegetation.

## Grazing

Several factors should be considered in designing a suitable grazing management regime. The timing, selectivity, intensity, number of stock and duration of grazing, as well as pasture improvement activities, such as the use of fertilisers, will all influence the impact on native plants and ecosystems.

On Regulated Rural Land, Local Land Services recommends that grazing be confined to grasslands (derived and natural grasslands) and should generally be excluded from 'wet areas' or long un-grazed areas, as these sites may be very sensitive to grazing disturbances and soil structural changes resulting from domestic livestock utilisation.

As a guide, it is recommended that at all times, grazing does not reduce groundcover thresholds to (where seasonal conditions allow):

- Western Division of NSW – less than 50-60%
- All other areas of NSW – 80% and above

In addition, to ensure grazing does not result in substantial long-term decline in structure and composition of native vegetation, grazing should maintain the average bulk sward height for the relevant type of native grasses

These guidelines do not outline specific parameters for grazing, such as stocking rates. Where required, landholders are encouraged to seek external advice on what stocking rates are most suitable to ensure that the chosen grazing regime is not likely to result in the substantial long-term decline in the structure and composition of native vegetation.

## Fertiliser use on grasslands – minimum extent necessary

Pasture fertilisation is a common land management activity within native grasslands, often undertaken in conjunction with the addition of a legume (exotic) which together significantly alter soil fertility and thus competitive plant relationships. Nutrient enrichment is a major cause of grassland and woodland degradation, most notably driving losses of native plant diversity and invasion by exotic species. Degradation occurs either through direct fertiliser application, or indirectly through surface water run-on and transport via wind or livestock. The long-term decline of species composition and structure of native vegetation will depend on not just the rate of fertiliser application but also the timing and interval of application and how the pasture is grazed.

## What pasture fertilisation is supported under the Allowable Activity?

Local Land Services suggests the following pasture fertilisation activities to avoid substantial long-term decline in species composition and structure of native grasslands and groundcover (i.e. strategies that replace nutrients exported in produce or address micronutrient deficiencies):

- Broadcast ground spreading of fertiliser only where visual assessments, plant tissue tests and/or soil tests have identified a specific deficiency or soil fertility issue; and
- Use of liquid organic fertilisers in small doses.

All of the above activities must be undertaken only if required and at the recommended rate/interval/timing to minimise impacts to native pastures in the long-term. Soil tests, visual assessments and potentially plant tissue tests may be required to determine what the balance between nutrient loss versus natural nutrient and carbon cycling processes are to maintain fertility levels.

## What pasture fertilisation activities are not suggested under the Allowable Activity?

Local Land Services recommends not undertaking the following pasture fertilisation activities due to the potential risk of substantial long-term decline in species composition and structure of native vegetation:

- Aerial and ground spreading of fertilisers applied at a rate/interval/timing that is not supported by visual assessments, plant tissue tests and/or soil tests and which has identified a specific deficiency or soil fertility issue
- Repeated high rates of fertilisation resulting in increased grazing rates and intensity that detrimentally impacts on native pastures (e.g. grazing sensitive native species are

<sup>1</sup> Interim Grasslands and other Groundcover Assessment Method – Determining conservation value of grasslands and groundcover vegetation in NSW (2017) Office of Environment and Heritage.

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removed from the native pastures resulting in a long-term decline in structure and composition of grasslands) or

- Over-sowing and fertilisation activities that include aerial or ground paddock scale herbicide treatment first to remove existing pasture.

## Over-sowing of grasslands – minimum extent necessary

Over-sowing is the sowing of a non-native species into an existing native groundcover to increase pasture production for grazing purposes such as increasing winter forage. The over-sowing of exotic pasture species (with or without soil disturbance) into native ground layer vegetation has detrimental effects on vegetation communities such as native grasslands and woodlands. Introduction of legumes is typically associated with fertiliser application and is a major cause of grassland and woodland decline and loss. Perennial pasture grasses compete with native species, can modify habitat structure, and alter soil nutrient cycling. Once the introduction of species has occurred in a previously (or currently) high conservation value grassland area – the impact can be difficult to undo. Management tools to control exotic perennial grass invasions are likely to negatively influence native perennial grass populations, as strategies that succeed against the invasive species may kill or reduce the native species as well.

## What over-sowing activities are not suggested?

Local Land Services suggests the following pasture improvement activities do not meet the minimum extent requirement due to their potential for substantial long-term impact to species composition and structure of native vegetation:

- Introduction of non-native species that are persistent in the long-term (i.e. not annual or are perennial). This may depend on where you are within the state. One species may be annual in one area of the state but be perennial in other areas of the state. For example, legume species (such as clovers and sub-clovers) and cultivation activities that result in the replacement of the existing native vegetation
- Minimum tillage – limited cultivation with a tined implement unless it involves direct drill or zero till due to the level of soil and groundcover disturbance
- Total replacement or re-sowing of pastures does not meet the Sustainable Grazing Allowable Activity. Approval under the Land Management (Native Vegetation) Code 2018 (the Code) may be required
- Aerial sowing that involves broadscale herbicide use first to kill the existing native vegetation
- Introduction of native groundcover species that are not endemic to the subject area

- Introduction of a pasture crop into a grassland that changes the land use from grazing to grazing and cropping.

If the production goal of grazing or the management of native groundcover is to change the structure and composition (e.g. from native dominated species to exotic dominated pasture species to improve grazing productivity), then the Sustainable Grazing Allowable Activity or the Code are not suitable and approval may be required from the Native Vegetation Panel under Division 6 of the *Local Land Services Act 2013*.

## Monitoring

As part of sustainable grazing activities, it is recommended that landholders regularly monitor (including the establishment of baseline monitoring incorporating reference sites) the application of fertilisers, grazing and any over-sowing of their native grasslands every 5 years. It might take around 5 years before there is clear evidence that there is a trajectory towards substantial long-term change in species composition and structure due to pasture fertilisation.

As such, it is recommended that regular monitoring of pastures (using groundcover assessment tools) is undertaken when native forbs and grasses are flowering to monitor impacts to native pastures from sustainable grazing activities. Monitoring results need to inform future sustainable grazing management activities and be adaptive to ensure there is no substantial long-term decline in species composition and structure of native vegetation.

Short term responses to structure and composition (e.g. within the first 0 to 5 years) may or may not indicate long-term responses (5 years+) distinct from seasonal variations. Contact your Local Land Services Agronomist for further information on groundcover monitoring if required.

## Other approvals required to undertake the Sustainable Grazing Allowable Activity

The management of native groundcover on Rural Regulated Land using the Sustainable Grazing Allowable Activity does not require approval under the *Local Land Services Act 2013*. However, other approvals may be required from other organisations such as the Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment in regard to the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*. Refer to the “What other approvals may be required” factsheet on the Local Land Services website.

In addition, if a landholding is subject to set-asides, biodiversity offsets or conservation agreement conditions, landholders should check with the relevant organisation to confirm if there are any specific sustainable grazing requirements, as they may differ from the general information in this guideline.

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## Definitions

**Conservation Agreement** means a joint agreement between the landholder and an organisation to conserve and manage biodiversity on an area of land.

**Exotic plant** means an introduced plant species not native to NSW.

**Minimisation of soil erosion risk** means no greater than 5% of the soil surface and existing groundcover is disturbed (total area) as a result of the clearing.

**Soil disturbance** means the turning, digging or disrupting of the soil surface, usually by an implement or machinery or by pushing or pulling of trees and shrubs.

**Groundcover** means any type of herbaceous vegetation not just grasses

**Fertiliser** - ranges from granular products formulated to meet plant needs for macro-elements eg nitrogen and phosphorus, to high analysis fertilisers that address trace or micro-element requirements through to liquid and organic fertilisers or lime to address soil acidification problems in pastures.

**Herbaceous vegetation** means plant or plant types that are non woody; herb like

**Land degradation** means temporary or permanent decline in the productive capacity of land and ecosystem services caused by its improper use or poor management.

**Native vegetation** means any of the following types of plants native to New South Wales—

- a. trees (including any sapling or shrub or any scrub),
  - b. understorey plants,
  - c. groundcover (being any type of herbaceous vegetation),
  - d. plants occurring in a wetland.
2. A plant is native to New South Wales if it was established in New South Wales before European settlement. The regulations may authorise conclusive presumptions to be made of the species of plants native to New South Wales by adopting any relevant classification in an official database of plants that is publicly accessible.
  3. Native vegetation extends to a plant that is dead or that is not native to New South Wales if—
    - a. the plant is situated on land that is shown on the native vegetation regulatory map as category 2-vulnerable regulated land, and
    - a. it would be native vegetation for the purposes of this Part if it were native to New South Wales.
  4. Native vegetation does not extend to marine vegetation (being mangroves, seagrasses or any other species of plant that at any time in its life cycle must inhabit water other than fresh water). A declaration under section 14.7 of the Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 that specified

vegetation is or is not marine vegetation also has effect for the purposes of this Part.

**Set-aside Area** means an area identified on a mandatory or voluntary certificate issued under the *Local Land Services Act 2013* and the Land Management (Native Vegetation) Code 2018 that is actively managed for biodiversity purpose by the landholder.

**Grass sward height** the average height of the grassy foliage in a sward - excluding seedheads.

**Total Grazing Pressure** – the combined grazing pressure from all grazing animals (domestic, native and feral) on the vegetation, soil and water resources.

**% Ground cover** means the amount of plant material (dead or alive) that covers the soil surface. It is expressed as a percentage – including living vegetation, dry litter, coarse woody debris (logs), mosses and lichens, excluding bare ground surface and rock.

## Information sources

- Native Vegetation Regulatory Map - [Native Vegetation Regulatory Map](#)
- Other approvals that may be required: Other Approvals factsheet
- *Local Land Services Act 2013* [www.legislation.nsw.gov.au/#/view/act/2013/51](http://www.legislation.nsw.gov.au/#/view/act/2013/51)
- Local Land Services Regulation 2014: [www.legislation.nsw.gov.au/#/view/regulation/2014/1](http://www.legislation.nsw.gov.au/#/view/regulation/2014/1)
- Managing native pastures [www.dpi.nsw.gov.au](http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au)
- BCT Livestock Grazing Guidelines for Private land Conservation (2020)
- BCT Livestock Grazing Management Brochure (2020)

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## References

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# Sustainable Grazing Allowable Activity Guideline on Rural Regulated Land

## Appendix 1

Table 1 provides guidance on how the Sustainable Grazing Allowable Activity may be undertaken in a manner that is *not likely to result in the substantial long-term decline in the structure and composition of native vegetation* can be met (adapted from the BCT Livestock Grazing Management Brochure 2020). This guidance is of a general nature only and needs to be applied to the on-ground facts and circumstances of each landholding. Landholders should contact Local Land Services if assistance is required.

Condition	Thresholds	Other Indicators	Landholder Action
<p>The structure and composition of native grassy vegetation is <b>NOT substantially declining in the long-term.</b></p> <p><i>Grazing is not likely to result in the substantial long-term decline in the structure and composition of native vegetation.</i></p>	<p>% groundcover is maintained at or above the minimum threshold as identified in the relevant region, where seasonal conditions allow</p> <p>Average sward height of dominant native grass species is maintained at or above the minimum threshold (Figure 3)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• During spring and summer, a wide range of native wildflowers should be visible and native grasses have successfully flowered and set seed.</li> <li>• Soils should be intact- the bare areas are usually covered by lichen, moss and algal crust or leaf litter</li> <li>• Little or no cover of weed species and those present are being actively suppressed</li> <li>• Open spaced between the taller grass tussocks should be maintained for a diversity of native plants and fauna habitat.</li> </ul> <p>Where waterways or wetter areas are present:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Little or no evidence of soil pugging or bank erosion</li> <li>• Little or no evidence of water contamination and turbidity caused by livestock</li> </ul>	<p>Regular monitoring to ensure condition is maintained or improved. Stock movement and numbers based on monitoring results.</p>
<p>The structure and composition of native grassy vegetation <b>IS substantially declining in the long-term.</b></p> <p><i>Grazing may be likely to result in the substantial long-term decline in the structure and composition of native vegetation.</i></p>	<p>% Ground cover falls below the minimum threshold for the region.</p> <p>Average sward height of dominant native grass species falls below the minimum threshold (Figure 3)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bare areas and soil crust may not be intact and evidence (potential soil erosion).</li> <li>• Increased browsing by livestock of plants that are normally less preferred becomes evident</li> <li>• Erosion, soil pugging and water contamination in watercourses and wetter areas</li> </ul>	<p>Livestock removed from the paddock and the paddock rested for an extended period</p> <p>Livestock should not be reintroduced until the vegetation meets or exceeds the recommended thresholds in Figure 3.</p> <p>If a paddock becomes degraded then the landholder should consult the Local Land Services for advice.</p>

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## Appendix 2 - Regulatory context under the *Local Land Services Act 2013*

### Rural Zoned Land

#### **Category 1 – Exempt Land**

Native vegetation can be removed without approval on Category 1 – Exempt Land under the *Local Land Services Act 2013*. Landholders need to be aware that other legislation may be still relevant and further approvals may be required.

#### **Category 2 – Regulated Land**

Clearing native vegetation beyond allowable activities on Category 2 – Regulated Land must be consistent with the Land Management (Native Vegetation) Code 2018. A broad suite of allowable activities are permitted on Category 2 – Regulated Land, including undertaking works in accordance with the Sustainable Grazing Allowable Activity.

#### **Category 2 – Vulnerable Regulated Land**

Category 2 – Vulnerable Regulated Land mainly relates to watercourses and steep land. Clearing of native vegetation is permitted on Category 2 – Vulnerable Regulated Land where it is consistent with the Land Management (Native Vegetation) Code 2018. A limited suite of allowable activities are permitted on Category 2 – Vulnerable Regulated Land, including undertaking works in accordance with the Sustainable Grazing Allowable Activity. Allowable activities must be undertaken in a manner that minimises the risk of soil erosion on Category 2 – Vulnerable Regulated Land.

#### **Category 2 – Sensitive Regulated Land**

Clearing under the Land Management (Native Vegetation) Code 2018 is not permitted on Category 2 – Sensitive Regulated Land. A limited range of allowable activities are permitted on Category 2 – Sensitive Regulated Land, including undertaking works in accordance with the Sustainable Grazing Works Allowable Activity. Under the Sustainable Grazing Allowable Activity, clearing must be undertaken in a manner that minimises the risk of soil erosion. Additional advisory or provisional layers may indicate the likely presence of particular biodiversity values. If you plan to undertake land management code activities within these areas, please contact Local Land Services who can assist in confirming that the values are present through an onsite check.

Refer to the Native Vegetation Regulatory Map to determine Category 2 – Sensitive Regulated Land and Category 2 – Vulnerable Regulated Land under the *Local Land Services Act 2013* or contact Local Land Services for further guidance on the categorisation of rural land.

#### **Non-rural Land**

The *Local Land Services Act 2013* and this guideline do not apply to non-rural land or land to which Part 5 A of the *Local Land Services Act 2013* does not apply. This is displayed as 'excluded' land on the Native Vegetation Regulatory map. For clearing native vegetation on non-rural land, contact your local council for advice.

Refer to Figure 3 to assist with identifying when the Sustainable Grazing Allowable Activity on Rural Regulated Land can be used.

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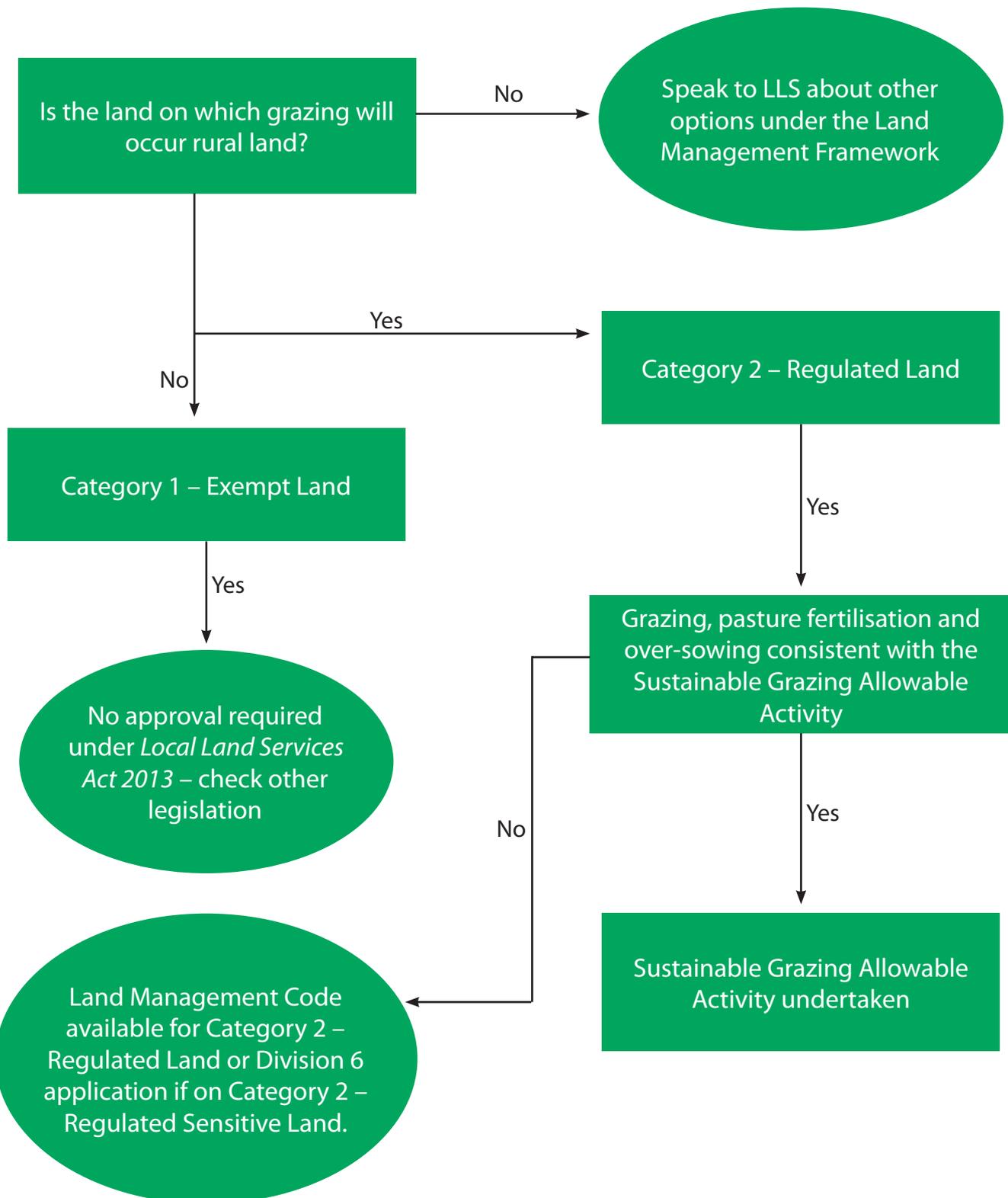


Figure 3 – Regulatory pathways for sustainable grazing on Category 2 – Regulated Land under the *Local Land Services Act 2013*