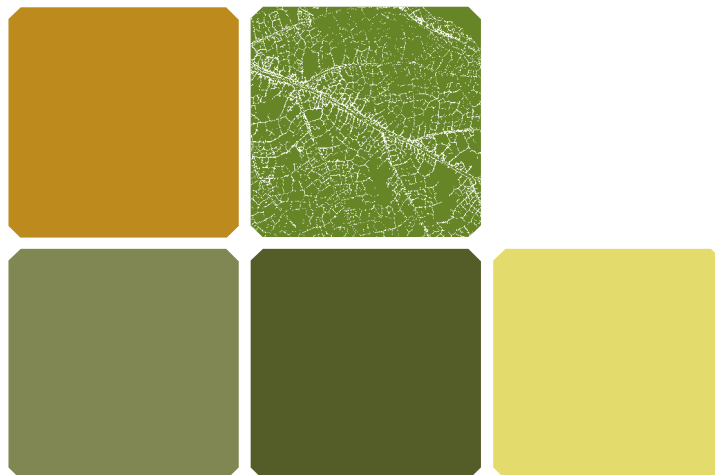


NSW Government

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

NSW Native Vegetation REPORT CARD

1 January 2006 to 30 June 2006



vegetation

Native Vegetation Report Card

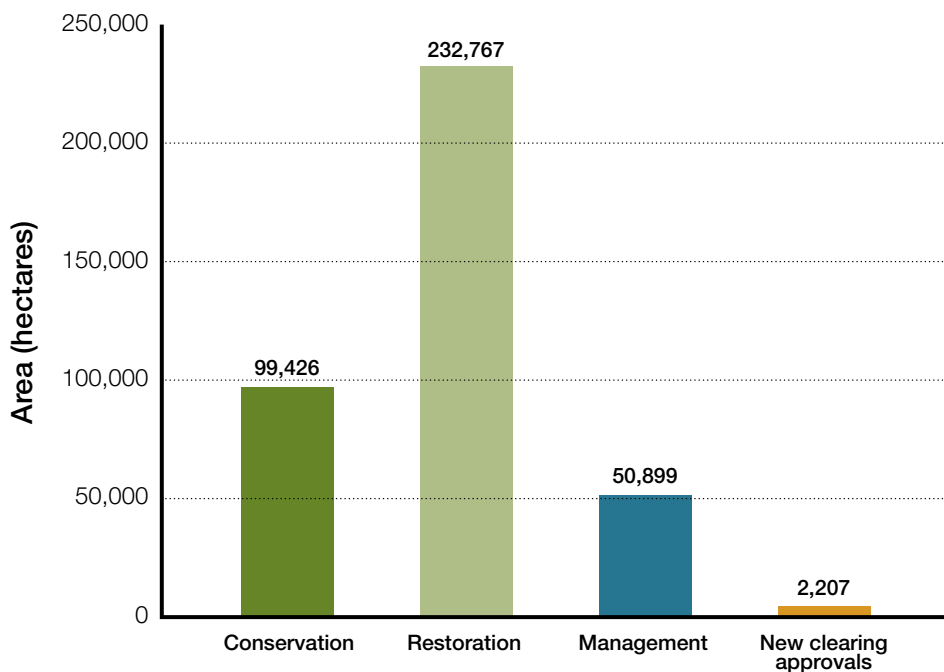
The Native Vegetation Report Card is a new report that provides the latest information on the conservation, revegetation, management and clearing of our native vegetation.

This report card is the first under the new *Native Vegetation Act 2003* and covers the period 1 January to 30 June 2006. Further reports will be released every six months. It begins to build a picture of what's happening with native vegetation across the State.

The report shows that reforms to native vegetation management are working and backs up the recent NSW Auditor General's report into the regulation of clearing of native vegetation in NSW.

The native vegetation statistics have been gathered through a collaborative effort between NSW natural resource agencies such as the Department of Natural Resources, the Department of Environment and Conservation, Catchment Management Authorities and Forests NSW.

Area of native vegetation that has been conserved, restored, managed, and including new clearing approvals – 1 January to 30 June 2006



Categories

Conservation Areas	hectares
Public Reserve System - National Park Estate (DEC) and Flora Reserves (Forests NSW)	26,606
Private Conservation Areas (Conservation Agreements and Wildlife Refuges - Habitat Retained)	72,820
TOTAL	99,426

Restoration/Revegetation of Native Vegetation	hectares
Restoration/Revegetation (Incentive PVPs)	19,374
Restoration/Revegetation (PVP Offsets)	1,078
Plantations (Native only)	4,787
Revegetation through other NHT and NAP Incentives	76,165
Retained as a Condition of Approval to Clear (Plantation & Reafforestation Act 1999 & Native Vegetation Conservation Act 1997)	3,387
Wildlife Refuges - Habitat Restored	127,975
Other Revegetation or Natural Regeneration (excluding Invasive Native Scrub)	no data
TOTAL	232,767

Management of Native Vegetation	hectares
Invasive Native Scrub Management (PVPs)	41,145
Public Forest Estate (Forests NSW)	1,115
Private Native Forestry	7,699
Weed Removal Programs	940
TOTAL	50,899

Clearing of Native Vegetation	hectares
Clearing Approved where environmental outcomes maintained or improved (PVP/DA)	35
Clearing Approvals - Thinning to benchmark (PVP/DA)	7
Clearing Approvals - Isolated Paddock Trees (PVP/DA)	1
Clearing under other Legislation (Plantation & Reafforestation Act 1999 & Native Vegetation Conservation Act 1997)	2,164
Alleged Illegal Clearing	not available
TOTAL	2,207

Category description

Conservation Area

- **Public Reserve System – National Park Estate (DEC) and Flora Reserves (Forests NSW)** – New National Parks, Nature Reserves and State Conservation Areas, or additions to National Parks, Nature Reserves and State Conservation Areas. Data from NPWS (DEC).
- **Private Conservation Area** – Area of new Conservation Agreements, and Wildlife Refuges under the National Parks and Wildlife Act managed by DEC. Wildlife Refuges – Habitat retained: are areas being managed exclusively for conservation of wildlife habitat.

Restoration/Revegetation of Native Vegetation (increase in extent)

- **Restoration/Revegetation (Incentive PVPs)** – Area of revegetation or restoration of native vegetation as set out in a Property Vegetation Plan.
- **Restoration/Revegetation (PVP Offsets)** – Area of Offsets negotiated in a PVP. Offsets are actions that a landholder agrees to in order to balance any negative impacts of clearing.
- **Plantations (Native Only)** – Plantable area, includes plantations of native species only
- **Restoration/Revegetation/Native Vegetation Management through NAP and NHT Incentives** - Revegetation activities from NHT and NAP funding.
- **Wildlife Refuges – Habitat Restored:** are areas integrating conservation into other landuse activities, which also provides wildlife habitat eg. Grazing on native unimproved grasslands/rangelands/woodlands
- **Retained as condition of approval:** Area of land retained as a condition of clearing consent, includes vegetation clearing approvals and plantation authorisations.
- **Other Revegetation or natural regeneration (Excluding Invasive Native Scrub)**

Management of Native Vegetation

- **Invasive Native Scrub Management (PVP)** – Area under a PVP to treat invasive native scrub (INS). INS is the term used to describe native plant species that have spread rapidly within their natural range
- **Public Forest Estate (Forests NSW)** – Area of new State Forest
- **Private Native Forestry** – Areas of native forest approved for timber harvesting and often silviculture, not significantly degrading native forests.
- **Weed Removal Programs** – Area of land to be cleared of exotic weeds for environmental improvement on State Protected Land.

Clearing of Native Vegetation (decrease in extent)

- **Clearing approved where environmental outcomes maintained or improved (PVP)** – Area of land where clearing approved under a PVP that will 'improve or maintain' environmental outcomes. The impact of clearing is measured against four environmental values: water quality, soils, salinity and biodiversity (including threatened species).
- **Clearing Approval – Thinning to Benchmark** – Area of land to be cleared using thinning provisions of the Environmental Outcomes Assessment Methodology.
- **Clearing Approval – Isolated Paddock Tree (PVP/DA)** – Estimated area of total paddock trees removed under a PVP
- **Clearing under other legislation** – Area of land to be cleared under the Plantations and Reafforestation Act 1999 and outstanding applications under the Native Vegetation Conservation Act 1997.
- **Alleged Illegal Clearing** – Data is routinely available from Hot Spots program but is not available for this reporting period.

DATA SOURCES

- Data taken from DNR's NVC Act application database 'VegNet2' on 3 July 2006, Plantations Public Register and relevant paper files, and from PAMS database on 11 July 2006. DEC data provided on 5 and 12 July 2006, Forests NSW provided data on 5 July 2006 and CMA support provided data on 26 July 2006.

DATA LIMITATIONS & EXCLUSIONS

- The statistics do not include clearing carried out under exemptions.
- The statistics only include DNR, DEC, CMA and Forests NSW data. It does not include other agencies' or external organisation's data
- Data on Alleged Illegal Clearing for January to June 2006 is currently not available at the time of publication
- Data on revegetation from NAP and NHT funding encompasses the entire 2005/2006 financial year. This data has been supplied by the Catchment Management Authorities and is not collected using a consistent methodology. This data is not available for just the January 2006 to June 2006 period.