

# Fact sheet

## Managing native vegetation during a bushfire emergency

This fact sheet provides landholders with guidance on native vegetation management during a bushfire emergency in rural areas.

A bushfire emergency is one which endangers or threatens the safety or health of people or animals, destroys or damages property or causes essential services to fail or be significantly disrupted.

### What clearing can I do during a bushfire?

- Emergency fire fighting.
- Emergency Bushfire Hazard Reduction

### What is emergency fire fighting?

Emergency fire fighting is any activity done or authorised by a fire fighting authority (such as the Rural Fire Service), during the course of bush fire fighting operations, other than bush fire hazard reduction work generally.

### What bushfire hazard reduction work can I do during a bushfire?

Emergency bushfire hazard reduction work is carried out to protect people, property or the environment from an existing or imminent danger as a result of a fire.

No approvals are required when you are clearing vegetation for hazard reduction during a bushfire emergency under the direction of the Rural Fire Service.

**Information in this fact sheet refers to land classified as regulated rural areas.**

**If you are not sure of the classification of your land, contact Local Land Services on 1300 795 299 or call into your nearest Local Land Services office.**

**Native vegetation is any plants native to NSW including trees, understorey plants, groundcover and plants occurring in a wetland. A plant is native to NSW if it was established in NSW before European settlement.**

### What can I do with native vegetation during a bushfire if my property is not zoned rural?

Emergency fire fighting and bushfire hazard reduction clearing do not require additional approvals during a bushfire emergency.

Once the emergency has passed you should contact your local Council.

### What do I do once a bushfire emergency has passed?

Once a bushfire emergency has passed, approvals may be required to manage vegetation on your property in the recovery phase.

To find out what approvals you may require, see the Managing vegetation after a bushfire emergency fact sheet or call your nearest Local Land Services office on 1300 795 299. You can also refer to [lls.nsw.gov.au/slm](https://lls.nsw.gov.au/slm)

## Where can I get more information?

Local Land Services offers local support to landholders in the prevention, preparedness, response and recovery stages of a bushfire emergency.

We are on hand to offer advice and up-to-date information. Call Local Land Services on 1300 795 299 or contact your nearest Local Land Services office.

Refer to [lls.nsw.gov.au/slm](https://lls.nsw.gov.au/slm) for access to fact sheets for managing native vegetation before, during and after a bushfire emergency.



**Local Land Services**