



## Appendix two – Authorisations for thinning and clearing, and restoration initiatives under the *Native Vegetation Act 2003*

The following table displays the amount of land covered by new PVPs and notifications since 2012.

**Exhibit 13: Notifications and approvals for thinning or clearing native vegetation (hectares)**

	2012–13	2013–14	2014–15	2015–16	2016–17
Invasive native scrub PVPs	441,150	124,380	415,620	284,300	375,740
Invasive native scrub notifications under <i>Native Vegetation Act 2003</i>	--	--	28,720	68,430	72,520
Clearing PVPs approved where environmental outcomes maintained or improved	2,900	900	1,370	5,650	1,630
Paddock tree notifications under <i>Native Vegetation Act 2003</i>	--	--	900	1,740	1,690

Notes:

1. Invasive Native Scrub Property vegetation plans (PVPs) were issued under the *Native Vegetation Act 2003* and are valid for 15 years. The species had to be assessed as acting invasively by Local Land Services staff. No new PVPs could be signed after 24 August 2017.
2. Invasive Native Scrub notifications under the *Native Vegetation Act 2003* were subject to transition arrangements that limited the proposed clearing. Existing notifications allowed clearing up to 25 Feb 2019 only (18 months after repeal of *Native Vegetation Act 2003*).
3. Clearing PVPs approved where environmental outcomes maintained or improved were PVP approvals for general clearing and clearing for paddock trees. These PVPs also involved offsets which ensure the net outcome maintained or improved environmental values (biodiversity and threatened species, water quality, salinity, and soils).
4. Paddock tree notifications under *Native Vegetation Act 2003* authorised via a clearing exemption called a routine agricultural management activity (RAMA). These included the establishment of set aside areas.

Source: Audit Office analysis based on OEH data 2019.

The following table displays the amount of land placed under these agreements and conditions since 2012.

**Exhibit 14: Conservation/restoration (hectares)**

	2012–13	2013–14	2014–15	2015–16	2016–17
Private conservation areas - PVPs in perpetuity	4,970	7,610	8,980	17,020	1,500
PVPs not in perpetuity	62,000	22,630	80,070	35,010	26,790
PVP Offsets	12,620	2,970	8,260	23,130	8,630
Notification set-asides under <i>Native Vegetation Act 2003</i>	--	--	3,220	4,870	3,160
Revegetation through other Incentives (non-PVP)	252,370	152,970	18,500	35,440	47,170

Notes:

1. Private conservation areas are in-perpetuity agreements for the protection and management of native vegetation administered by LLS. No new PVPs can be signed after 25 August 2017.
2. Property Vegetation Plans (PVPs) not in perpetuity are temporary agreements for protection and management of native vegetation. They are generally from 5 to 20 years and are administered by LLS. No new PVPs can be signed after 25 August 2017.
3. PVP Offsets are in-perpetuity agreements administered by LLS. PVP Offsets must have a positive effect on the environment that is equal to or greater than the impact of the associated clearing. No new PVPs can be signed after 25 August 2017.
4. Notification set-asides under *Native Vegetation Act 2003* are statutory temporary conditions over areas of land to balance the clearing of paddock trees. The set aside area must include either mature native trees, or re-established native trees, or a combination of both. The Minister for the Environment made Orders under the *Native Vegetation Act 2003* and LLS administers them. They are binding on the landholder until land is sold. No new notifications and set sides under the paddock tree RAMA/exemption could be submitted after 25 August 2017.
5. Revegetation through other Incentives (non-PVP) are non-statutory temporary agreements (common law contracts) for the protection and management of native vegetation. They are for periods varying from five to 20 years and are administered by LLS.

Source: Audit Office analysis based on OEH data - the government is yet to release the 2016–17 data.