

LLS Act Review Submission

Wagga Wagga City Council's Biodiversity Strategy: Maldhangilanha was adopted in 2020 and aims to increase native vegetation within the Wagga Wagga LGA by 10% by 2030.

The vast majority (95%) of the Wagga Wagga LGA is comprised of privately owned rural land, therefore majority of native vegetation falls under the LLS Act.

Schedule 5A of the LLS Act sets out Allowable activities that consists of routine land management activities associated with agriculture in rural areas. The LLS Act does state clearing of allowable activities should only occur to the minimum extent necessary and specific activities must not be used where native vegetation comprises, or likely to comprise a threatened species or ecological community.

However, these allowable activities are not regulated and the amounts of native vegetation that is removed is not recorded. This allows landholders to potentially clear excessive amounts of native vegetation or unknowingly remove Endangered Ecological Communities.

The current act does not provide measures that improve environmental outcomes, just allows an easy and unregulated process to clear native vegetation.