

# TOOLBOX TALK: Working near protected plants

Toolbox talks are a great way to share important information. Take a few minutes to read through this document with your staff and contractors.

Information in this Toolbox Talk is taken from the Protected Plants Information Guide, available from the [qldnativeforestry.com.au](http://qldnativeforestry.com.au) website via: [bit.ly/ProtectedPlantsInfoGuide](http://bit.ly/ProtectedPlantsInfoGuide)

## What is a Protected Plant?

Protected by environmental legislation, protected plants can be trees, shrubs, flowers, and grasses.

Protected Plants legislation aims to:

- Identify, list and preserve Commonwealth and Queensland species
- Ensure activities are regulated
- Ensure controls are implemented to maintain compliance

## How to manage a Protected Plant

Protected Plants, and what you need to do when working near them, is covered by several legislative documents including:

- Nature Conservation Act 1992 and
- Nature Conservation (Plants) Regulation 2020.

## Protected Plant High Risk Areas (PPHRA)

Protected Plants are safeguarded in forest operations by operational buffers like a PPHRA - a buffer zone found on an Operational Harvesting Plan. If you have a PPHRA on your map, follow the Protected Plants Decision Tree (diagram shown on right) for guidance on what to do.

The **Protected Plants Information Guide** combines information from legislation and puts it into one place to make it easier for forestry operators and permittees to understand what they need to do.

If you need more information on what you can do in forestry operations view the Protected Plants Information Guide, or the [Native Timber Industry Exemptions](#).

Importantly, always document your decision-making process and any advice you have received.

## Protected Plants Decision Tree

