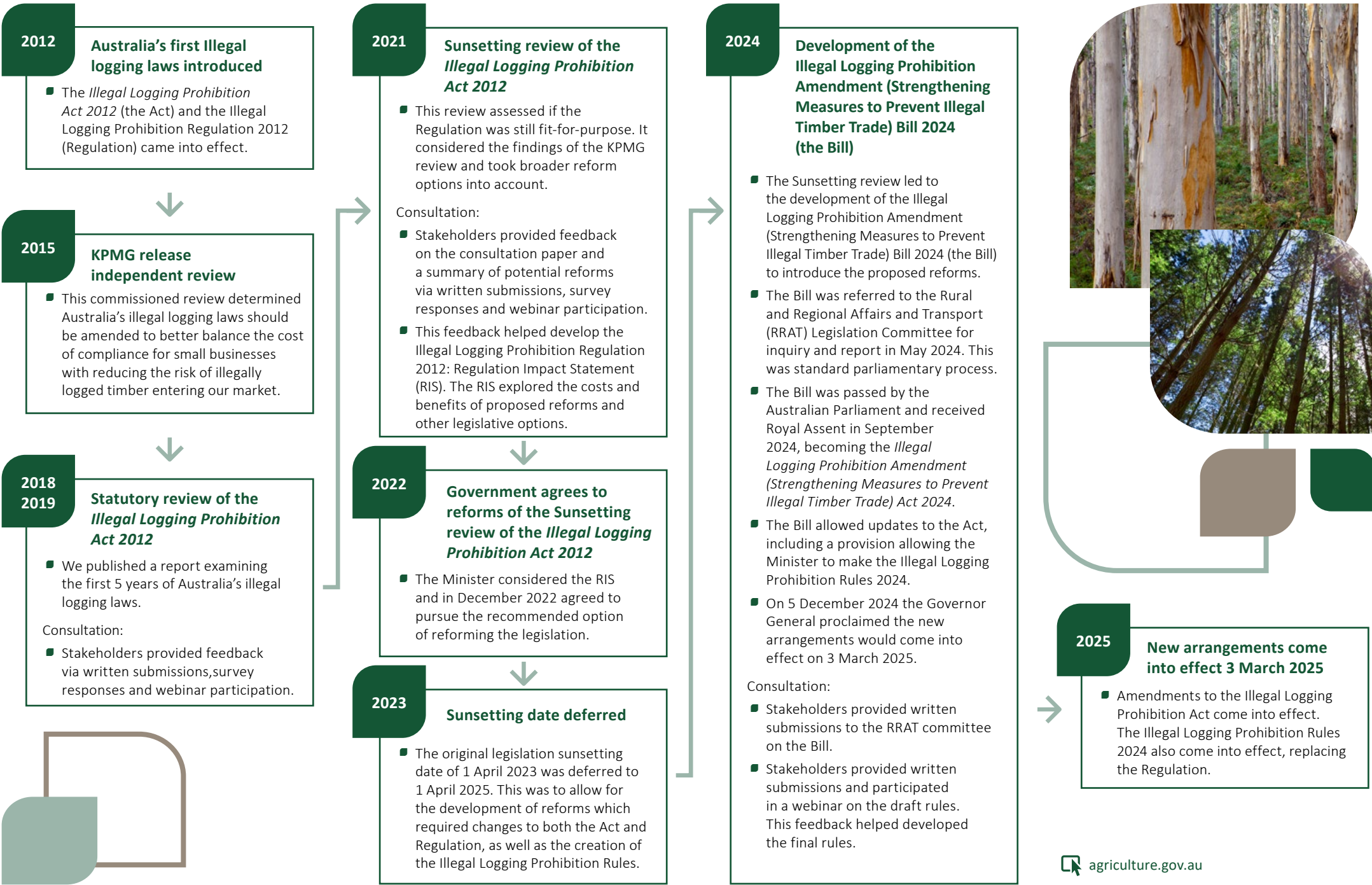




# Evolution of Australia's Illegal Logging Legislation



**2012** **Australia's first Illegal logging laws introduced**

- The *Illegal Logging Prohibition Act 2012* (the Act) and the *Illegal Logging Prohibition Regulation 2012* (Regulation) came into effect.

**2015** **KPMG release independent review**

- This commissioned review determined Australia's illegal logging laws should be amended to better balance the cost of compliance for small businesses with reducing the risk of illegally logged timber entering our market.

**2018-2019** **Statutory review of the Illegal Logging Prohibition Act 2012**

- We published a report examining the first 5 years of Australia's illegal logging laws.

Consultation:

- Stakeholders provided feedback via written submissions, survey responses and webinar participation.

**2021** **Sunsetting review of the Illegal Logging Prohibition Act 2012**

- This review assessed if the Regulation was still fit-for-purpose. It considered the findings of the KPMG review and took broader reform options into account.

Consultation:

- Stakeholders provided feedback on the consultation paper and a summary of potential reforms via written submissions, survey responses and webinar participation.
- This feedback helped develop the *Illegal Logging Prohibition Regulation 2012: Regulation Impact Statement (RIS)*. The RIS explored the costs and benefits of proposed reforms and other legislative options.

**2022** **Government agrees to reforms of the Sunsetting review of the Illegal Logging Prohibition Act 2012**

- The Minister considered the RIS and in December 2022 agreed to pursue the recommended option of reforming the legislation.

**2023** **Sunsetting date deferred**

- The original legislation sunsetting date of 1 April 2023 was deferred to 1 April 2025. This was to allow for the development of reforms which required changes to both the Act and Regulation, as well as the creation of the *Illegal Logging Prohibition Rules*.

**2024** **Development of the Illegal Logging Prohibition Amendment (Strengthening Measures to Prevent Illegal Timber Trade) Bill 2024 (the Bill)**

- The Sunsetting review led to the development of the *Illegal Logging Prohibition Amendment (Strengthening Measures to Prevent Illegal Timber Trade) Bill 2024* (the Bill) to introduce the proposed reforms.
- The Bill was referred to the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport (RRAT) Legislation Committee for inquiry and report in May 2024. This was standard parliamentary process.
- The Bill was passed by the Australian Parliament and received Royal Assent in September 2024, becoming the *Illegal Logging Prohibition Amendment (Strengthening Measures to Prevent Illegal Timber Trade) Act 2024*.
- The Bill allowed updates to the Act, including a provision allowing the Minister to make the *Illegal Logging Prohibition Rules 2024*.
- On 5 December 2024 the Governor General proclaimed the new arrangements would come into effect on 3 March 2025.

Consultation:

- Stakeholders provided written submissions to the RRAT committee on the Bill.
- Stakeholders provided written submissions and participated in a webinar on the draft rules. This feedback helped developed the final rules.

**2025** **New arrangements come into effect 3 March 2025**

- Amendments to the *Illegal Logging Prohibition Act* come into effect. The *Illegal Logging Prohibition Rules 2024* also come into effect, replacing the Regulation.