Scenario

Your client is a small-scale developer. They have cleared some trees on a block of land in rural NSW in preparation for building. They are now being prosecuted in relation to illegal land-clearing & possible threatened species in the area. There is no evidence that an environmental survey was undertaken before the clearing took place.

Your starting point is the LAW115 LibGuide

Develop your keywords:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concept 1</th>
<th>Concept 2</th>
<th>Concept 3</th>
<th>Concept 4</th>
<th>Other possible terms</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>trees</td>
<td>threatened species</td>
<td>land clearing</td>
<td>environmental survey</td>
<td>zoning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>native plants</td>
<td>protected species</td>
<td>development</td>
<td>environmental impact assessment (EIA)</td>
<td>Australia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>native vegetation</td>
<td>endangered species</td>
<td></td>
<td>environmental impact statement (EIS)</td>
<td>New South Wales</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>native flora</td>
<td>conservation biodiversity</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Tip: Check the Assignment Help page for assistance with this step

Getting Started

Action 1:

Search or Browse a legal encyclopaedia for some background information on the topic
Finding Legislation

From our background reading we have already identified some key legislation, including:

- (Cth) Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999
- (NSW) Native Vegetation Act 2003

Action 2:

Find a copy of the (Cth) Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999

Action 3:

Find the 2nd reading speech for the (NSW) Native Vegetation Bill 2003

Finding cases

Our research is also starting to uncover some key cases and concepts.

Action 4:

Find the case Brown v Forestry Tasmania (2007) 167 FCR 34

Action 5:

Find cases on native vegetation and land clearing

Finding articles

Once you have a better understanding of your topic & the primary resources, you may want to do some more focused reading.
Action 6:

Find articles relating to clearing of native vegetation under the Commonwealth Act

Action 7:

Are there any articles analysing the Brown v Forestry Tasmania case?