

Application for new permit or referral to clear native vegetation

This is the form to submit a referral of proposed clearing or apply for a clearing permit under Part V of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (EP Act).

Before you submit this form, please check you have completed all the fields for the form type and fully prepared any required supporting documents (including maps etc.). We will return / decline any forms that are not correctly completed.

To find out more about the stages of assessment for clearing permit forms, see the [Procedure: Native vegetation clearing permits](#).

Part 1 – Form type

<p>Select your form type.</p> <p>NOTE: Where appropriate in this form, and unless stated otherwise, the terms 'application' and 'applicant' also mean 'referral' and 'referrer' respectively.</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Referral of proposed clearing (section 51DA of the EP Act)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Application for an area permit (section 51E of the EP Act)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Application for a purpose permit (section 51E of the EP Act)</p>
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NOTE: The form type has been changed to an application for a Purpose permit to reflect legal requirements (section 51E of the EP Act)


Part 2 – Applicant details

2.1 Applicant name

<p>For area permits:</p> <p>If granted, the name(s) of (all) landowner(s) will be listed as 'permit holders' on the permit.</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Applying as an individual – complete the following:</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 20%;">Title</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Mr <input type="checkbox"/> Mrs <input type="checkbox"/> Ms <input type="checkbox"/> Other:</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Name(s)</td> <td colspan="2"></td> </tr> </table>	Title	<input type="checkbox"/> Mr <input type="checkbox"/> Mrs <input type="checkbox"/> Ms <input type="checkbox"/> Other:		Name(s)					
Title	<input type="checkbox"/> Mr <input type="checkbox"/> Mrs <input type="checkbox"/> Ms <input type="checkbox"/> Other:									
Name(s)										
<p>For purpose permits:</p> <p>If granted, the name(s) of (all) applicant(s) will go on the permit.</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Applying as a body corporate or other entity formed at law – complete the following:</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 20%;">Name</td> <td colspan="2"></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Australian Company Number (ACN)</td> <td colspan="2"></td> </tr> </table> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Applying as a government entity (e.g. government department, local government authority, or other statutory body)</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 20%;">Name</td> <td colspan="2">Shire of Dardanup</td> </tr> </table>	Name			Australian Company Number (ACN)			Name	Shire of Dardanup	
Name										
Australian Company Number (ACN)										
Name	Shire of Dardanup									

2.2 Applicant contact details

Provide the contact details for the above (primary contact).

Title	
First name	
Last name	
Position	
Company name	
Contact phone number (1)	
Email address	

2.2 Applicant contact postal details

Provide the postal address for the above individual, body corporate or local government authority (primary contact).

Address line 1	
Address line 2	
Suburb	
State	

2.3 Applicant contact – registered business address

If applying as a company, incorporated body, local government authority or public authority, please also supply the registered business office address.

Address line 1	
Address line 2	
Suburb	
State	
Contact phone number (1)	

2.4 Electronic correspondence consent

Both the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) and Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety (DMIRS) prefer to send all correspondence via email. We request that you consent to receiving all correspondence relating to instruments and notices under Part V of the EP Act via email. Please indicate your consent in this section of the form.

I consent that all written correspondence between myself (the applicant) and DWER/DMIRS (as applicable) about the subject of this form will be exclusively via email, using the email address provided above.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
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2.5 Contact details for enquiries

If different from the applicant's contact details, enter the contact details of a person with whom DWER or DMIRS should liaise with (e.g. a consultant).

Same as applicant's contact details	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
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If 'No' – complete the following:

Contact name	
Position (if applicable)	
Company name (if applicable)	
Contact phone number (1)	
Business or postal address line 1	
Business or postal address line 2	
Suburb	
State	
Email address	

Part 3 – Land details

- You must accurately describe the location of the land where your clearing is proposed.
- If you have a large number of properties, please provide the relevant details for each property in a separately attached supporting document.

3.1 Property details

I have a large number of properties and have given the relevant details in an attached supporting document.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes – skip to Part 4 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
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If 'No' – complete the following:

<p><u>Land description</u></p> <p>Provide the following details, as applicable, for all properties:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – volume and folio number – lot or location number(s) – crown lease or reserve number – pastoral lease number – mining tenement number 	<p>The proposed clearing is within the road reservation along Ferguson Road, in Ferguson/Wellington Mill, between Straight Line Kilometres (SLK) 13.6 and SLK 19.6, as defined by Main Roads Western Australia. As set out in the <i>Land Administration Act 1997</i>, this land is under the care, control and management of the Shire of Dardanup.</p> <p>Five small portions of private land are in the process of being acquired for public purpose (Road) to facilitate the widening of Ferguson Road in discrete areas. These are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Portion of Lot 1 Ferguson Road (0.0505ha); - Portion of Lot 403 Ferguson Road (0.0591 ha); - Portion of Lot 2838 Ferguson Road (0.0543 ha); - Portion of Lot 3336 Ferguson Road (0.0937 ha); and - Portion of Lot 400 Ratcliffe Road (0.0417 ha). <p>Memorandums of Understanding, signed by both the landowners and the Shire of Dardanup. These have been provided as Attachment 1. The land acquisition process will be completed before the issue of this permit, and therefore the subject to this clearing permit will be under the management of the Shire.</p>		
Street address – Line 1	Part Ferguson Road between Straight Line Kilometres (SLK) 13.6 and SLK 19.6		
Street address – Line 2			
Suburb	Ferguson/Wellington Mill		
State	WA	Postcode	6236
Local government area(s)	Shire of Dardanup		
Land zoning	'Rural' under the Greater Bunbury Region Scheme and 'access road' under the Shire of Dardanup Local Planning Scheme No. 3.		

Part 4 – Relationship to landowner

Tell us which of the following options best describes you as the person completing and submitting this form. If you are filling out this form on behalf of the applicant, answer this question as though you are the applicant.

Proof of ownership may include:

- a certificate of title (that is less than 6 months old)
- a pastoral or mining lease
- public authority that has care, control or management of the land
- other form of lease, land tenure or specific arrangement.

Relationship to landowner (select one of the following options)	Complete the following
<input type="checkbox"/> I am the landowner	<input type="checkbox"/> Attach proof of ownership
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I am lodging a form on behalf of the landowner (e.g. a consultant)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Attach proof of ownership The Shire of Dardanup is the relevant Local Government with care, control and management of the land as per <i>Land Administration Act 1997</i> . As per Part 3.1, Memorandum of Understanding for land parcels currently being acquired by the Shire are provided as Attachment 1 .
<input type="checkbox"/> I am acting on the landowner's behalf and will be jointly responsible for the clearing permit (i.e. joint form)	<input type="checkbox"/> Attach proof of ownership <input type="checkbox"/> Complete and attach an ' Acting on behalf and jointly responsible ' letter
<input type="checkbox"/> I am likely to become the landowner	<input type="checkbox"/> Attach the Certificate of Title <input type="checkbox"/> Attach evidence of the pending transfer of ownership and/or contract of sale ('offer and acceptance')
<input type="checkbox"/> I will undertake the clearing activities with the landowner's authority and will be the permit holder	<input type="checkbox"/> Attach proof of ownership <input type="checkbox"/> Complete and attach an ' Authority to access and clear native vegetation ' letter (if the applicant is not the landowner)
<input type="checkbox"/> A person with multiple land parcels	<input type="checkbox"/> Attach proof of ownership <input type="checkbox"/> Complete and attach ' Authority to access and clear native vegetation ' letter (if the applicant is not the landowner)

Part 5 – Proposed clearing

5.1 Maps and/or spatial data

<p>Select which map type(s) you will attach with your form.</p> <p>Note: We will decline / return forms (as applicable) if you do not provide sufficient information for this question.</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An ESRI shapefile with the following properties (<i>preferred</i>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Geometry type: polygon shape • Coordinate system: Geocentric Datum of Australia (GDA) 1994/2020 (geographic latitude / longitude) • Datum: GDA 1994 / GDA 2020 (please specify which was provided) <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An aerial photograph or map with a north arrow, clearly marking the proposed clearing area. This is provided in Attachment 2.</p> <p>Note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An ESRI shapefile must use one of the following filename extensions: .shp, .shx, .dbf, and/or .prj • You must provide an ESRI shapefile if the form requires an assessment under an <i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i> (Cth) (EPBC Act) accredited process. See Part 8 of this form for more information.
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5.2 Size

- If you propose to clear a patch(s) of vegetation, enter a hectare value for the total size of the area (mark number of trees as zero).
- If you propose to remove only individual trees from the area(s) (i.e. the shrubs, grasses, groundcover plants will remain intact), provide the number of trees (and mark total area as estimated hectares).
Note: If any shrubs, grasses, and/or groundcover plants MAY be damaged in the clearing process, add this to the total area.
- If you propose to clear an area of vegetation within a larger footprint, enter the hectare value for the total size of the area to be cleared (mark number of trees as zero) and the size of the footprint. For example, 5 hectares of clearing within a 10 hectare footprint. This option is only available for [purpose permit](#) applications.
- Enter values for BOTH number of trees and the size of the area if you are clearing individual trees in one area AND a patch of vegetation in a different area.
- Please note the following area conversions/calculations:

1 hectare = 10,000 m ²	Area of circle = 3.14 x radius ²
1 acre = 0.4 hectares / 4,000 m ²	Area of a rectangle = length x width
1 tree = 0.01 hectares / 100 m ²	Area of a triangle = ½ length x perpendicular height

Total area of clearing proposed (hectares)	3.19 hectares	
Footprint of clearing (hectares) (purpose permit only)	-	NOTE: Application area revised to 3.19 hectares within a 13.89 hectare footprint during Validation
Number of individual trees to be removed	-	

Note: Calculate the area of a tree based on the area encompassed by the tree's drip line; that being the outermost circumference of the tree's canopy.

5.3 Purpose

Provide the reason for proposed clearing (e.g. road construction, grazing and pasture, hazard reduction, horticulture, timber harvesting etc.)	Works are planned to implement safety upgrades to part of Ferguson Road. Ferguson Road has been awarded funding under the Regional Local Roads State Black Spot Program to widen the road, install audible edge lines, pavement markings, signs and delineation.
Specify what the final land use will be after clearing	Road

5.4 Method

Proposed method of clearing (i.e. burning, cutting, draining, flooding, grazing, mechanical clearing/bulldozing or other – specify)	Mechanical clearing/bulldozing
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5.5 Timeframe

Period within which you propose to do the clearing (e.g. 1/7/2022 to 30/8/2024)	Start date:31/08/2023 End date: 30/08/2025
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Note: The clearing referral process is not suitable for any clearing that is expected to take longer than two years.

5.6 Avoidance and mitigation

Explain how you have, or will, put avoidance and mitigation measures in place to eliminate, reduce, or otherwise mitigate the need for and scale of the proposed clearing of native vegetation.

Attach supporting documents to substantiate your explanation.

Your explanation should demonstrate you have planned the project so that the least clearing possible is to be undertaken. The following questions may help you frame your explanation:

- Why did you select this location and amount of clearing?
- What alternatives to clearing – e.g. engineering solutions – did you consider?
- What changes, if any, did you make to the location or amount of clearing to reduce the impacts of the clearing?

Note: If you do not demonstrate adequate efforts to avoid and mitigate clearing, we will ask you to do so during the validation of this form.

Provide the avoidance and mitigation details	<p>This portion of the road is required to be upgraded for safety purposes, as outlined above. The upgrades specifically relate to widening the existing road pavement to address safety concerns.</p> <p>The existing sealed width of Ferguson Road between SLK 13.6 and SLK 19.6 varies and has unsealed gravel shoulders on both sides of the road. “Clear zones”, that is, the distance between the sealed edge and traffic hazards such as trees, do not currently meet the minimum distances recommended in the Austroads Guidelines. The majority of crashes on Ferguson Road, as well as other similar roads in the area, are run-off type vehicle crashes.</p> <p>The recommended treatment for this road comprises a 7m seal width (2 x 3.5m lanes), audible</p>
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edge lines, and 0.5m partially sealed shoulders on both sides (8.0m width total seal). This treatment was developed through the State Blackspot Program and is considered a compromise for local roads such as Ferguson Road, where construction of alternative alignments would not be possible, minimum clear zones could not be reasonably established and/or there are areas of adverse road geometry that would be impractical to improve.

The audible edge line treatment provides warning to road users and the partially sealed shoulder provides some margin of error for the driver, who may be inadvertently veering off the road, to recover and revert to the lane. The treatment increases the safety of the road without having to realign the road or provide clear zones that would necessitate extensive clearing of trees. The recommended treatment minimises the need for clearing since the existing alignment is generally maintained, the increase in road width is small, and clear zones are largely left as they are.

The existing road and associated reserve has been subject to survey to identify key features, including trees with a diameter at breast height (DBH) greater than 300 mm. Flora, vegetation and fauna surveys have also been undertaken, including targeted fauna surveys for western ringtail possum and black cockatoos. The areas of native vegetation are a mix of remnant isolated/grouped trees, and areas of trees with native understorey present. The vegetation being disturbed ranges from 'very good' (a very small portion) to 'degraded' and 'completely degraded' (the majority). A significant portion is also existing cleared paddocks, road pavement and cleared shoulders.

Multiple widening and realignment scenarios have been considered as part of developing the road widening strategy, including in particular consideration of batter locations. This has been undertaken in consideration of the flora, vegetation and fauna surveys and resulted in a reduction of the original proposed road works area from 11.25 ha (which includes 4.29 ha of native vegetation clearing) to 9.64 ha (which includes 3.19 ha of native vegetation clearing).

It is relevant to note that the proposed road safety upgrades are associated with an existing road, and approximately 1.59 ha of the native vegetation cover included in the proposed 3.19 ha extends over the existing cleared road pavement and shoulders. It is difficult to be specific with the exact impact on the existing canopy overhanging the road pavement and cleared shoulders, so a conservative approach has been undertaken assuming all vegetation will be removed. It is therefore possible that the clearing will not be as much as predicted based on canopy cover.

It is also anticipated that a further reduction in clearing will be possible as part of implementing the road works program, associated with modifying batter footprints as works progress based on the specific site conditions (e.g. some batters may be steepened to avoid particular trees). This is a standard practice implemented by the Shire of Dardanup, but the vegetation that could be avoided cannot be explicitly confirmed at this stage as it is highly dependent on the on-ground conditions. On this basis, a conservative approach has been undertaken in determining a likely maximum extent of clearing for this permit.

Further information is included as 'other additional supporting information' in **Attachment 2**.

Part 6 – Offset

Do you want to submit a clearing offset proposal with your form?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
If 'Yes' – please complete and attach Appendix A of the Clearing of native vegetation offsets procedure guideline as a supporting document for your form.	<input type="checkbox"/> Appendix A attached

Part 7 – Surveys for assessments (IBSA and IMSA)

Do you want to submit marine or biodiversity surveys in support of your form?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No – skip to Part 8
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7.1 Biodiversity surveys

If you want to submit any biodiversity surveys to support this form, you must follow the Environmental Protection Authority's (EPA) [Instructions for the preparation of data packages for the Index of Biodiversity Surveys for Assessments](#) (IBSA). If you do not meet the IBSA requirements, DWER/DMIRS (as applicable) may decline/return your form.

Please provide the IBSA number(s) – or submission number(s) if the IBSA number has not yet been issued – in the space provided. Note that a submission number is not confirmation that a biodiversity survey has been accepted and is not the same as an IBSA number. IBSA numbers are only issued once a survey has been accepted. Once an IBSA number is issued, please notify DWER/DMIRS (as applicable). Please note DWER / DMIRS will suspend the assessment timeframes for your form until you provide the IBSA number(s).

Have you submitted all the biodiversity surveys that support this form to the Index of Biodiversity Surveys for Assessment, available at ibsasubmissions.dwer.wa.gov.au ?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Not applicable Noting Attachment 5 confirms no additional flora species were identified so was not able to be submitted via IBSA.
Provide an IBSA number (preferred) or a submission number(s)	IBSA-2023-0163 IBSA-2023-0164 Also provided as Attachment 3 and Attachment 4 .

7.2 Marine surveys

If you want to submit any marine surveys to support this form, you must follow the EPA's [Instructions for the preparation of data packages for the Index of Marine Surveys for Assessments](#) (IMSA). If you do not meet the IMSA requirements, DWER may decline/return your form.

Have you prepared all the marine surveys that support this form in accordance with the EPA's <i>Instructions for the preparation of data packages for the Index of Marine Surveys for Assessments</i> ?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not applicable
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Part 8 – Assessment Bilateral Agreement

The native vegetation clearing processes under Part V of the EP Act have been accredited by the Commonwealth of Australia under the EPBC Act and so can be assessed under an assessment bilateral agreement.

To be assessed this way, the proposed clearing action must have been referred to the Commonwealth under the EPBC Act and deemed a **‘controlled action’** before you submit this form.

For further information, see [DWER’s website guidance on the assessment bilateral agreement](#).

Is your proposed clearing a controlled action?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No – skip to Part 9
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If ‘Yes’ – complete the following:

Please make sure you have entered all the mandatory details in the Annex C7 form	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Annex C7 form</i> attached
List the controlling provisions identified in the notification of the controlled action decision	

Part 9 – Other approvals

Which department are you submitting this form to? If the clearing is for mineral and petroleum activities authorised under the <i>Mining Act 1978</i> , the various Petroleum Acts, and/or a State Agreement Act, select ‘Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety’. For all other clearing activities, select ‘Department of Water and Environmental Regulation’.	<input type="checkbox"/> Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Department of Water and Environmental Regulation
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9.1 Environmental impact assessment (Part IV of the EP Act)

Clearing may be referred to the EPA if it is considered to be part of a ‘significant proposal’, as defined by section 37B(1) of the EP Act, or will likely to be part of a larger development. An example is when the clearing is for a road to a future mine.

Section 37B(1) of the EP Act defines a ‘significant proposal’ as “a proposal likely, if implemented, to have a significant effect on the environment”. If a decision-making authority (e.g. DWER or DMIRS) considers the proposal in this form is likely to constitute a ‘significant proposal’, under section 38(5) of the EP Act they must refer the proposal to the EPA or for assessment under Part IV, if such a referral has not already been made.

<p>Has the proposed clearing or any related matter been referred to the EPA?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes</p> <p>Enter details: <input type="text"/></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No – complete question below.</p>
<p>If 'No' – do you intend to refer the proposal to the EPA?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes – intend to refer (proposal is a 'significant proposal')</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes – intend to refer (proposal will require a section 45C amendment to the current Ministerial Statement)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No – a current valid Ministerial Statement applies</p> <p>Enter Ministerial Statement number: <input type="text"/></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No – not a significant proposal</p>

9.2 Other approvals – pre-application scoping (DWER forms only)

<p>Have you had any pre-application/ pre-referral/ scoping meetings with DWER about any planned applications?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes</p> <p>Enter details: <input type="text"/></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>However the permit application was generally discussed with a DWER officer on the 30 March 2023.</p>
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9.3 Other approvals – works approval, licence or registration (Part V Division 3 of the EP Act)

<p>Have you applied or do you intend to apply for a works approval, licence, registration or an amendment to any of the above, under Part V Division 3 of the EP Act?</p> <p>It is an offence to perform any action that would cause a premises to become a prescribed premises of a type listed in Schedule 1 of the Environmental Protection Regulations 1987, unless that action is done in accordance with a works approval, licence or registration. For further guidance, see DWER's Procedure: Prescribed premises works approvals and licences and Guideline: Industry regulation guide to licensing.</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes</p> <p>Application reference: <input type="text"/></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No – a valid works approval applies</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No – a valid licence applies</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No – a valid registration applies</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No – not required</p>
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