



# 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

Select your <a href="#">form type</a> .  NOTE: Where appropriate in this form, and unless stated otherwise, the terms 'application' and 'applicant' also mean 'referral' and 'referrer' respectively.	<input type="checkbox"/> Referral of proposed clearing (s.51DA of the EP Act)  <input type="checkbox"/> Application for an area permit (s.51E of the EP Act)  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Application for a purpose permit (s.51E of the EP Act)
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## Part 2 – Applicant details

### 2.1 Applicant name

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

## 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.

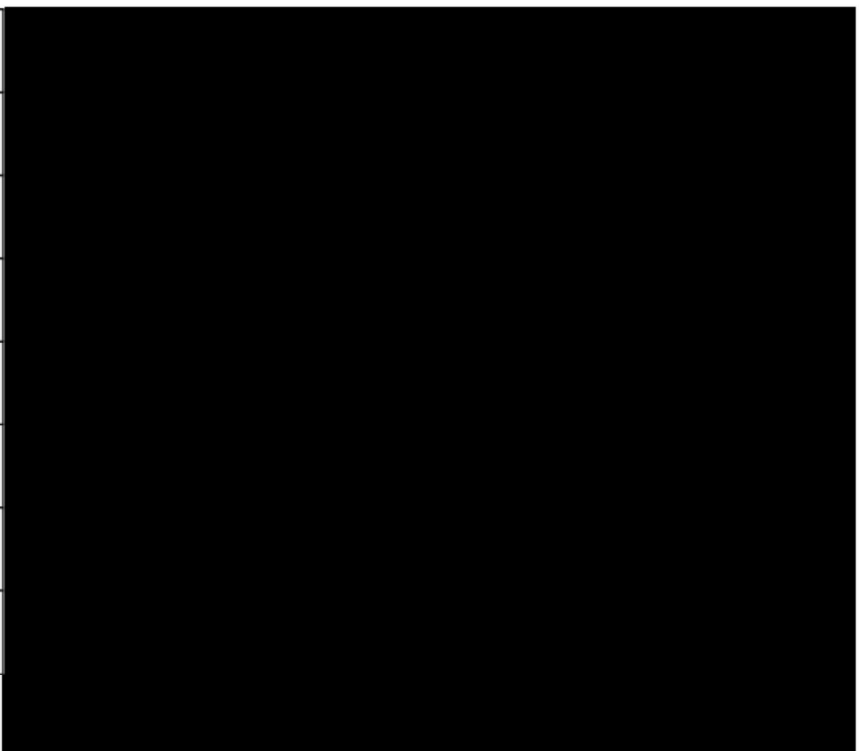
I consent that all written correspondence between myself (the applicant) and DWER/DMIRS (as applicable) about the subject of this form will be exclusively via email, using the email address provided above.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
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## 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"> <li>– volume and folio number</li> <li>– lot or location number(s)</li> <li>– crown lease or reserve number</li> <li>– pastoral lease number</li> <li>– mining tenement number</li> </ul>	<p>Two Lots:</p> <p>Road Reserve Pin: 1319484 Public Roads Crooks Rd, between Great Eastern Highway &amp; Train Track</p> <p>LOT 10366 ON PLAN 126287 PIN: 644046 Crooks Rd, between Great Eastern Highway &amp; Train Track</p> <p>Owner: Shire of Merredin</p>		
Street address – Line 1	Crooks Road, between Great Eastern Highway and Train Track		
Street address – Line 2			
Suburb	Merredin		
State	Western Australia	Postcode	6415
Local government area(s)	Shire of Merredin		
Land zoning	Lot 10366 - 79 – Public Utility Road Reserve – No Zoning Applicable		

## 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
<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 type="checkbox"/> An ESRI shapefile with the following properties (<i>preferred</i>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Geometry type: polygon shape</li> <li>• Coordinate system: Geocentric Datum of Australia (GDA) 2020 (geographic latitude / longitude)</li> <li>• Datum: GDA 2020</li> </ul> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An aerial photograph or map with a north arrow, clearly marking the proposed clearing area</p> <p>Note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An ESRI shapefile must use one of the following filename extensions: .shp, .shx, .dbf, and/or .prj</li> <li>• 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.</li> </ul>
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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 <sup>2</sup>	Area of circle = 3.14 x radius <sup>2</sup>
1 acre = 0.4 hectares / 4,000 m <sup>2</sup>	Area of a rectangle = length x width
1 tree = 0.01 hectares / 100 m <sup>2</sup>	Area of a triangle = ½ length x perpendicular height

Total area of clearing proposed (hectares)	0.1830 Hectares
Footprint of clearing (hectares) (purpose permit only)	0.1830 Hectares
Number of individual trees to be removed	25 Trees

NOTE: Revised to 0.072hectares during validation.

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.)	Road construction
Specify what the final land use will be after clearing	Road seal, road shoulder, embankment.

### 5.4 Method

Proposed method of clearing (i.e. burning, cutting, draining, flooding, grazing, mechanical clearing/bulldozing or other – specify)	Cutting and slashing
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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: 1/03/2024 End date: 31/05/2024
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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 project has the main objective of improving safety and efficiency along Crooks Road, a key transport route, which services an average of 516 vehicles per day (65% heavy vehicles). Crooks Road is a route predominately used for access by industry to the Industrial Area West of the Merredin Townsite. Two issues have been flagged through a Road Safety Audit conducted by Main Roads Western Australia, that being: Insufficient pavement and shoulder width and roadside hazards within the clear zone. It was recommended that the sealed surface should be widened to accommodate the high proportion of heavy vehicles and that trees located within the clear zone should be removed or suitably protected in accordance with Austroads Guidelines.</p> <p>The projects initial design aimed to widen the road on both sides which would require clearing on the eastern and western embankments. The Shire have</p>
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since reworked this design to extend the road on the Eastern side only to avoid clearing both sides. Unfortunately, all trees and bushes on the eastern side will be affected due to the amount of clean fill required to stabilize the road for the construction works. As per Main Roads Guide to Road Design, the cross-section for rural roads accommodating 500 – 1000 PCUs (Passenger car Units) proposes widening the road from the current 6-7m seal to an 8m seal to enable heavy vehicles to pass other vehicles in a safe manner. The minimum pavement width for an 8m seal is 10m. Generally, to improve the road quality, the shoulders of a road should be at least 1.5m. Thus, the final design will be 2 x 3.5m traffic lanes with 1.5m shoulders (0.5m sealed and 1.0m unsealed).

Given the width of the required road and shoulder, clearing is required on both the road reserve and encroaching natural flora on the adjacent land – Lot 10366. This land is Shire owned and houses an evaporation basin which is gated off around the basins' perimeter. The Shire plan to plant trees on this land to mitigate the damage from both the road reserve and this land on the Northern boundary, north of the evaporation basins.

Wildflower society member, Roy Butler, has been consulted to identify floral species and provide advice on revegetation efforts. He mentioned the following:

*“There are quandongs on the eastern side and some wattles/acacias on the west. On both sides of the road are some native blue bush (readily propagates itself from seed) and native curly windmill grass, a few spiny leafless native shrubs, to be identified, and a small Atriplex/saltbush. Close to the hwy on the east side are grass weeds - wild oats and African love grass (perennial tussocks) and, in winter-spring, Paterson's curse. In this area I believe you would only want low growing grasses and prostrate or very low shrubs.*

*Once the road widening is finished there won't be much of a strip each side, to the fence lines, for revegetating. You could lightly mulch the remaining road verges, plant a few low saltbushes and maybe a few quandongs close to the fence lines and allow natural regeneration of bluebush and curly windmill grass. Occasional selective spraying of wild oats, African LG and Paterson's curse. A simple approach!”*

I had then mentioned the land adjacent was our land and we plan to revegetate there, he then mentioned:

*“Ah, I wondered about the land where the evaporation basins are. Planting there, at a safe distance from the railway line, could include some bigger trees, even salmon gums. Gimlets, York gums and smaller mallees would be good options too.”*

Given Roy's advice, the Shire plan to plant between the basins and at a safe distance from the railway line (avoiding the railway corridor). We will plant a total of 50 trees and shrubs in their optimal times given the species. A mixture of large trees and shrubbery will aim to stimulate natural conditions and attract other flora and local fauna. There is one large trunk on the road reserve which we will also move in this area for potential fauna accommodation. The Shire will initiate a maintenance plan with our depot staff which will ensure we achieve the best success rate possible for the land.

In Appendix One – Area Ground View, trees that will be cleared and trees that are avoided are outlined.

In Appendix Two – Site Overview, satellite imagery outlines revegetation areas, where trees are avoided and where trees will be cleared.



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## Part 6 – Offset

Do you want to submit a clearing offset proposal with your form? For more information on environmental offsets, refer to <a href="#">DWER's website</a> and <a href="#">Fact Sheet 11: Environmental offsets for native vegetation clearing permits</a> .	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
If 'Yes' – please complete and attach Appendix A of the <a href="#">Clearing of native vegetation offsets procedure</a> 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 type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" 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. For further information on IBSA, refer to [DWER's website](#).

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 IBSA portal, via <a href="https://ibsasubmissions.dwer.wa.gov.au">ibsasubmissions.dwer.wa.gov.au</a> ?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Not applicable
Provide an IBSA number (preferred) or a submission number(s)	

### 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. For more information on IMSA, refer to [DWER's website](#).

Have you prepared all the marine surveys that support this form in accordance with the EPA's *Instructions for the preparation of data packages for the Index of Marine Surveys for Assessments*?

Yes

Not applicable