GOVERNMENT OF
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

PERMIT DETAILS

Area Permit Number: CPS 10716/1

File Number: DWERVT15836

Duration of Permit: From 11 August 2025 to 11 August 2027

PERMIT HOLDER

Shire of Nannup

LAND ON WHICH CLEARING IS TO BE DONE

Cundinup West Road reserve (PIN 11511790 and PIN 11511792), Cundinup

AUTHORISED ACTIVITY

The permit holder must not clear more than 0.053 hectares of *native vegetation* within the area cross-hatched yellow in Figure 1 of Schedule 1.

CONDITIONS

1. Avoid, minimise, and reduce impacts and extent of clearing

In determining the *native vegetation* authorised to be cleared under this permit, the permit holder must apply the following principles, set out in descending order of preference:

(a) avoid the clearing of *native vegetation*;

(b) minimise the amount of *native vegetation* to be cleared; and

(c) reduce the impact of clearing on any environmental value.

2. Weed and dieback management

When undertaking any clearing authorised under this permit, the permit holder must take the following measures to minimise the risk of introduction and spread of *weeds* and *dieback*:

(a) clean earth-moving machinery of soil and vegetation prior to entering and leaving the area to be cleared;

(b) ensure that no known *dieback* or *weed*-affected soil, *mulch*, *fill*, or other material is brought into the area to be cleared; and

(c) restrict the movement of machines and other vehicles to the limits of the areas to be cleared.

3. Erosion management

(a) The permit holder:

(i) is authorised to clear *native vegetation* in *dry conditions* outside of the peak rainfall period of May to July;

(ii) must install temporary *erosion control measures* downslope prior to clearing *native vegetation* and bridge works to reduce the potential for soil erosion and sedimentation runoff; and

(iii) retain leaf litter cover where practicable.

4. Records that must be kept

The permit holder must maintain records relating to the listed relevant matters in accordance with the specifications detailed in Table 1.

Table 1: Records that must be kept

No.	Relevant matter	Specifications
1.	In relation to the authorised clearing activities generally	(a) the species composition, structure, and density of the cleared area; (b) the location where the clearing occurred, recorded using a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit set to GDA2020, expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings; (c) the date that the area was cleared; (d) the size of the area cleared (in hectares); (e) actions taken to avoid, minimise, and reduce the impacts and extent of clearing in accordance with condition 1; (f) actions taken to minimise the risk of the introduction and spread of *weeds* and *dieback* in accordance with condition 2; and (g) actions taken in accordance with condition 3.

5. Reporting

The permit holder must provide to the *CEO* the records required under condition 4 of this permit when requested by the *CEO*.

DEFINITIONS

In this permit, the terms in Table 2 have the meanings defined.

Table 2: Definitions

Term	Definition
CEO	Chief Executive Officer of the department responsible for the administration of the clearing provisions under the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*.
clearing	has the meaning given under section 3(1) of the EP Act.
condition	a condition to which this clearing permit is subject under section 51H of the EP Act.
department	means the department established under section 35 of the *Public Sector Management Act 1994* (WA) and designated as responsible for the administration of the EP Act, which includes Part V Division 3.
dieback	means the effect of *Phytophthora* species on native vegetation.
dry conditions	a period where there is no rain.
EP Act	*Environmental Protection Act 1986* (WA)
erosion control measures	means the installation of erosion/sediment fencing, coir logs or other suitable mediums to manage soil erosion
fill	means material used to increase the ground level, or to fill a depression.
mulch	means the use of organic matter, wood chips or rocks to slow the movement of water across the soil surface and to reduce evaporation.
native vegetation	has the meaning given under section 3(1) and section 51A of the EP Act.
weeds	means any plant – (a) that is a declared pest under section 22 of the *Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act 2007*; or (b) published in a Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions species-led ecological impact and invasiveness ranking summary, regardless of ranking; or (c) not indigenous to the area concerned.

END OF CONDITIONS

Meenu Vitarana
MANAGER
NATIVE VEGETATION REGULATION

Officer delegated under Section 20
of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

18 July 2025

SCHEDULE 1

The boundary of the area authorised to be cleared is shown in the map below (Figure 1).

Figure 1: Map of the boundary of the area within which clearing may occur

Government of Western Australia
Department of Water and Environmental Regulation

Clearing Permit Decision Report

1 Application details and outcome

1.1. Permit application details

Permit number:	CPS 10716/1
Permit type:	Area permit
Applicant name:	Shire of Nannup
Application received:	7 August 2024
Application area:	0.053 hectares of native vegetation
Purpose of clearing:	Replacement of existing bridge
Method of clearing:	Mechanical
Property:	Road Reserve (PIN 11511790) Road Reserve (PIN 11511792)
Location (LGA area/s):	Shire of Nannup
Localities (suburb/s):	Cundinup West

1.2. Description of clearing activities

The vegetation proposed to be cleared is contained within a single contiguous area (see Figure 1, Section 1.5) to facilitate machinery access to replace and upgrade the bridge over Padbury Brook.

The application was revised during the assessment process to further reduce the clearing from 0.06 hectares to 0.53 hectares, in response to a request for further information issued by the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) (see section 3.1 for further details).

1.3. Decision on application

Decision:	Granted
Decision date:	18 July 2025
Decision area:	0.053 hectares of native vegetation, as depicted in Section 1.5, below.

1.4. Reasons for decision

This clearing permit application was submitted, accepted, assessed and determined in accordance with sections 51E and 51O of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (EP Act). The DWER advertised the application for 21 days and no submissions were received.

In making this decision, the Delegated Officer had regard for the site characteristics (see Appendix B), relevant datasets (see Appendix H.), the findings of the DWER site inspection (see photos in Appendix G), the clearing principles set out in Schedule 5 of the EP Act (see Appendix C), relevant planning instruments and any other matters considered relevant to the assessment (see Section 3). The Delegated Officer also took into consideration that the clearing is required to facilitate the replacement of an existing bridge. The existing bridges' bed logs have begun to deteriorate over time and has contributed to several accidents. As a result, the Shire has been required to regularly

undertake surface corrections, as the existing bridge continues to deteriorate (Stantec, 2022). Additionally, the existing design consists of a 0.6 metre shoulder on one side of the bridge only. The new design will result in a full formation width, with additional roadside barriers and improved battering which will overall improve the road safety.

The assessment identified that the proposed clearing will result in:

- the potential introduction and spread of weeds into adjacent vegetation, which could impact on the quality of the adjacent vegetation and its habitat values and
- potential land degradation in the form of wind erosion and .
- sedimentation of surface water.

After consideration of the available information, as well as the applicant's minimisation and mitigation measures (see Section 3.1), the Delegated Officer determined the proposed clearing is unlikely to lead to appreciable land degradation or have long-term adverse impacts on surface water quality and can be minimised and managed to unlikely lead to an unacceptable risk.

The Delegated Officer decided to grant a clearing permit subject to conditions to:

- avoid and minimise to reduce the impacts and extent of clearing
- take hygiene steps to minimise the risk of the introduction and spread of weeds
- clear native vegetation in dry conditions outside of peak rainfall periods of May to August
- install temporary erosion control measures downslope prior to clearing native vegetation and bridge works to reduce the potential for soil erosion and sedimentation runoff, and;
- retain leaf litter cover where practicable.

1.5. Site map

Figure 1: Map of the application area. The area crosshatched yellow indicates the area authorised to be cleared under the granted clearing permit.

2 Legislative context

The clearing of native vegetation in Western Australia is regulated under the EP Act and the *Environmental Protection (Clearing of Native Vegetation) Regulations 2004* (Clearing Regulations).

In addition to the matters considered in accordance with section 51O of the EP Act (see Section 1.4), the Delegated Officer has also had regard to the objects and principles under section 4A of the EP Act, particularly:

- the precautionary principle
- the principle of intergenerational equity
- the principle of the conservation of biological diversity and ecological integrity.

Other legislation of relevance for this assessment include:

- *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016* (WA) (BC Act)
- *Rights in Water and irrigation Act* 1914 (RIWI Act)

The key guidance documents which inform this assessment are:

- *A guide to the assessment of applications to clear native vegetation* (DER, December 2013)
- *Procedure: Native vegetation clearing permits* (DWER, October 2019)

3 Detailed assessment of application

3.1. Avoidance and mitigation measures

Evidence was submitted by the applicant, demonstrating evidence of avoidance and mitigation including (Shire of Nannup 2024, 2025):

- the application area was amended both during validation and assessment from 0.09 hectares to 0.053 hectares,
- the application area was confined to the road reserve only and excludes the adjacent state forest,
- mature trees have been avoided where practicable,
- higher value vegetation has been avoided,
- understorey clearing will be minimised where possible and only focusing on area necessary for safety equipment operation and construction,
- as the clearing is for access to upgrade the bridge no topsoil or significant soil excavation is required,
- soil disturbance will be limited to surface grading and shaping required for new batters,
- leaflitter and ground covers will be retained where possible,
- sediment control measures (such as fencing) will be installed downslope to prevent runoff and erosion,
- all machinery will undergo appropriate hygiene procedures to prevent the spread and introduction of weeds, dieback and other contaminants,
- the clearing area was selected in areas of completely degraded to good condition,
- clearing and batter shaping activities will be timed to avoid periods of heavy rainfall,
- batter design will assist to reduce erosion by reducing the gradient slope, and
- temporary erosion and sediment control will be installed.

The Delegated Officer was satisfied that the applicant has made a reasonable effort to avoid and minimise potential impacts of the proposed clearing on environmental values.

3.2. Assessment of impacts on environmental values

In assessing the application, the Delegated Officer has had regard for the site characteristics (see Appendix BAppendix B) and the extent to which the impacts of the proposed clearing present a risk to biological, conservation, or land and water resource values.

The assessment against the clearing principles identified the impacts of the proposed clearing present a risk to biological values (fauna), land and water resources. The consideration of these impacts, and the extent to which they can be managed through conditions applied in line with sections 51H and 51I of the EP Act, is set out below.

3.2.1. Biological values (fauna) - Clearing Principles (a and b)

Assessment

The application area is situated within the Jarrah Forest Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation for Australia (IBRA) region. Available databases identified 14 conservation significant fauna species have been recorded within the local area (10-kilometre radius of the application area). Of these 14 species the assessment determined three species were likely to occur including:

- *Zanda latirostris* (Carnaby's cockatoo), - endangered
- *Zanda baudinii* (Baudin's cockatoo) - endangered
- *Calyptorhynchus banksii naso* (forest red-tailed black cockatoo), - vulnerable

The application area is situated within the distribution of all three black cockatoo species and consists of vegetation known as primary foraging species for black cockatoos. The nearest known breeding site is located approximately 8.7 kilometres north of the application area and the nearest known roost is situated approximately 13 kilometres south west. During the assessment the application area was revised on two occasions to further reduce the impacts of the clearing. This reduction in size was a result of the DWERs request for further information and to ensure the clearing was confined to the road reserve only (Shire of Nannup, 2025). As a result of reducing the application area, the number of trees were further reduced from 37 to 17 trees. The application area consists of the following tree species:

- 5 *Corymbia calophylla* (Marri) – primary foraging for all three black cockatoo species
- *2 Eucalyptus marginata* (Jarrah) – primary foraging for all three black cockatoo species
- 5 *Eucalyptus patens* (Blackbutt); – foraging for Carnaby's and forest redtail black cockatoo and,
- 5 *Eucalyptus rudis* (Flooded gum) – roosting habitat only

DWER conducted a site inspection which confirmed the trees within the application area did not contain any hollows and majority of the trees were young (refer to Appendix G for site photos) (DWER, 2025). The inspection identified the trees within the application area are relatively small, with very minimal foraging value, with the larger mature trees occurring outside of the application area.

Black cockatoos will generally roost in the tallest trees nearby to watering points (Commonwealth, 2022). Whilst the application area consists of *Eucalyptus rudis;* which are known species for night roosting, the trees within the application area are relatively young in comparison to the vegetation in the surrounding area. Taller trees more suitable for roosting occurs outside the application area in the state forest and therefore it is unlikely the *E.rudis* within the application area will provide suitable roosting habitat. It is also to be noted the local area surrounding the application is extensively vegetated, providing ample roosting opportunity.

Within the local area (10 kilometre radius of the application area) remnant vegetation cover is 71.3 per cent (Government of Western Australia, 2019). The application area is also directly adjacent to a state forest consisting of high quality vegetation suitable for foraging, breeding and roosting habitat. The local area also consists of approximately 22,325.67 hectares of vegetation mapped as suitable foraging habitat. Majority of the foraging habitat within the local area occurs within Department of Biodiversity Conservation and Attractions (DBCA) managed estates, including Jarrahwood state forest and Millbrook state forest. During the inspection no evidence of black cockatoo foraging was observed (DWER, 2025). Whilst the application area does contain species suitable for black cockatoo foraging, noting the extent of the clearing, and the extent of native vegetation suitable for foraging habitat within the local area, the application area is not considered a significant foraging resource when considering the wider local context.

The application area is not located within a confirmed breeding area for black cockatoos. According to available databases, there is one confirmed black cockatoo breeding site within the local area; located approximately 8.7 kilometres north of the application area. Breeding trees require a suitable diameter at breast height (DBH) to develop nest hollows. Most species of live trees consisting of hollows are found in trees with a DBH of 500mm and trees likely to develop a hollow in the future are 300-500mm DBH (Commonwealth, 2022). Noting the trees within the application area are immature, they are not considered to be of suitable size to form hollows (refer to Appendix G for photos of the application are). During the site inspection no trees with hollows were observed within the application area (DWER, 2025). Noting no hollows are present, the absence of habitat trees within the application area and given the extent of the vegetation within the local area, it is unlikely the vegetation to be cleared will significantly impact breeding habitat for black cockatoos.

Conclusion
Based on the above assessment, the proposed clearing is unlikely to significantly impact foraging, breeding and roosting habitat of all three black cockatoos species. The local area is highly vegetated with 71.3 per cent vegetation remaining, given the vegetation extent and the quality of vegetation outside the application area, the clearing of 0.053 hectares of native vegetation is not likely to significantly impact black cockatoos.

Conditions
No fauna management conditions required.

3.2.2. Land and water resources (Land degradation) - Clearing Principles (g)

Assessment

The application area comprises of the Blackwood low slopes Phase (214GvBK3) soils. These soils consist of sandy gravel; often found in river beds, as well as deep sands. These soils are generally associated with in low valley slopes and jarrah-marri forests and woodlands (DPIRD, 2019). The blackwood low slope phase soils are susceptible to land degradation risk, including a high risk of wind erosion and subsurface acidification and a moderate risk of water erosion water repellence and phosphorus exports.

During the assessment the applicant provided additional measures to mitigate the above land degradation risks, ensuring the clearing of native vegetation will not exacerbate these risks of degradation. Given the proposed clearing is for the purpose of providing access to upgrade an existing bridge, soil disturbance will be minimal when clearing the vegetation. The applicant has identified an application area which is to the extent necessary to facilitate the works and have selected an area consisting of vegetation in completely degraded to good condition. As clearing will be restricted to surface-level vegetation with minimal deep-rooted species being cleared, the clearing is unlikely to exacerbate the risks of subsurface acidification. Noting the application area is situated within a low point in the landscape and is protected by state forest to the south east and a raised road on the north west, wind erosion risks are minimal. The applicant has also identified that leaf litter and ground covers will be retained where possible to further assist in soil stabilisation and to minimise soils being exposed to wind and water. The clearing and batter shaping activities will be timed to avoid periods of heavy rain, and the batter slope design will reduce the gradients of the batter slope to further mitigate water erosion. During the construction phase temporary erosion and sediment control measures (e.g. fencing and coir logs) will be installed downslope to intercept runoff and minimise erosion whilst also assisting with reducing phosphorus exports (Shire of Nannup, 2025)

Conclusion
Based on the above assessment, the proposed clearing is unlikely to exacerbate land degradation risks, and the applicant has provided sufficient mitigation measures to further reduce these risks.

Conditions
To address the above impacts, the following management measures will be required as conditions on the clearing permit:

- Clearing during dry conditions outside of peak rainfall periods of May to August
- Temporary erosion control measures to be installed downslope prior to the clearing and bridge works to reduce the potential for soil erosion and sedimentation runoff, and
- Retain lead litter cover where practicable

3.2.3. Environmental value (land and water resources) - Clearing Principles (f and i)

Assessment

The application area intersects the Padbury Brook; a natural, non-perennial tributary of the St Johns Brook. Approximately 0.13 hectares of the application area intersects the southern portion of an extensive area mapped as a Palusplain wetland. A palusplain wetland is described as being a seasonally waterlogged system. The application area also consists of *Eucalyptus rudis* (flooded gum), *lepidosperma effusum* and, *Taxandria linearifolia* all of which are species representative of riparian vegetation (Western Australian Herbarium, 1998). Given this, a portion of the application area is considered to be growing in, or in an environment associated with a wetland and a watercourse.

Whilst the vegetation is considered to be growing in association with a wetland or watercourse, the departments site inspection identified the condition of this vegetation was in completely degraded to degraded condition (DWER, 2025). Noting the condition of the vegetation intersecting the wetland and watercourse and given the extent of the clearing, it is unlikely the proposed clearing will significantly impact the environmental values associated with the wetland and watercourse. Further, given the non-perennial nature of the watercourse and the extent of the proposed clearing, it is likely any water quality impacts will be limited to short-term sedimentation.

The applicant has identified the proposed clearing will avoid stripping of topsoil and will retain leaf litter, understory and ground cover vegetation where possible to reduce the impact of soil erosion (Shire of Nannup, 2025). The applicant has also committed to installing sediment control downslope to the cleared areas to manage sedimentation in the non-perennial watercourse. These provisions are expected to minimise water quality impacts.

Conclusion

Based on the above assessment, the proposed clearing will result in the loss of vegetation growing in association with a wetland and a watercourse. For the reasons set out above, the proposed clearing is unlikely to result in any significant or long-term impacts to water quality and can be further managed with the below permit conditions.

Conditions

To address the above impacts, the following management measures will be required as conditions on the clearing permit:

- Clearing is to occur in dry conditions outside of peak rainfall periods of May to August
- Temporary erosion control measures to be installed downslope prior to the clearing and bridge works to reduce the potential for soil erosion and sedimentation runoff, and
- Retain lead litter cover where practicable

3.3. Relevant planning instruments and other matters

The proposed clearing is to facilitate upgrades to a Shire owned asset to upgrade the existing bridge design and improve road safety, and the clearing is consistent with the Shire's Local Planning Scheme.

DWER sort internal RiWi Advise on the requirements for a Bed and Banks permit for the bridge upgrades. The South West Approvals region identified the Padbury Brook is an unregulated watercourse and therefore a bed and banks permit is not required to facilitate the bridge upgrades (RiWi, 2025).

There are no Aboriginal sites of significance mapped within the application area. It is the permit holder's responsibility to comply with the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972* (WA) and ensure that no Aboriginal Sites of Significance are damaged through the clearing process.

End

Appendix A. Additional information provided by applicant

Summary of comments	Consideration of comment
Response to the Department's December 2024 request for further information (Shire of Nannup, 2025) Including: - Species composition - further avoidance through reducing the size of the clearing - mitigation measures - Land degradation mitigation	This information was considered during the assessment and outlined in Section 3 of this report.

Appendix B. Site characteristics

B.1. Site characteristics

Characteristic	Details
Local context	The application area is a continuous strip of native vegetation along a road reserve, within the intensive land use zone of Western Australia. The application area intersects a tributary of the Blackwood river and is adjacent to State Forest and nearby pine plantations. Aerial imagery indicates the local area (10-kilometre radius from the centre of the application area) retains approximately 71.22 per cent of the original native vegetation cover.
Ecological linkage	The application area contributes to the Roadside conservation linkages and informal local ecological linkage. The nearest formal ecological linkage is the South West Regional Ecological Linkage line, which is mapped approximately 600 metres north of the application area (Molloy et al., 2009).
Conservation areas	The application area is directly adjacent to the Jarrahwood State Forest (PIN 511516)
Vegetation description	Photographs and information supplied by the applicant (Shire of Nannup, 2024, 2025) and DWER's site inspection (DWER, 2025), indicate the vegetation within the application area consists of a canopy dominated jarrah and marri with occasional blackbutt and flooded gum and a diverse understorey of shrubs, sedges and herbs. This is consistent with the mapped vegetation type(s): • *Blackwood Plateau and Plain – Blackwood complex*, which is described as open forest of *Corymbia calophylla* and-*Eucalyptus marginata* on the variable slopes in areas of high humidity (Mattiske, 1998). The mapped vegetation type retains approximately 92.7 per cent of the original extent (Government of Western Australia, 2019).
Vegetation condition	Photographs supplied by the applicant (Shire of Nannup, 2024), and DWER's site inspection, indicate the vegetation within the application area is in completely degraded to good condition (Keighery, 1994) The full Keighery (1994) condition rating scale is provided in Appendix D.
Climate and landform	The application area is located within a temperate climate zone, with a mean annual rainfall of 1000 millimetres and evapotranspiration of 800 millimetres. The application area is situated at an elevation of 115 metres and the land gently slopes upwards from the application area in a north-east and a south-west direction.

Characteristic	Details
Soil description	The soil is mapped as 214Gv - Blackwood low slopes phase described as low valley slopes with relief of 20 to 50 metres and slopes of 5 to 20 percent (DPIRD, 2019).
Land degradation risk	The land degradation risks are detailed in Appendix B.2.
Waterbodies	The application area intersects a Palusplain wetland and Padbury Brook which is a nonperennial tributary of the Blackwood River.
Hydrogeography	The application area is situated within the • Busselton-Capel Groundwater area • Hardy Estuary Blackwood River Catchment, and • Padbury Brook non-perennial watercourse
Flora	There are no mapped records of threatened or priority flora within the application area. The nearest threatened flora record is mapped approximately six kilometres from the application area and the nearest mapped priority species is approximately two kilometres from the application area.
Ecological communities	Within the local area there are no mapped Priority or Threatened Ecological Communities.
Fauna	There are no mapped fauna records within the application area. The nearest mapped record is located approximately1.2 kilometres from the application area. The application area is situated within mapped black cockatoo foraging habitat and within the distribution of all three black cockatoo species.

B.2. Vegetation extent

	Pre-European extent (ha)	Current extent (ha)	Extent remaining (%)	Current extent in all DBCA managed land (ha)	Current proportion (%) of pre-European extent in all DBCA managed land
IBRA bioregion*					
Jarrah Forest	4,506,660.25	2,399,838.15	53.25	69.74	37.14
Vegetation complex					
Beard vegetation association Blackwood *	21,361.64	19,801.24	92.7	19,090.90	89.37
Local area					
10km radius	31676.51	22596.41	71.33	-	-

*Government of Western Australia (2019)

B.3. Land degradation risk table

Risk categories	214GvBK3 - Blackwood low slopes Phase
Wind erosion	H2: >70% of map unit has a high to extreme wind erosion risk
Water erosion	M1: 10-30% of map unit has a high to extreme water erosion risk
Water logging	L1: <3% of map unit has a moderate to very high waterlogging risk
Water Repellence	M1: 10-30% of map unit has a high water repellence risk
Sub-surface Acidification	H2: >70% of map unit has a high subsurface acidification risk or is presently acid

Phosphorous export	M2: 30-50% of map unit has a high to extreme phosphorus export risk
Salinity	L1: <3% of map unit has a moderate to high salinity risk or is presently saline
Flooding	L1: <3% of the map unit has a moderate to high flood risk

Appendix C. Assessment against the clearing principles

Assessment against the clearing principles	Variance level	Is further consideration required?
Environmental value: biological values		
Principle (a): *"Native vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises a high level of biodiversity."* Assessment: The area proposed to be cleared does not contain locally or regionally significant flora, fauna, habitats or assemblages of plants.	Not likely to be at variance	Yes *Refer to Section 3.2.1, above*
Principle (b): *"Native vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises the whole or a part of, or is necessary for the maintenance of, a significant habitat for fauna."* Assessment: The application area contains suitable foraging species for black cockatoos, however noting the extent of the clearing, the location and the extensive foraging within the adjacent state forest, the proposed clearing is unlikely to significantly impact foraging resources.	Not likely to be at variance	Yes *Refer to Section 3.2.1, above*
Principle (c): *"Native vegetation should not be cleared if it includes, or is necessary for the continued existence of, threatened flora."* Assessment: The application area, is unlikely to contain habitat for flora species listed under the BC Act.	Not likely to be at variance	No .
Principle (d): *"Native vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises the whole or a part of, or is necessary for the maintenance of, a threatened ecological community."* Assessment: The application area does not contain species that can indicate a threatened ecological community	Not likely to be at variance	No
Environmental value: significant remnant vegetation and conservation areas		
Principle (e): *"Native vegetation should not be cleared if it is significant as a remnant of native vegetation in an area that has been extensively cleared."* Assessment: The extent of the mapped vegetation type and native vegetation in the local area is consistent with the national objectives and targets for biodiversity conservation in Australia. The application area is not considered to be part of a significant ecological linkage in the local area.	Not likely to be at variance	No
Principle (h): *"Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to have an impact on the environmental values of any adjacent or nearby conservation area."* Assessment:	Not likely to be at variance	No

Assessment against the clearing principles	Variance level	Is further consideration required?
Given the distance to the nearest conservation area, the clearing of the application area is not likely to have an impact on the environmental values of nearby conservation areas.		
Environmental value: land and water resources		
Principle (f): *"Native vegetation should not be cleared if it is growing in, or in association with, an environment associated with a watercourse or wetland."* Assessment: The application area intersects both a wetland and a non-perennial water course, however given the extent of the clearing and the applicants mitigation measures it is unlikely the clearing will significantly impact on- or off-site hydrology and water quality.	At variance	Yes *Refer to Section 3.2.3, above.*
Principle (g): *"Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause appreciable land degradation."* Assessment: The mapped soils highly susceptible to wind erosion and subsurface acidification and moderately susceptible to water erosion, phosphorus exports and water repellence. Noting the extent proposed clearing and the condition of the vegetation, the proposed clearing is not likely to have an appreciable impact on land degradation.	Not likely to be at variance	Yes *Refer to Section 3.2.2, above.*
Principle (i): *"Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause deterioration in the quality of surface or underground water."* Assessment: The application area intersects a non-perennial watercourse and a palusplain wetland, however given the water course is perennial and noting the applicants mitigation measures the proposed clearing is unlikely to impact surface or ground water quality.	May be at variance	Yes *Refer to Section 3.2.3, above.*
Principle (j): *"Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause, or exacerbate, the incidence or intensity of flooding."* Assessment: Whilst the application area intersects a non-perennial watercourse and a palusplain wetland, noting the extent of the clearing it is unlikely to cause or exacerbate the incidence or intensity of flooding. The application area is also not mapped within an area of flood risk.	Not likely to be at variance	No

Appendix D. Vegetation condition rating scale

Vegetation condition is a rating given to a defined area of vegetation to categorise and rank disturbance related to human activities. The rating refers to the degree of change in the vegetation structure, density and species present in relation to undisturbed vegetation of the same type. The degree of disturbance impacts upon the vegetation's ability to regenerate. Disturbance at a site can be a cumulative effect from a number of interacting disturbance types.

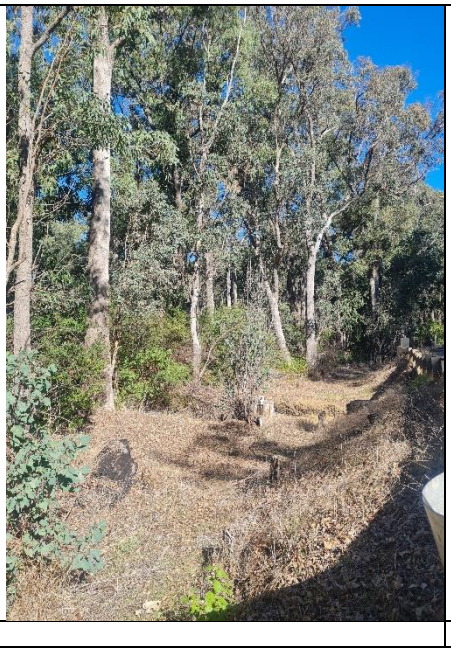
Considering its location, the scale below was used to measure the condition of the vegetation proposed to be cleared. This scale has been extracted from

Keighery, B.J. (1994) *Bushland Plant Survey: A Guide to Plant Community Survey for the Community*. Wildflower Society of WA (Inc). Nedlands, Western Australia.

Measuring vegetation condition for the South West and Interzone Botanical Province (Keighery, 1994)

Condition	Description
Pristine	Pristine or nearly so, no obvious signs of disturbance.
Excellent	Vegetation structure intact, with disturbance affecting individual species; weeds are non-aggressive species.
Very good	Vegetation structure altered, with obvious signs of disturbance. For example, disturbance to vegetation structure caused by repeated fires, the presence of some more aggressive weeds, dieback, logging and/or grazing.
Good	Vegetation structure significantly altered by very obvious signs of multiple disturbances. Retains basic vegetation structure or ability to regenerate it. For example, disturbance to vegetation structure caused by very frequent fires, the presence of some very aggressive weeds at high density, partial clearing, dieback and/or grazing.
Degraded	Basic vegetation structure severely impacted by disturbance. Scope for regeneration but not to a state approaching good condition without intensive management. For example, disturbance to vegetation structure caused by very frequent fires, the presence of very aggressive weeds, partial clearing, dieback and/or grazing.
Completely degraded	The structure of the vegetation is no longer intact and the area is completely or almost completely without native species. These areas are often described as 'parkland cleared' with the flora comprising weed or crop species with isolated native trees or shrubs.

Appendix G. DWER site inspection photos



Appendix H. Sources of information

H.1. GIS databases

Publicly available GIS Databases used (sourced from www.data.wa.gov.au):

- 10 Metre Contours (DPIRD-073)
- Aboriginal Heritage Places (DPLH-001)
- Aboriginal Heritage Places (DPLH-001)
- Cadastre (LGATE-218)
- Cadastre Address (LGATE-002)
- Contours (DPIRD-073)
- DBCA – Lands of Interest (DBCA-012)
- DBCA Legislated Lands and Waters (DBCA-011)
- Directory of Important Wetlands in Australia – Western Australia (DBCA-045)
- Environmentally Sensitive Areas (DWER-046)
- Flood Risk (DPIRD-007)
- Groundwater Salinity Statewide (DWER-026)
- Hydrography – Inland Waters – Waterlines

- Hydrological Zones of Western Australia (DPIRD-069)
- IBRA Vegetation Statistics
- Imagery
- Local Planning Scheme – Zones and Reserves (DPLH-071)
- Native Title (ILUA) (LGATE-067)
- Offsets Register – Offsets (DWER-078)
- Pre-European Vegetation Statistics
- Public Drinking Water Source Areas (DWER-033)
- Ramsar Sites (DBCA-010)
- Regional Parks (DBCA-026)
- Remnant Vegetation, All Areas
- RIWI Act, Groundwater Areas (DWER-034)
- RIWI Act, Surface Water Areas and Irrigation Districts (DWER-037)
- Soil Landscape Land Quality – Flood Risk (DPIRD-007)
- Soil Landscape Land Quality – Phosphorus Export Risk (DPIRD-010)
- Soil Landscape Land Quality – Subsurface Acidification Risk (DPIRD-011)
- Soil Landscape Land Quality – Water Erosion Risk (DPIRD-013)
- Soil Landscape Land Quality – Water Repellence Risk (DPIRD-014)
- Soil Landscape Land Quality – Waterlogging Risk (DPIRD-015)
- Soil Landscape Land Quality – Wind Erosion Risk (DPIRD-016)
- Soil Landscape Mapping – Best Available
- Soil Landscape Mapping – Systems
- Wheatbelt Wetlands Stage 1 (DBCA-021)

Restricted GIS Databases used:

- ICMS (Incident Complaints Management System) – Points and Polygons
- Threatened Flora (TPFL)
- Threatened Flora (WAHerb)
- Threatened Fauna
- Threatened Ecological Communities and Priority Ecological Communities
- Threatened Ecological Communities and Priority Ecological Communities (Buffers)

H.2. References

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