

Department of Energy, Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety

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 (maps etc.). The Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) or Department of Energy, Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety (DEMIRS) 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 form type. Note: Where appropriate in this form, and unless stated otherwise, the terms 'application' and 'applicant' also mean 'referral' and 'referrer' respectively.	 □ Referral of proposed clearing (section 51DA of the EP Act) □ Application for an area permit (section 51E of the EP Act) ☑ Application for a purpose permit (section 51E of the EP Act) 	
		 □ Department of Energy, Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety ☑ Department of Water and Environmental Regulation

Part 2 – Applicant details

2.1 Applicant name					
For area	☐ Applying as an individual – complete the following:				
name(s) of (all)	Title	☐ Mr ☐ Mrs ☐ Ms ☐ Other:			
	Name(s)				
'permit holders' on the permit.	☐ Applying as following:	a body corporate or other entity formed at law – complete the			
For purpose permits:	Name				
If granted, the name(s) of (all)	Australian Co	mpany Number (ACN)			
applicant(s) will go on the permit.		lying as a government entity (e.g. government department, local ment authority, or other statutory body)			
	Name	City of Joondalup			
		ABN: 64 245 472 416			
Title					
Provide the contact	details for the ab	pove (primary contact).			
First name					
Last name					
Position					
Company name					
Phone number					
Email address					
2.3 Applicant con Provide the postal ac authority (primary co	ddress for the ab	tails bove individual, body corporate or local government			
Address line 1					

Address line 2		
Suburb		
State		
2.4 Applicant contact – regis	stered business address	
If applying as a company, incorport please also supply the registered	orated body, local government authority or public a l business office address.	uthority,
Address line 1		
Address line 2		
Suburb		
State		
Phone number		
-	Il correspondence via email. We request that you outing to instruments and notices under Part V of the	
I consent that all written correspondence between myself (the applicant) and DWER/DEMIRS (as applicable) about the subject of this form will be exclusively via email, using the email address provided above.		
2.6 Contact details for enquiries If different from the applicant's contact details, enter the contact details of a person with whom DWER/DEMIRS should liaise with (e.g. a consultant).		
Same as applicant's contact details		
If 'No' – complete the following:		
Title		
Contact name		
Position (if applicable)		

Company name (if applicable)

Phone number		
Email address		
Business or postal address line 1		
Business or postal address line 2		
Suburb		
State		

Part 3 – Land details

- You must accurately describe the location of the land where your clearing is proposed.
- Provide copies of associated documents registered against the Certificate of Title (limitations, interests, encumbrances or notifications) where the clearing may impact them (i.e. caveats within freehold Lots).
- If you have a large number of properties, please provide the relevant details for each property in a separately attached supporting document.

I have a large number of properties and have given the relevant details in an attached supporting document.	⊠ Yes – skip to Part 4 □ No
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Refer to Attachment 1 and Attachment 2.

If 'No' – complete the following:

Land description	
Provide the following details, as applicable, for all properties:	
 volume and folio number lot or location number(s) crown lease or reserve number pastoral lease number mining tenement number 	
Street address – Line 1	
Street address – Line 2	
Suburb	
State	Postcode

Local government area(s)	
Land zoning	

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
- 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
⊠ I am the landowner	⊠ Attach proof of ownership
☐ I am lodging a form on behalf of the landowner (e.g. a consultant)	☐ Attach proof of ownership
☐ I am acting on the landowner's behalf and will be jointly responsible for the clearing permit (i.e. joint form)	☐ Attach proof of ownership ☐ Attach a letter, in which the landowner authorises you to act on their behalf and acknowledge they will be jointly responsible for the clearing permit
☐ I am likely to become the landowner	☐ Attach evidence of the pending transfer of ownership, including details of current proprietor on certificate of title, and/or contract of sale ('offer and acceptance')
☐ I will undertake the clearing activities with the landowner's authority and will be the permit holder	☐ Attach proof of ownership ☐ Attach a letter, in which the landowner authorises you to access and clear native vegetation within the property(ies) as detailed in section 3.1 (if the applicant is not the landowner)
☐ I am a person with multiple land parcels within which clearing is proposed	☐ Attach proof of ownership and/or ☐ Attach letters, in which the landowner authorises you to access and clear native vegetation within the properties as detailed in section 3.1 (if the applicant is not the landowner)
☐ I will undertake the clearing activities through the exercise of power conferred by different legislation (e.g. the <i>Energy Operators (Powers) Act 1979</i>)	☐ Provide relevant legislative details:

Part 5 - Proposed clearing

5.1 Maps and/or spatial data

Select which map type(s) you will attach with your form.

Note: DWER/DEMIRS will decline/return forms (as applicable) if you do not provide sufficient information for this question.

☑ An ESRI shapefile with the following properties (preferred)

- Geometry type: polygon shape
- Coordinate system: Geocentric Datum of Australia (GDA) 2020 (geographic latitude/longitude)
- Datum: GDA 2020

⊠ An aerial photograph or map with a north arrow, clearly marking the proposed clearing area

Note:

- 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 *Environment Protection and Biodiversity* Conservation Act 1999 (Cth) (EPBC Act) accredited process. See Part 8 of this form for more information.

5.2 Size

- If you propose to clear a patch(es) of vegetation, enter a hectare value for the total size of the area (mark number of trees as zero). For example, "clearing of 5 hectares".
- If you propose to clear only individual trees (i.e. the shrubs, grasses, groundcover plants will remain intact), provide the number of trees. For example, "clearing of 10 trees". If any shrubs, grasses, and/or groundcover plants **may** be damaged in the clearing process, enter the total area only.
- If you propose to clear an area of native 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 **only 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 = $10,000 \text{ m}^2$ Area of circle = 3.14 x radius^2 1 acre = $0.4 \text{ hectares/4,000 m}^2$ Area of a rectangle = length x width

1 tree = 0.01 hectares/100 m² Area of a triangle = $\frac{1}{2}$ length x perpendicular height

Total area of clearing proposed (hectares)	4.18 ha
Footprint of clearing (hectares) (purpose permit only)	10.46 ha
Number of individual trees to be cleared	0

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.).

If applicable, provide any additional project overview or explain in detail the activities on the property (e.g. provide context of work proposed and describe how clearing will contribute to overall work activities onsite etc.). It is proposed that clearing of 4.18 ha within a development envelope of 10.46ha is conducted for the purpose of controlling *Typha orientalis* and *Typha domingensis* (referred to as Typha) across 13 artificial wetlands managed by the City. The proposed clearing will allow maintenance of infrastructure, facilitate wetland management, support ecological health, enable sustainable water management, and provide benefits for general health and wellbeing of the broader community.

Investigation into the City's artificial wetlands identified invasive behaviour from Typha present in the waterbodies. The invasive nature of Typha in wetlands on the Swan Coastal Plain is well documented and control of the species is recommended as part of an integrated wetland management approach.

In these artificial wetlands, the Typha has begun to outcompete other native vegetation, block inlet drains, irrigation systems, and is providing habitat for pest species. Maintenance related to clearing of Typha will allow the City to uphold healthy wetland function, improve biodiversity and environmental values, and maintain City infrastructure.

See Attachment 4 for Site Photos.

Specify what the final land use will be after clearing

Wetlands – there will be no change to the land use.

5.4 Method

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

The proposed clearing will be undertaken using a mix of cutting/pruning during hand removal, the use of steel blade brushcutters, chemical control, and mechanical clearing with small plant equipment.

Mechanical clearing will be conducted using small loaders, bobcats and excavators if required. Chemical control will be applied through direct contact methods or controlled spraying using handheld knapsacks. Chemical control will be conducted by licensed professionals in dry conditions when water levels do not surround the proposed clearing area.

Clearing will be consistent with best

	practice methods and ensure there is minimal, if any, impact to the waterbodies.
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5.5 Timeframe

, , , ,	Start date: 01/07/2025
(e.g. 1/7/2022 to 30/8/2024)	End date: 01/07/2035

Note: The clearing referral process is not suitable for any clearing that is expected to take longer than two years.

5.6 Pre-application scoping

Historic clearing of native vegetation in the Swan Coastal Plain and Avon Wheatbelt Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation for Australia (IBRA) bioregions has been extensive.

DWER/DEMIRS strongly recommends a pre-application meeting if you propose to clear native vegetation within these bioregions.

	X Yes – complete se	ection below pre-application meeting with DWER/DEMIRS
	Insert date of meeting and officer name(s):	
Do you propose to clear native vegetation within the Swan Coastal	☐ I have contacted DWER/DEMIRS in relation to a pre-application meeting and been advised that a meeting is unnecessary in this case.	
Plain or Avon Wheatbelt bioregions?	Insert date of conversation and officer name(s):	
	understand that tl	a pre-application meeting with DWER/DEMIRS. I his may increase the likelihood of requests for further or delays in assessment. next question.

Please note that the City emailed DWER on 24 January 2024 (response received on 24 January 2024) and 14 February 2024 (response received on 14 February 2024) related to the Typha clearing permit application.

Part 6 – Mitigation hierarchy

6.1 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? (Attach design drawings where applicable)
- 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, DWER/DEMIRS will ask you to do so during the validation of this application. Offsets will only be considered by DWER/DEMIRS as a last resort, once avoidance and minimisation measures have been clearly demonstrated

Provide the avoidance details (e.g. retention of vegetation on property)

Avoidance measures through early project planning and design have been detailed below. These practices and plans are used to reduce the scale of the proposed clearing.

The City's Project Management Framework provides a standard approach for managing projects across the organisation, ensuring a consistent and well monitored process for project proposals, planning, implementation, and closure.

Early project planning has identified the proposed clearing area of Typha to be 4.18 ha. This area is based on an estimated 40% of the proposed footprint requiring clearing of Typha over the 10-year lifetime of this proposed permit. This methodology will ensure clearing of Typha will be limited to areas of most concern and will reduce the total area of Typha the City is proposing to clear.

The proposed clearing area and footprint was determined through project meetings, desktop assessments, and site inspections of the City managed artificial wetlands by the City's Natural Environment team and Environmental Development team.

Control of invasive species such as Typha is essential to maintain healthy and diverse native plant communities in wetlands. Our early project planning has identified that the best time for manual clearing to occur is close to the beginning of Typha's flowering season to prevent the vegetation going to seed. Preventing the Typha from seeding may reduce its spread and reduce the size of the clearing area over the life of the permit. The City will use appropriate methods of control for Typha and engage experienced and qualified Consultants/Contractors to undertake the works.

Clearing will be undertaken in a directional manner ensuring time for wildlife to migrate into nearby vegetation. Clearing is planned only in areas where the function and value of the City's artificial wetlands and infrastructure are assessed to be negatively impacted by the presence of Typha. This includes where vegetation may cause blockage of drainage pathways, outcompete other native vegetation, impact biodiversity, increase algal blooms from nutrient loading, or is noted to be harboring pest species (mosquitoes,

gambusia, rodents).

The proposed application area includes wetlands with a moderate to high likelihood for future Typha infestation events based on site observations and the City's past experience with Typha infestations. Small scale preventative clearing and maintenance will avoid further Typha invasion, protect wetland water quality and infrastructure, and provide a sustainable habitat for native flora and fauna. Preventative maintenance will reduce the total area of Typha to be cleared over the lifetime of the permit by stopping large-scale Typha infestations and mitigating the need to clear additional areas of the wetland/s.

Provide the mitigation details (e.g. management of weed spread, rehabilitation)

Mitigation measures through strategic planning, project management and contractor management have been detailed below. These practices and plans are used to mitigate environmental impacts.

The City's Environment Plan, Waterwise Council Action Plan and Natural Area Management Plans provide strategic direction to the City's adaptive environmental management ensuring the long-term protection of the environment for future generations. As part of the implementation of these plans the City's Natural Environment team undertake routine inspections and utilise a wetland maintenance schedule of City managed artificial wetlands. This includes continued maintenance of water quality, aerators, invasive weeds, litter/rubbish, and control of feral pests. Having these processes in place will ensure early identification and reporting of Typha infestations over the life of the strategic permit to minimise the overall clearing footprint. Such activities offer the City greater flexibility regarding maintenance and weed control and allow the City to address Typha reinfestations in a timely manner over the life of the permit.

The clearing works will be undertaken by the City's Natural Environment team and/or contractors highly experienced in vegetation management and removal. Clearing methods will be adapted to suit each location allowing for a targeted approach to ensure non-target species are not impacted by the clearing e.g. hand weeding to reduce off-target damage or use of brush-cutters instead of excavators where other species are present. Works will be carried out in accordance with the City's Weed Management Plan that promotes an integrated management approach to weed control and management. City staff and contractors will ensure implementation of its Pathogen Hygiene Procedure during the vegetation removal and revegetation.

Appointed Contractors and City personnel will avoid and minimise clearing by only clearing areas of Typha that are negatively impacting infrastructure, ecosystem health, community values, and biodiversity. Care will be taken to avoid other native sedges and rushes which may be surviving within the stands of Typha. City personnel or contractors will conduct environmental management through compliance with their Safety, Health, and Environment Management Plan. The City will include relevant clauses, specifications, and requirements within the Request for Quotation to ensure the Contractor makes all practicable efforts to mitigate impacts to native vegetation and complies with the conditions of the clearing permit, if granted.

In events where chemical weed control is conducted, spot spraying with knapsacks or direct contact application will be used to prevent spray drift impacting on non-target species. Chemical control will be completed in dry conditions when the water is not in contact with the area being treated. An environmentally sensitive herbicide will be used to reduce potential impacts