

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.	<ul> <li>□ Referral of proposed clearing (section 51DA of the EP Act)</li> <li>☑ Application for an area permit (section 51E of the EP Act)</li> <li>□ Application for a purpose permit (section 51E of the EP Act)</li> </ul>	
Which department are you submitting. If the clearing is for mineral and pet authorised under the <i>Mining Act 19</i> petroleum Acts, and/or a State Agree areas covered by either mineral or tenure granted under one of the above Acts, select 'Department of Energy, Regulation and Safety'.  For all other clearing activities, select of Water and Environmental Regulation	troleum activities 78, the various eement with petroleum ovementioned , Mines, Industry ect 'Department	<ul> <li>□ Department of Energy, Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety</li> <li>☑ Department of Water and Environmental Regulation</li> </ul>

# Part 2 – Applicant details

2.1 Applicant nan	ne		
For area	⊠ Applying as an individual – complete the following:		
permits:  If granted, the	Title	⊠ Mr □ Mrs □ Ms □ Other:	
name(s) of (all) landowner(s) will be listed as	Name(s)	Mario Michele Giacci	
'permit holders' on the permit.	☐ Applying as a following:	a body corporate or other entity formed at law – complete the	
For purpose permits:	Name		
If granted, the name(s) of (all)	Australian Cor	mpany Number (ACN)	
applicant(s) will go on the permit.	☐ Applying as a government entity (e.g. government department, local government authority, or other statutory body)		
	Name		
Title First name			
Last name	_		
Position			
Company name			
Phone number			
Email address			
2.3 Applicant con	tact postal det	tails	
Provide the postal a authority (primary co		pove individual, body corporate or local government	
Address line 1			
Address line 2			

	·				
Suburb					
State					
2.4 Applicant contact – real of applying as a company, incomplease also supply the register	corporated body, local gover	nment authority	y or public a	uthority,	
Address line 1					
Address line 2					
Suburb					
State		Postcode			
Phone number		Mobile			
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.   ✓ Yes □ No   ✓ Yes □ No   ✓ Yes □ No   ✓ If different from the applicant's contact details, enter the contact details of a person with whom					
DWER/DEMIRS should liaise	DWER/DEMIRS should liaise with (e.g. a consultant).				
Same as applicant's contact	t details			□ Yes	⊠ No
If 'No' – complete the followin	ng:				
Title					
Contact name					
Position (if applicable)					
Company name (if applicable	le)				
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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If 'No' – complete the following:

-			
Land description			
Provide the following details, as applicable, for all properties:			
<ul> <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>	Lot 287 (Plan 100056)		
Street address – Line 1	Lot 287 South Western Highway		
Street address – Line 2			
Suburb	Gwindinup		
State	WA	Postcode	6237
Local government area(s)	Shire of Capel		
Land zoning	Rural		

# 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 =  $3.14 \text{ x radius}^2$ 1 acre =  $0.4 \text{ hectares/}4,000 \text{ m}^2$  Area of a rectangle = length x width 1 tree =  $0.01 \text{ hectares/}100 \text{ m}^2$  Area of a triangle =  $\frac{1}{2}$  length x perpendicular height

Total area of clearing proposed (hectares)	8.02 ha
Footprint of clearing (hectares) (purpose permit only)	
Number of individual trees to be cleared	

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.).	Sand and gravel extraction.
Specify what the final land use will be after clearing	Rehabilitated (native vegetation and pasture) rural land.

#### 5.4 Method

Proposed method of clearing (i.e. burning, cutting, draining, flooding, grazing, mechanical clearing/bulldozing or other – specify)	Mechanical clearing with bulldozer or similar.
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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)	Approximately 5-10 years from grant of clearing permit, depending on market demand for resource. Dates below provided as indicative only:
	Start date: 01/07/2025
	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.

Do you propose to	-	Yes – complete section below  I have had a pre-application meeting with DWER/DEMIRS	
clear native vegetation within the Swan Coastal Plain or Avon Wheatbelt	Insert date of meeting and officer name(s):		
bioregions?	☐ I have contacted DWER/DEMIRS in relation to a pre-application meeting and been advised that a meeting is unnecessary in this case.		

Insert date of conversation and officer name(s):		
<ul> <li>☐ I have not had a pre-application meeting with DWER/DEMIRS. I understand that this may increase the likelihood of requests for further information and/or delays in assessment.</li> <li>☑ No – proceed to next question.</li> </ul>		

## 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.

- The proposed extraction area has been located to avoid the majority (97.53%) of vegetation mapped during flora survey as in Excellent condition.
- The proposed clearing of 8.02 ha of the 20.18 ha mapped during the survey, avoids 60.20% of the native vegetation remaining within the property.
- The need for vegetation clearing has been further minimised by utilising existing access tracks and other cleared areas.
- The proposed clearing area avoids the following black cockatoo habitat within Lot 287:
  - Avoidance of 13.15 ha (65.29%) of black cockatoo foraging habitat.
  - Avoidance of 274 possible nesting trees (67.65%).
  - Avoidance of 21 suitable nesting trees (80.77%).

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

- Clearing is proposed in <2 ha stages, which will minimise the area of disturbance at any one time and reduce the duration of habitat loss.
- A range of environmental management measures will be implemented to minimise potential environmental impacts of undertaking clearing activities for aspects such as dust, dieback, weeds and stormwater drainage. The measures include but are not limited to:
  - Clearing will be minimised where possible through placement of assets in existing cleared or areas of minimal vegetation where possible, along with utilising the existing access track.
  - Clearing will be clearly demarcated prior to clearing activities commencing for a stage, including demarcation of any vegetation or trees to be avoided.
  - Licenced fauna handler will be engaged for all native vegetation clearing.
  - Clearing will be undertaken slowly and in a one-way direction to allow fauna to move offsite if present.
  - Control of Declared Pest identified within the proposed extraction area.
  - Standard weed and hygiene management practices will be applied to the operations including clean on entry and exit, clean imported material, topsoil and stockpile management, and weed control and monitoring in operational areas.
  - Standard dust management will be implemented including restrictions on the level of dust generation, maximum stockpile heights, speed limits, minimum distances of crushing and screening plant from residences, covering haulage loads and use of water cart for preventative watering.
  - Stormwater will be managed through the construction of retention ponds and settling pits, catch drains, site inspections following significant rainfall events and retention of vegetation in strategic areas to minimise the potential risk of erosion.

#### 6.2 Offsets

Do you want to submit a clearing offset proposal with your form?	☐ Yes ☒ No
If 'Yes' – please complete and attach Appendix A of the <u>Clearing</u> of native vegetation offsets procedure guideline as a supporting document for your form.	☐ 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?	Yes □ 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* 

<u>the Index of Biodiversity Surveys for Assessments</u> (IBSA). If you do not meet the IBSA requirements, DWER/DEMIRS will 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/DEMIRS. Please note DWER/DEMIRS will suspend the assessment timeframes for your application 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?	<ul><li>☑ Yes</li><li>☐ Not applicable</li></ul>
Provide an IBSA number (preferred) or a submission number(s)	IBSA-2024-0445 (Detailed and Targeted Flora and Vegetation Survey) IBSASUB-20241031- C754F5FE (Fauna Assessment)

#### 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/DEMIRS will 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> ?	<ul><li>☐ Yes</li><li>☒ Not applicable</li></ul>

# 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. DWER/DEMIRS will decline to deal with your application without the proposed clearing first being deemed a controlled action.

For further information, see DWER's guidance on the assessment bilateral agreement.

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agreement or accred	lited assessment?				
Is your proposed clearing a controlled action?		□ Yes			
If 'Yes', please make sure you have entered all the mandatory details in the Annex C7 form		EPBC nu	ımber:		
		☐ Annex C7 form attached			
		☐ No (DWER/DEMIRS cannot assess the application under an EPBC Act Accredited Process)			
List the controlling porthe notification of the decision					
Part 9 – Other ap	provals				
9.1 Environmental	impact assessmen	t (Part IV o	of the I	EP Act)	
defined by section 37		will likely to	be part	ort of a 'significant proposal', as of a larger development. An	
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/DEMIRS) 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 under Part IV, if such a referral has not already been made.					
Has the proposed	□ Yes				
clearing or any related matter been referred to the EPA?	Enter details:				
	No − complete qu     No − complete qu	estion belo	W.		
If 'No' – do you intend to refer the proposal to the EPA?	☐ Yes – intend to refer (proposal is a 'significant proposal')				
	☐ Yes – intend to refer (proposal will require a section 45C amendment to the current Ministerial Statement)				
	□ No – a current valid Ministerial Statement applies				
	Enter Ministerial Statement number:				
	⊠ No – not a signific	cant propos	al		
9.2 Other approvals – works approval, licence or registration (Part V Division 3 of the EP Act)					
Have you applied or do you intend to apply for a					

works approval, licence, registration or an Application An application has been amendment to any of the above, under Part V reference: submitted to DWER to Division 3 of the EP Act? amend the existing licence (L9267/2020/2) to It is an offence to perform any action that would cause a premises to become a prescribed cover the proposed premises of a type listed in Schedule 1 of the expansion. Environmental Protection Regulations 1987, unless that action is done in accordance with a ☐ No – a valid works approval applies works approval, licence or registration. For further guidance, see DWER's Procedure: Prescribed ☐ No – a valid licence applies premises works approvals and licences and Guideline: Industry regulation guide to licensing. ☐ No – a valid registration applies ☐ No – not required 9.3 Water licences and permits (Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914) Have you applied or do you intend to apply for: ☐ Yes a licence or amendment to a licence to take ☐ No – a current valid licence applies water (surface water or groundwater) a licence or amendment to a licence to Licence number: construct wells (including bores and soaks), a permit or amendment to a permit to interfere with the bed and banks of a watercourse? For further guidance on water licences and permits under the Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914, see DWER's Procedure: Water licences and permits. 9.4 Planning and other approvals Has the proposal obtained all ⊠ Yes relevant planning approvals and/or have you applied for Enter details: **Development Approval and Extractive** all relevant planning

Has the proposal obtained all relevant planning approvals and/or have you applied for all relevant planning approvals (e.g. Development Approval, Extractive Industry Licence, etc.)?

Enter details:

Development Approval and Extractive Industry Licence applications submitted via Shire of Capel (Ref PA56/2024) to the Development Assessment Panel (Reference: DAP/24/02681).

□ No − planning approval is not required

Enter details:

□ Not applicable