

15 October 2024

Department of Water and Environmental Regulation
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To Whom it May Concern,

RE –Lot 9380 Kurandra Road, and Lots 2379, 9383 and 9384 Irish Point Road, Middlesex - Clearing Permit Application

Please find herein information pertaining to a clearing permit (area) application on behalf of F. Pessotto & Sons (herein referred to as the applicant).

Background

Lot 9380 Kurandra Road, Middlesex

The applicant is proposing to clear 5.31 hectares (ha) of vegetation within Lot 9380 to enable agricultural use of the land within this area. In consideration of the topography, this area is preferential for agricultural activities as opposed to other areas on Lot 9380 and Lot 9379. Accordingly, it is proposed to clear the 5.31 ha and undertake revegetation within 1.76 ha within Lot 9380 and Lot 9379. The applicant has also undertaken revegetation within a 4.73 ha portion of Lot 9380 and Lot 9379 (refer to **Figure 1**). The subject site is located in the municipality of the Shire of Manjimup, and pursuant to the Shire's *Local Planning Scheme No. 4*, is zoned 'Priority Agriculture'.

To enable the progression of the proposed works, a clearing permit pursuant to the *Environmental Protection Act 1987* is required. The trees subject to clearing are predominately comprised of *Eucalyptus diversicolor*, with no native under or mid-storey vegetation. Accordingly, vegetation condition is considered to be 'completely degraded' (Keighery 1994). Photographs of the trees subject to clearing are provided below in **Plates 1 – 2**.



Plate 1: *Eucalyptus diversicolor* trees subject to clearing in Lot 9380 Kurandra Road, Middlesex.



Plate 2: *Eucalyptus diversicolor* trees subject to clearing in Lot 9380 Kurandra Road, Middlesex.

Lot 2379, 9383 and Lot 9384 Irish Point Road, Middlesex

The applicant is proposing to clear 3.65 hectares (ha) of vegetation within Lot 2379, 9383 and Lot 9384 Irish Point Road, Middlesex. This includes clearing 2.35 ha within Lot 2379, 0.81 ha within Lot 9383 and 0.49 ha within Lot 9384. The purpose of the clearing is to enable agricultural use of the land within these areas. In consideration of the topography, these areas are preferential for agricultural activities as opposed to other areas. Accordingly, the applicant has undertaken revegetation within a 4.58 ha area located in proximity to a drainage line. This area is unsuitable for agricultural activities given its low lying topography and erosion issues, and therefore the applicant has undertaken revegetation. It is also proposed to revegetate an area comprised of steep slopes within Lot 2379 (refer to **Figure 1**).

The subject site is located in the municipality of the Shire of Manjimup, and pursuant to the Shire's *Local Planning Scheme No. 4*, is zoned 'Priority Agriculture'.

To enable the progression of the proposed works, a clearing permit pursuant to the *Environmental Protection Act 1987* is required. The trees subject to clearing are predominately comprised of *Eucalyptus diversicolor* or *Corymbia calophylla* with no native under or mid-storey vegetation. Accordingly, vegetation condition is considered to be 'completely degraded' (Keighery 1994). Photographs of the trees subject to clearing are provided below in **Plates 3 – 7**.



Plate 3: Plot 1 - *Eucalyptus diversicolor* trees subject to clearing in Lot 2379 Irish Point Road, Middlesex.



Plate 4: Plot 2 - *Corymbia calophylla* trees subject to clearing in Lot 9383 Irish Point Road, Middlesex.



Plate 5: Plot 3 - *Eucalyptus diversicolor* trees subject to clearing in Lot 9384 Irish Point Road, Middlesex.



Plate 6: Plot 4 - *Corymbia calophylla* trees subject to clearing in Lot 9383 Irish Point Road, Middlesex.



Plate 7: Plot 2 - *Corymbia calophylla* trees subject to clearing in Lot 9383 Irish Point Road, Middlesex.

Avoidance and Mitigation Measures

The applicant undertook an assessment of the subject site prior to determining the clearing footprint. The areas to be cleared have been selected as these areas are associated with prime agricultural land. The applicant has reviewed other areas within the properties which are less suitable for agricultural activities, and either has commenced revegetation or proposes to undertake revegetation.

It is considered that no other reasonable and practicable avoidance measures can be implemented within the clearing footprint. Furthermore, it is noted that within a 10 km radius of the subject site, approximately 16,742 ha of remnant vegetation remains.

In order to reduce the impacts from the proposed action, the following management measures will be implemented as described below:

Fauna Management

The proposed management actions to mitigate potential impacts to fauna include:

- Peg/flag areas to be cleared to avoid any unnecessary disturbance to adjacent vegetation;
- Restrict all vehicle use to designated roads and access tracks;
- During clearing, a qualified fauna expert will be present to direct clearing operators, particularly when clearing trees that are occupied by fauna, to ensure that these are cleared in a way that allows the animals to safely mobilise to adjacent areas. In addition, they will supervise any animal handling and the rescue of injured animals should this be required;

- If clearing during black cockatoo breeding season (i.e. August to May), check potential habitat trees (i.e. DBH in excess of 50 cm) for nesting hollows; and
- If active black cockatoo nests are located in the clearing footprint, do not clear until fledglings have left the nest.

Weed and Pathogen Management

The proposed management actions to mitigate potential impacts associated with weeds and pathogens include:

- All earthmoving and ground engaging equipment will be inspected and cleaned of vegetation, mud and soil prior to entry and exit of the impact area.

Revegetation

It is proposed to undertake revegetation planting in the areas specified in Figure 1 and 2 to replace onsite vegetation.

These areas will be fenced and planting will be undertaken at a density of 1 tree per 5 m². Planting will be undertaken with the following species:

- *Corymbia calophylla*;
- *Eucalyptus diversicolor*;
- *Trymalium odoratissimum*;
- *Banksia grandis*; and
- *Persoonia longifolia*.

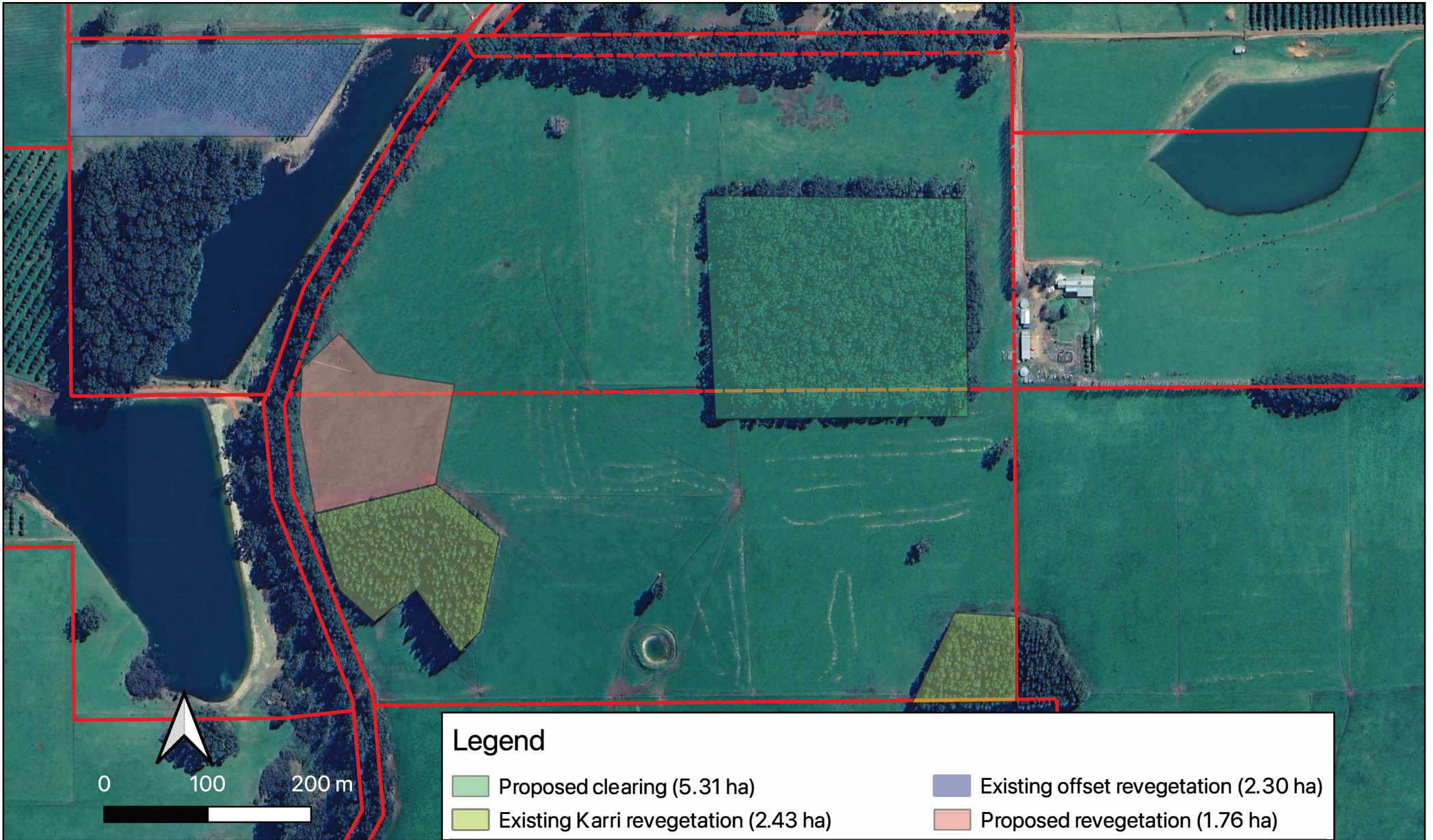
Summary

I trust this information is sufficient for your purposes. Should you have any queries or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Yours sincerely,

Kirsten Muir-Thompson
Environmental Consultant
Mobile 0418 950 852

FIGURES



PROJECT Lot 9379 & 9380 Kurandra Road

DRAWING TITLE Figure 1- Clearing Areas

CLIENT F Pessotto & Sons



PO Box 5178
 West Busselton
 Western Australia 6280
 Mobile 0418 950 852

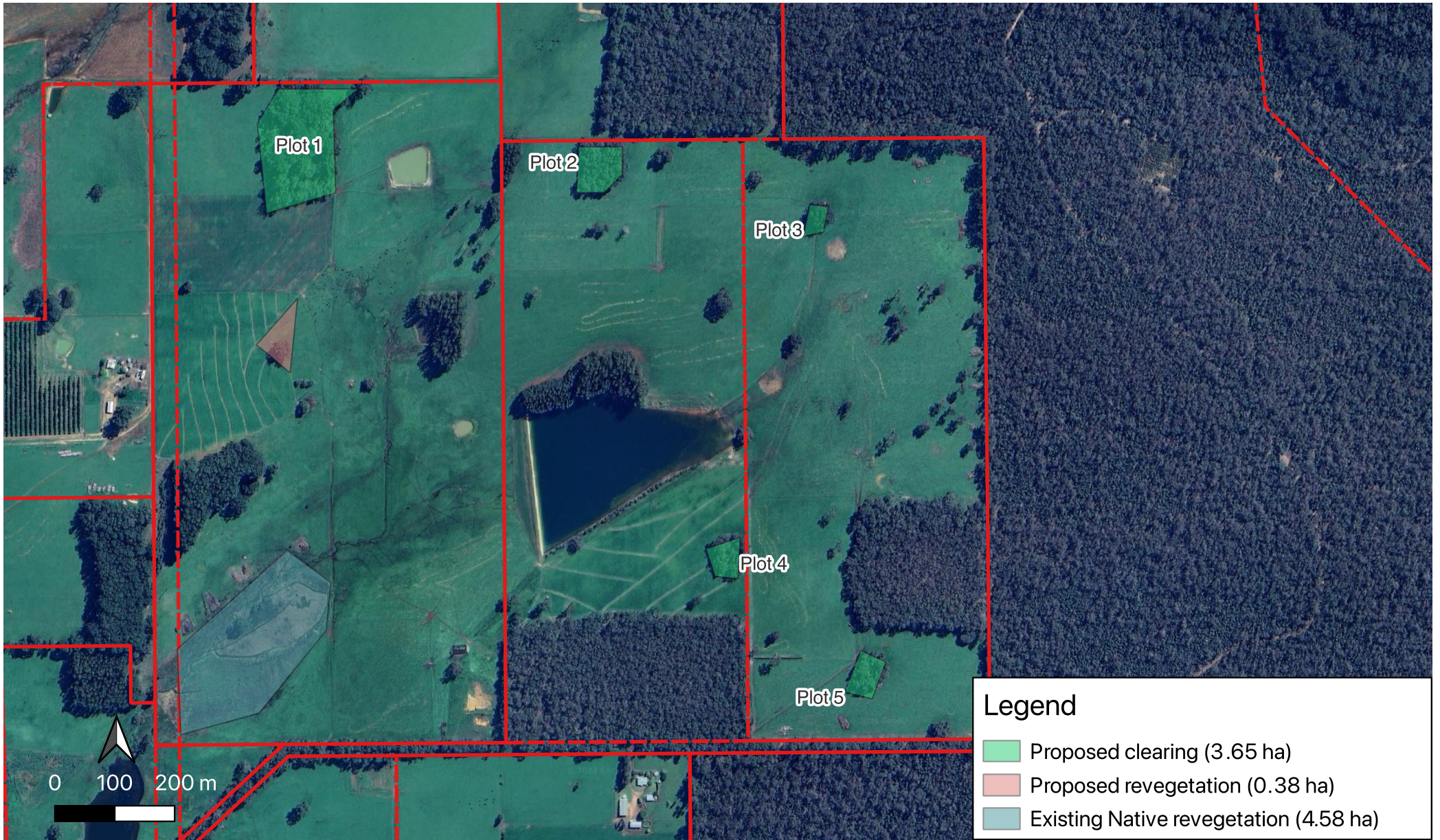
Project Number
 Drawing Number
 Revision
 Date
 Sheet 1 of 1

2491
 Figure 1
 B
 15/10/2024

Designed
 Drawn
 Checked
 Approved
 Local Authority

PN
 PN
 Shire of Manjimup

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PROJECT Irish Point Road
 DRAWING TITLE Figure 2- Clearing Areas
 CLIENT F Pessotto & Sons



PO Box 5178
 West Busselton
 Western Australia 6280
 Mobile 0418 950 852

Project Number 2491
 Drawing Number Figure 2
 Revision B
 Date 15/10/2024
 Sheet 1 of 1

Designed PN
 Drawn PN
 Checked
 Approved
 Local Authority Shire of Manjimup

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