

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) 		
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 Agre areas covered by either mineral or tenure granted under one of the above, select 'Department of Energy, Regulation and Safety'. For all other clearing activities, select of Water and Environmental Regulation	troleum activities 178, the various eement with petroleum ovementioned , Mines, Industry	 □ Department of Energy, Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety ☑ Department of Water and Environmental Regulation 	

Part 2 – Applicant details

2.1 Applicant name

For area permits:	☐ Applying as	□ Applying as an individual – complete the following:			
If granted, the name(s) of (all)	Title	□ Mr □ Mrs □ Ms □ Other:			
landowner(s) will be listed as	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 Con	mpany Number (ACN)			
applicant(s) will go on the permit.		a government entity (e.g. government department, local thority, or other statutory body)			
	Name	Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale			
2.2 Applicant con		ove (primary contact).			
Title					
2.3 Applicant con Provide the postal ac authority (primary co	ddress for the ab	tails pove individual, body corporate or local government			
Address line 1					
Address line 2					

Suburb					
State		Postcode			
2.4 Applicant contact – registered applying as a company, incorporate please also supply the registered	orated body, local gover	nment autho	rity or public a	authority,	
Address line 1					
Address line 2					
Suburb					
State		Postcode			
Phone number		Mobile			
DWER/DEMIRS 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/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).					m
Same as applicant's contact details					□ No
If 'No' – complete the following:					
Title	□ Mr □ Mrs □ Ms □	Other:			
Contact name					
Position (if applicable)					
Company name (if applicable)					
Dhone number		Mobile			

Email address	
Business or postal address line 1	
Business or postal address line 2	
Suburb	
State	Postcode

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	
---	------------------------	------	--

If 'No' - complete the following:

Land description				
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	Karnup Road (SLK 6.64 to 11.15) in Hopeland			
Street address – Line 1	Karnup Road			
Street address – Line 2				
Suburb	Hopeland			
State	WA Postcode 6125		6125	
Local government area(s)	Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale			
Land zoning	Dedicated and undedicated, widenings, casement and closed roads.			

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 Energy Operators (Powers) Act 1979)	☐ 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 m^2 Area of a triangle = $\frac{1}{2}$ length x perpendicular height

Total area of clearing proposed (hectares)	
Footprint of clearing (hectares) (purpose permit only)	
Number of individual trees to be cleared	21 trees

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.). The Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale has received funding approval through Main Roads WA State Black Spot program to upgrade a section of the road and shoulder along Karnup Road, Hopeland. The funding is designated for use during the 2024/2025 financial year.

Karnup Road is Regional Distributor road with a posted speed of 100km/h. Based on crash history, there has been a total of five crashes in the section of Karnup Road between SLK 8.65 to SLK 11.15.

These crashes have involved road run off crashes where vehicles have lost control after leaving the carriageway. These crashes have resulted in 1 medical, 1 hospital and 3 Major Public Damage Only (PDO) incidents. All Major PDO incidents were during daylight in dry weather.

To enhance driver safety and road conditions, the Shire is collaborating with Main Roads to expand both sides of the road by 1.5 m. However, a number of locally native trees exist within the proposed road widening area. This clearing permit seeks approval to remove and prune trees within the designated road widening area and buffer to facilitate the road upgrade project.

Specify what the final land use will be after clearing

The area will be a public sealed local road.

5.4 Method

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

Mechanical clearing

5.5 Timeframe

Period within which you propose to do the clearing (e.g. 1/7/2022 to 30/8/2024)

Start date: 1 April 2025

End date: 30 June 2026

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 <u>Interim</u> <u>Biogeographic Regionalisation for Australia</u> (IBRA) bioregions has been extensive.

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

	P	
	 ✓ Yes – complete set ✓ I have had a present date of meeting and officer name(s): 	e-application meeting with DWER/DEMIRS
Do you propose to clear native vegetation within the Swan Coastal		ed DWER/DEMIRS in relation to a pre-application advised that a meeting is unnecessary in this
Plain or Avon Wheatbelt bioregions?	Insert date of conversation and officer name(s):	
	understand that thi	a pre-application meeting with DWER/DEMIRS. I is may increase the likelihood of requests for further delays in assessment.

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) This road widening project was developed in consideration of the Shire's Local Biodiversity Strategy Review (Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale 2019) and Local Planning Policy 2.5: Biodiversity Planning Policy which both aim to avoid, protect and minimise impacts to natural areas and native vegetation. In particular, the project will not impact the 1690 ha of local natural areas allocated for protection, retention and enhancement through the Local Biodiversity Strategy. Additionally, detrimental impacts to biodiversity have been avoided and minimised in the road design process as further explained in the paragraphs below.

In June 2024, the Shire engaged Ecology Matters, an experienced environmental consultant, to undertake a comprehensive tree and Black Cockatoo assessment to determine the existing biodiversity values of the project area. This survey identified a total of 482 trees, including 333 that were located within Main Roads' recommended clear zone distance of 5 metres for a 100 km/hr speed road. With the understanding that a substantial number of trees existed in the project area, the Shire designed the road with a reduced clear zone distance of 1.5 m (1 m sealed road and 0.5 m unsealed shoulder) plus a 1 m project buffer. By reducing the clear zone distance in the road design process, the clearing of 312 trees will be avoided.

Following the tree survey, Shire staff traversed the clear zone and buffer project area to ground truth the trees which would be affected by the road widening works. It was determined that 21 trees possessed substantial trunks, limbs, roots or branches that would necessitate tree removal or major pruning to facilitate construction of the road (Table 1, Attachment E). Where possible, trees in the buffer zone that would not impede construction or require minor pruning were set aside for protection.

Please note that the GPS location of a number of trees recorded by Ecology Matters was influenced by a level of GPS receiver error. This has resulted in some tree points being presented with a marginal positioning discrepancy (IBSA-2024-0382 shapefile data and Attachment E). For example, the KA245 point exists outside the project buffer due the GPS error margin, however, exists in the buffer zone on-ground.

To verify the quantity, species and habitat value of the trees impacted by the proposed road widening, the Shire's Senior Environmental Officer undertook a secondary tree assessment during December 2024. Attachment B contains a detailed summary along with photographs of the 21 impacted trees. These trees are comprised of three WA local native species; Corymbia calophylla, Eucalyptus rudis and Melaleuca preissiana. Of these trees, 15 were confirmed to be Black Cockatoo habitat trees, including 9 potential nesting trees (Table 1).

Table 1. Summary of tree species impacted and cockatoo habitat values

	Total	Treatn	Treatment		Total Cockatoo Habitat Tree		
Species		Pruning	Clear		Nesting	Foraging	Roosting
Corymbia calophylla	10	NA	10	10	5	10	10
Eucalyptus rudis	6	2	4	5	4	0	5
Melaleuca preissiana	5	1	4	0	0	0	0
Total	21	3	18	15	9	10	15

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

The Shire proposes to undertake several mitigation measures as part of this project:

Dieback and weed management: the Shire will implement weed and dieback management during construction. This will involve working in drier weather where possible, cleaning mud and plant material from machinery and vehicles prior to accessing and leaving the project area, and seeking to utilise dieback-free and weed-free gravel and road material. The Shire will ensure all soil and green waste generated through the proposed clearing is left in-situ as mulch.

Working in optimal conditions: where possible, the works will be scheduled for drier months of late spring and summer to reduce the potential for interference with surface water flows, complications with topsoil disturbance (erosion, sedimentation etc), fauna breeding, and the introduction and spread of water borne pathogens.

Tree marking: the Shire has clearly marked the trees proposed to be impacted with marking tape and/or paint marker. The Shire will clearly communicate to its contractors that only the trees marked are to be cleared or pruned. The remaining trees will be retained and protected or undergo minor pruning. This will be supervised by a qualified arborist or environmental specialist.

Cockatoo habitat assessment: The Shire will engage a fauna specialist to undertake an inspection of the potential nesting trees for evidence of current or past breeding within 72 hours of the proposed clearing (9 potential nesting trees, 8 for clearing and 1 for pruning). If any current breeding is observed, clearing will not proceed until the fauna specialist observes the breeding activity to have finished.

Qualified arborist: the Shire will engage the services of a qualified arborist to perform the pruning works to ensure the trees remain undamaged and retain their structural integrity.

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.	

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
---	-----------------------------

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) <u>Instructions for the preparation of data packages for 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?	☑ Yes☐ Not applicable
Provide an IBSA number (preferred) or a submission number(s)	IBSA-2024-0382 IBSA-2025-0015

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 Instructions for the preparation of data packages for the Index of Marine Surveys for Assessments?	□ Yes ☑ Not applicable
---	------------------------

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.

Do you want your proposed clearing action assessed in accordance with, or under, an EPBC Act Accredited Process, such as the assessment bilateral agreement or accredited assessment?	☐ Yes ☑ No – skip to Part 9
Is your proposed clearing a controlled action?	□Yes
If 'Yes', please make sure you have entered all the mandatory details in the	EPBC number:

	⋈ No (DWER/DEMIRS cannot assess the application under an EPBC Act Accredited Process)
List the controlling provisions identified in the notification of the controlled action decision	

9.1 Environmental impact assessment (Part IV of the EP Act)

Clearing may be referred to the EPA if it is considered to be part of a 'significant proposal', as defined by section 37B(1) of the EP Act, or will likely to be part of a larger development. An example is when the clearing is for a road to a future mine.

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 clearing or any related matter been referred to the EPA?	□ Yes Enter details: □ No – complete question below.	
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 significant proposal 	

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	□ Yes
amendment to any of the above, under Part V Division 3 of the EP Act?	Application reference:
It is an offence to perform any action that would cause a premises to become a prescribed premises of a type listed in Schedule 1 of the Environmental Protection Regulations 1987,	□ No – a valid works approval applies

1 0 1 0 1 1 1	1 20	
unless that action is done in accordance with a		☐ No – a valid licence applies
works approval, licence or registration. For further guidance, see DWER's <u>Procedure: Prescribed</u>		☐ No – a valid registration applies
premises works approvals and licences and		
Guideline: Industry regulation guide to licensing.		
9.3 Water licences and perr	mits (Rights in W	ater and Irrigation Act 1914)
-	3 77	
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)		110 - a current valid licence applies
a licence or amendment to a licence to		Licence number:
construct wells (including bores and soaks),		Electice Hamber.
or		
a permit or amendment to a		Not applicable
interfere with the bed and b watercourse?	anks of a	
	liaawaa a	
For further guidance on water permits under the <i>Rights in Water</i>		
Act 1914, see DWER's <u>Proceed</u>		
licences and permits.		
127 		
9.4 Planning and other app	rovals	
Has the proposal obtained all		
relevant planning approvals	☐ Yes	
and/or have you applied for	Enton deteller	
all relevant planning	Enter details:	
approvals (e.g. Development Approval, Extractive Industry	M No planning	approval is not required
Licence, etc.)?	No − planning	approval is not required
	Enter details:	
	Enter details.	
	□ Not applicable	
	☐ Not applicable	