



# **CLEARING PERMIT**

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

# PERMIT DETAILS

Area Permit Number:	CPS 10952/1
File Number:	DWERVT17904
Duration of Permit:	From 4 July 2025 to 4 July 2032

#### PERMIT HOLDER

City of Rockingham

# LAND ON WHICH CLEARING IS TO BE DONE

Mundijong Road reserve (PIN 11751896), Baldivis

# **AUTHORISED ACTIVITY**

The permit holder must not clear more than 0.007 hectares of *native vegetation* within the area cross-hatched yellow in Figure 1 of Schedule 1.

#### CONDITIONS

#### 1. Period during which clearing is authorised

The permit holder must not clear any native vegetation after 4 July 2027.

#### 2. 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.

#### 3. 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.

#### 4. Directional clearing

The permit holder must:

- (a) conduct clearing activities in a slow, progressive manner towards adjacent *native vegetation*; and
- (b) allow a reasonable time for fauna present within the area being cleared to move into adjacent *native vegetation* ahead of the *clearing* activity.

# 5. Revegetation and rehabilitation

- (a) Within 12 months of undertaking clearing authorised under this permit and no later than 4 July 2027, the permit holder must undertake deliberate *planting* of at least five (5) *Corymbia calophylla* trees within the area cross-hatched red in Figure 2 of Schedule 1 by:
  - (i) ensuring only *local provenance* species are used;
  - (ii) ensuring *planting* is undertaken at the *optimal time*; and
  - (iii) undertaking *weed* control and watering of *plantings* for at least two years post *planting*
- (b) Within 24 months of *planting* the *Corymbia calophylla* trees in accordance with condition 5(a) of this permit, the permit holder must:
  - (i) engage an *environmental specialist* to make a determination that at least five
     (5) *Corymbia calophylla* trees will persist and survive; and
  - (ii) if the determination made by the *environmental specialist* under condition 5(b)(i) is that at least five (5) *Corymbia calophylla* trees will not survive, undertake additional *planting* that will result in at least five (5) *Corymbia calophylla* trees persisting within the area cross-hatched red in Figure 2 of Schedule 1.
- (c) Where additional *planting* of *Corymbia calophylla* trees is undertaken in accordance with condition 5(b)(ii), the permit holder must repeat the activities required by conditions 5(a) and 5(b).

#### 6. **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.

No.	Relevant matter	Specifications			
1.	In relation to the authorised clearing activities generally	(a) the species composition, structure, and density of the cleared area:			
	0 0	(b) the location where the clearing occurred, recorded using a Global Positioning System			

Table 1: Records that must be kept

No.	Relevant matter	Specifications			
		<ul> <li>(GPS) unit set to GDA2020, expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings;</li> <li>(c) the date that the area was cleared;</li> <li>(d) the size of the area cleared (in hectares);</li> <li>(e) actions taken to avoid, minimise, and reduce the impacts and extent of clearing in accordance with condition 2; and</li> <li>(f) actions taken to minimise the risk of the introduction and spread of <i>weeds</i> and <i>dieback</i> in accordance with condition 3; and</li> <li>(a) actions taken in accordance with condition 4</li> </ul>			
2.	In relation to revegetation and rehabilitation pursuant to	<ul> <li>(a) the size of the <i>planted Corymbia calophylla</i> trees;</li> <li>(b) the data(a) on which the <i>planting</i> was</li> </ul>			
	condition 5.	<ul> <li>(b) the date(s) on which the planting was undertaken;</li> <li>(c) the boundaries of the <i>planted</i> area, recorded using a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit set to Geocentric Datum Australia 2020 (GDA2020), expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings or decimal degrees;</li> </ul>			
		(d) a description of the <i>planting</i> activites undertaken pursuant to condition 5, including actions taken to implement watering and weed control;			
		(e) a copy of the <i>environmental specialist</i> 's monitoring report and determination; and			
		(f) a description of any <i>remedial actions</i> undertaken pursuant to conditions 5 (b)(ii) and 5(c) where monitoring indicates that the <i>planted</i> trees will not survive.			

# 7. Reporting

The permit holder must provide to the *CEO* the records required under condition 6 of this permit when requested by the *CEO*.

# **DEFINITIONS**

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

Term	Definition
CEO	Chief Executive Officer of the department responsible for the administration of the clearing provisions under the <i>Environmental Protection Act 1986</i> .
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 <i>Public Sector</i> <i>Management Act 1994</i> (WA) and designated as responsible for the administration of the EP Act, which includes Part V Division 3

#### Table 2: Definitions

Term	Definition			
dieback	means the effect of <i>Phytophthora</i> species on native vegetation.			
environmental specialist	means a person who holds a tertiary qualification in environmental science or equivalent, and has a minimum of 2 years work experience relevant to the type of environmental advice that an environmental specialist is required to provide under this permit, or who is approved by the CEO as a suitable environmental specialist.			
EP Act	Environmental Protection Act 1986 (WA)			
fill	means material used to increase the ground level, or to fill a depression.			
local provenance	means native vegetation seeds and propagating material from natural sources within 50 kilometres and the same Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation for Australia (IBRA) subregion of the area cleared.			
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.			
optimal time	means the period from May to July for undertaking planting.			
planted/ing	means the re-establishment of vegetation by creating soil conditions and planting seedlings of the desired species.			
rehabilitate/ion	means the re-establishment of a cover of local provenance native vegetation in an area using methods such as natural regeneration, direct seeding and/or planting, so that the species composition, structure and density is similar to pre-clearing vegetation types in that area.			
remedial action/s	means for the purpose of this permit, any activity that is required to ensure successful re-establishment and survival of planted trees.			
revegetate/ion	means actively managing an area containing native vegetation in order to improve the ecological function of the area.			
weeds	<ul> <li>means any plant – <ul> <li>(a) that is a declared pest under section 22 of the <i>Biosecurity and</i> Agriculture Management Act 2007; or</li> <li>(b) published in a Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions species-led ecological impact and invasiveness ranking summary, regardless of ranking; or</li> <li>(c) not indigenous to the area concerned.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>			

#### **END OF CONDITIONS**

Burton

 Wessica Burton MANAGER NATIVE VEGETATION REGULATION

*Officer delegated under Section 20 of the Environmental Protection Act 1986* 

12 June 2025

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

CPS 10952/1, 12 June 2025

Figure 1: Map of the boundary of the area within which clearing may occur.  $$Page 5 \, of 6$$ 

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Figure 2: Map of the boundary of the area within which revegetation and rehabilitation pursuant to condition 5 must occur. Page 6 of 6

CPS 10952/1, 12 June 2025



# **Clearing Permit Decision Report**

1 Application details and outcome			
1.1. Permit application details			
Permit number:	CPS 10952/1		
Permit type:	Area permit		
Applicant name:	City of Rockingham		
Application received:	17 February 2025		
Application area:	0.007 hectares of native vegetation		
Purpose of clearing:	Road widening		
Method of clearing:	Mechanical		
Property:	Mundijong Road reserve (PIN 11751896)		
Location (LGA area/s):	City of Rockingham		
Localities (suburb/s):	Baldivis		

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# 1.2. Description of clearing activities

The vegetation proposed to be cleared contains three trees within an area of 0.007 hectares adjacent to Mundijong Road (see Figure 1, Section 1.5). The proposed clearing is to facilitate the construction of a separate turning lane into Telephone Lane to improve the safety of the intersection for turning vehicles and eastbound traffic.

#### 1.3. Decision on application

Decision:	Granted
Decision date:	12 June 2025
Decision area:	0.007 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 Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (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 A), relevant datasets (see Appendix E.1), photographs supplied by the applicant (see Appendix D), the clearing principles set out in Schedule 5 of the EP Act (see Appendix B), relevant planning instruments and any other matters considered relevant to the assessment (see Section 3). The Delegated Officer also took into consideration that the purpose of the clearing is to improve public safety of the Mundijong Road-Telephone Lane intersection.

The assessment identified that the proposed clearing will result in:

- the loss of three marri trees within an area of 0.007 hectares that provide significant foraging habitat for black cockatoo species on the Swan Coastal Plain,
- the loss of 0.007 hectares of native vegetation that is growing in association with a watercourse and wetland,
- potential direct impacts to conservation significant fauna, if present at the time of the clearing activity, and

the potential introduction and spread of weeds into adjacent vegetation, which could impact on the quality
of the adjacent vegetation and its habitat values.

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 can be minimised and managed to be unlikely lead to an unacceptable risk to environmental values.

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

- avoid, minimise to reduce the impacts and extent of clearing,
- take hygiene steps to minimise the risk of the introduction and spread of weeds,
- undertake slow, progressive one directional clearing to allow terrestrial fauna to move into adjacent habitat ahead of the clearing activity, and
- undertake deliberate planting of at least five native marri trees within an adjacent area of Mundijong Road reserve (PIN 11751896) to mitigate the loss of significant foraging habitat for black cockatoo species.

#### 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 510 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 polluter pays principle

- 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)
  - Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Cth) (EPBC Act)
- Relevant policies considered during the assessment include:
- Environmental Offsets Policy (2011)

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)
- Environmental Offsets Guidelines (August 2014)

#### 3 Detailed assessment of application

#### 3.1. Avoidance and mitigation measures

The applicant advised that at present, with the single-lane design of the Mundijong Road-Telephone Lane intersection, an eastbound vehicle travelling 100km/hr must stop completely behind a turning vehicle, posing a significant safety risk (City of Rockingham, 2025). The applicant proposes to widen Mundijong Road northward to accommodate a separate turning lane into Telephone Lane to address this risk (City of Rockingham, 2025).

The applicant noted that widening the road southward to avoid clearing was considered, but it was determined that this would compromise the safety of the road by increasing the bend at the Mundijong Road-Telephone Lane intersection (City of Rockingham, 2025). Using signage was also not considered feasible, given it would slow traffic and be ineffective on a high-speed road (City of Rockingham, 2025).

The applicant indicated that, in order to construct the proposed turning lane according to the Australian Standards, the three trees within the area proposed to be cleared, require removal (City of Rockingham, 2025).

To mitigate the impacts of the proposed clearing, the applicant proposed to undertake a rehabilitation action within Mundijong Road reserve (PIN 11751896) by infill planting five marri trees adjacent to the application area (see Figure 2 below).



Figure 2. Map of the application area (cross-hatched yellow) and revegetation area (cross-hatched red) in which five marri trees will be planted to mitigate clearing impacts.

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 A) 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 (see Appendix B) identified that the impacts of the proposed clearing present a risk to biological values (fauna) and 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 Principle (b)

#### Assessment

Noting the site characteristics (see Appendix A), photographs supplied by the applicant (Appendix D) and the habitat preferences of the conservation significant fauna species recorded in the local area (10-kilometre radius), the application area is considered to contain suitable habitat for the following fauna species, collectively referred to as black cockatoo species:

- *Calyptorhynchus banksii naso* (forest red-tailed black cockatoo) (listed as Vulnerable under the BC Act and EPBC Act),
- Zanda baudinii (Baudin's cockatoo) (listed as Endangered under the BC Act and EPBC Act), and
- Zanda latirostris (Carnaby's cockatoo) (listed as Endangered under the BC Act and EPBC Act).

#### **Black cockatoo species**

#### Breeding and roosting habitat

Black cockatoo species are known to nest in hollows of live and dead trees, including marri (*Corymbia calophylla*), jarrah (*Eucalyptus marginata*), karri (*Eucalyptus diversicolor*), wandoo (*Eucalyptus wandoo*), tuart (*Eucalyptus gomphocephala*), flooded gum (*Eucalyptus rudis*), and other *Eucalyptus* spp. (Commonwealth of Australia, 2022). 'Breeding habitat' for black cockatoos includes trees of these species that either have a suitable nest hollow or are of a suitable diameter at breast height (DBH) to develop a nest hollow, where suitable DBH for nest hollows is 500 millimetres for most tree species (Commonwealth of Australia, 2022). Habitat trees that provide potential breeding habitat may also represent suitable roosting habitat for black cockatoo species.

Based on the photographs supplied by the applicant, the three marri trees are not of suitable DBH to provide breeding or roosting habitat at present. Therefore, the proposed clearing will not result in the loss of significant roosting or breeding trees for black cockatoo species.

#### Foraging habitat

Black cockatoo species are noted to forage on a range of plant species, with the primary foraging resources varying between species (Commonwealth of Australia, 2022). Carnaby's cockatoos forage on the seeds, nuts, and flowers of a variety of plants, including Proteaceous species (*Banksia* spp., *Hakea* spp., and *Grevillea* spp.), as well as *Eucalyptus* species and marri (Valentine and Stock, 2008). Forest red-tailed black cockatoos feed predominantly on the seeds of marri and jarrah, which comprise approximately 90 per cent of their diet (DEC, 2008). Baudin's cockatoos primarily feed on the seeds of marri, but may also forage on the seeds of jarrah and Proteaceous species (DEC, 2008).

Critical habitat is defined as any habitat that provides for feeding, watering, regular night roosting, and potential for breeding for Carnaby's cockatoo (DPAW, 2013) and all marri, karri and jarrah forests, woodlands and remnants in the south-west of Western Australia receiving more than 600 millimetres of annual average rainfall for Baudin's and forest red-tailed black cockatoo (DEC, 2008). Foraging habitat within 12 kilometres of a nesting site and six kilometres of a roosting site is of particular importance in supporting populations (Commonwealth of Australia, 2022; Le Roux, 2017; Glossop, et al., 2011; DPAW, 2013; DEC, 2008). The clearing of foraging habitat on the Swan Coastal Plain is also identified as a key threatening process for Carnaby's cockatoo, with the main factor limiting population growth of Carnaby's cockatoo and ensuring adult survival related directly to bottlenecks in and the ongoing removal of food resources on the Swan Coastal Plain (EPA, 2019; Williams, et al., 2017; Groom, 2015; DPAW, 2013; Stock, et al., 2013).

As the application area comprises three marri trees on the Swan Coastal Plain, it meets the definition of critical habitat for all three black cockatoo species. According to available databases, there are nine confirmed roost sites within six

kilometres of the application area, the closest being three kilometres away. There is also one confirmed breeding site for Carnaby's cockatoo (artificial nest box) within 12 kilometres. This indicates that the foraging habitat within the application area may support birds roosting and breeding locally. Noting the cumulative loss of foraging habitat on the Swan Coastal Plain and ongoing threats such as land clearing and fragmentation, weed invasion, and dieback in the region, the clearing of three marri trees represents a significant impact to black cockatoo foraging habitat.

To mitigate the impact arising from the loss of three marri trees that provides significant foraging habitat for black cockatoos, the applicant has proposed to plant and maintain a minimum of five marri trees within the adjacent road reserve to ensure the clearing will not result in a loss of foraging habitat in the local area. The suitability of this mitigation measure has been assessed through a calculation consistent with the WA Environmental Offsets Metric Calculator and determined that the planting of five marri trees is sufficient to ensure no significant residual impact remains. The Delegated Officer determined that the rehabilitation action is consistent with the WA Environmental Offsets Policy (2011) and WA Environmental Offsets Guideline (2014).

#### **Ecological Linkage**

The application area is mapped within a Perth Regional Ecological Linkage which broadly represents vegetated links between patches of remnant vegetation of regional significance in the Perth Metropolitan Region Scheme Area. Noting the highly fragmented local area, the application area is contributing to a linear linkage along the road reserve which may provide an ecological linkage or 'stepping stone' for fauna moving through the landscape. However, the application area is part of a patch of isolated trees and the removal of the three, relatively small trees adjacent to the road reserve will not sever the linkage or reduce the capacity of the remaining trees to provide linkage functionality. The proposed planting of five marri trees within the adjacent road reserve will also ensure that the linkage values are retained.

#### **Conclusion**

Based on the above assessment, the proposed clearing will result in the loss of three marri trees within an area of 0.007 hectares that provide significant foraging habitat for black cockatoo species and forms part of a linear ecological linkage along a road reserve. For the reasons set out above, it is considered that the impacts of the proposed clearing on ecological linkage values and foraging habitat for black cockatoo species can be appropriately mitigated and managed through the avoidance, minimisation, mitigation and rehabilitation measures committed to by the applicant.

The applicant may have notification responsibilities under the EPBC Act for impacts to Baudin's black cockatoo, Carnaby's cockatoo, and forest red-tailed black cockatoo and their habitats. The applicant has been advised to contact the federal Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW) to discuss EPBC Act referral requirements.

#### Conditions

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

- directional clearing, requiring the permit holder to undertake slow directional clearing to allow fauna to move into adjacent vegetation ahead of the clearing activity, and
- revegetation and rehabilitation, requiring the permit holder to undertake deliberate planting of at least five marri trees within an adjacent area of Mundijong Road reserve.

#### 3.2.2. Land and water resources (wetlands and watercourses) - Clearing Principle (f)

#### Assessment

The application area is growing in association with a watercourse or wetland, noting it is mapped within an unnamed Multiple Use wetland and occurs adjacent to roadside drainage infrastructure. However, the mapped wetland has been highly modified through historic clearing and subsequent rural, residential, and infrastructural land uses. Noting the sparse and highly fragmented nature of remnant vegetation within the mapped wetland area and that application area does not contain indicative wetland species, it is highly unlikely that the clearing of 0.007 hectares in Completely Degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition would significantly impact the quality or function of the wetland or of vegetation growing in association with the drainage line.

Given the high weed load of the application area, it is possible that the proposed clearing will facilitate the spread of weeds and dieback into surrounding native vegetation growing in association with the mapped wetland and drainage line. A hygiene management condition will sufficiently minimise this risk.

#### **Conclusion**

Based on the above assessment, the proposed clearing will result in the loss of 0.007 hectares of native vegetation growing in association with a Multiple Use wetland and roadside drainage infrastructure. For the reasons set out above, it is considered that the impacts of the proposed clearing on riparian vegetation and wetlands can be managed through the implementation of weed and dieback management measures.

#### **Conditions**

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

• weed and dieback management measures, requiring the permit holder to take hygiene steps to minimise the risk of the introduction and spread of weeds and dieback to adjacent vegetation.

#### 3.3. Relevant planning instruments and other matters

The clearing permit application was advertised on DWER's website on 28 February 2025, inviting submissions from the public within a 21-day period. No submissions were received.

No Aboriginal sites of significance have been 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. Site characteristics

#### A.1. Site characteristics

The information provided below describes the key characteristics of the area proposed to be cleared and is based on the best information available to DWER at the time of this assessment. This information was used to inform the assessment of the clearing against the Clearing Principles, contained in Appendix B.

Characteristic	Details
Local context	The area proposed to be cleared is part of an isolated patch of trees adjacent to Mundijong Road/Telegraph Lane and rural private property in the intensive land use zone of Western Australia. The proposed clearing area contributes to roadside linkages in a highly cleared landscape.
	Spatial data indicates the local area (10-kilometre radius from the centre of the area proposed to be cleared) retains approximately 25.74 per cent of the original native vegetation cover (see Appendix A.2.).
Ecological linkage	The application area is mapped within the Perth Regional Ecological Linkages dataset. Regional Ecological Linkages are mapped to broadly represent a link between patches of remnant vegetation judged to be of regional significance in the Perth Metropolitan Region (PMR) Scheme Area. The application area provides linkage values along the road reserve in a highly cleared landscape.
Conservation areas	The closest conservation area is Leda Nature Reserve, located approximately 3.8 kilometres north of the application area, separated by cleared rural land and road infrastructure.
Vegetation description	Photographs supplied by the applicant indicate the vegetation within the proposed clearing area consists of three individual marri trees over weeds. Representative photos are available in Appendix D. This is inconsistent with the mapped Swan Coastal Plain vegetation type Serpentine River Complex, which is described as a closed scrub of Melaleuca species and fringing woodland of <i>Eucalyptus rudis</i> (flooded gum) - <i>Melaleuca rhaphiophylla</i> (swamp
	paperbark) along streams (Heddle et al., 1998). The mapped vegetation type retains approximately 9.77 per cent of the original extent (see Appendix A.2.).
Vegetation condition	Photographs supplied by the applicant indicate the vegetation within the proposed clearing area is in Completely Degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition, described as the structure of the vegetation is no longer intact and the area is completely or almost completely without native species (Keighery, 1994).
	The full Keighery (1994) condition rating scale is provided in Appendix C. Representative photos are available in Appendix D.
Climate and landform	The application area is located on relatively flat topography.
	It has a mean annual maximum temperature of 24.7°C and a mean annual minimum temperature of 11.7°C (BoM, 2025). The mean annual rainfall recorded at the nearest Bureau of Meteorology weather station (Jandakot Airport) is 792.8 millimetres (BoM, 2025).
Soil description and land degradation risk	The soil within the application area is mapped as Pinjarra P3 Phase (213Pj_P3), described as flat to very gently undulating plain with deep, imperfect to poorly drained acidic gradational yellow or grey-brown earths and mottled yellow duplex soils, with loam to clay loam surface horizons (DPIRD, 2025).

Characteristic	Details
	This soil type has a low risk of land degradation resulting from wind and water erosion, salinity, flooding, and phosphorus export, but may have a high risk of subsurface acidification and waterlogging (DPIRD, 2025).
Waterbodies and hydrogeography	The application area is mapped within an unnamed Multiple Use wetland within the Geomorphic Wetlands of the Swan Coastal Plain dataset. The application area is also adjacent to a manmade drainage line. Therefore, impacts to riparian vegetation required further consideration (see Section 3.2.3).
	The application area is mapped within the Stakehill Groundwater Area, proclaimed under the <i>Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914</i> (the RIWI Act).
	Groundwater salinity within the application area is mapped at 1000-3000 milligrams per litre total dissolved solids.
Flora	The desktop assessment identified that a total of 38 conservation significant flora species have been recorded within the local area, comprising three Priority 1 (P1) flora, four Priority 2 (P2) flora, 14 Priority 3 (P3) flora, eight Priority 4 (P4) flora, and nine threatened flora species (Western Australian Herbarium, 1998-). None of these existing records occur within the application area, with the closest record being an occurrence of <i>Synaphea</i> sp. Serpentine (G.R. Brand 103) (T) approximately 1.5 kilometres from the application area.
	Given the Completely Degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition of the application area and high weed load evident from photographs supplied by the applicant, no threatened or priority flora species are considered likely to occur within the application area and impacts to flora did not require further consideration.
Ecological communities	The desktop assessment identified that the closest occurrence of a state or federally listed threatened ecological community is the <i>Corymbia calophylla</i> — <i>Xanthorrhoea preissii</i> woodlands and shrublands, Swan Coastal Plain (floristic community type 3c as originally described in Gibson et al. 1994) (SCP 3c) community approximately 1.5 kilometres east of the application area, separated by cleared rural land and road infrastructure.
	Given the Completely Degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition of the application area and high weed load evident from photographs supplied by the applicant, it is unlikely and impacts to conservation significant ecological communities did not require further consideration.
Fauna	The desktop assessment identified that a total of 32 conservation significant fauna species have been recorded within the local area, including eight threatened fauna species, 12 priority fauna species, one conservation dependent species, one other specially protected fauna species, and 11 fauna species protected under international agreement (DBCA, 2007-). The closest is a record of <i>Tringa nebularia</i> (common greenshank) approximately 1.1 kilometres from the application area.
	With consideration for the site characteristics set out above, relevant datasets (see Appendix E.1), the habitat preferences of the aforementioned species, and photographs supplied by the applicant, the application area provides suitable habitat for three conservation significant fauna species and impacts to these species required further consideration (see Appendix A.3.).

A.2. Vegetation exten	ıt				
	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*					
Swan Coastal Plain	1,501,221.93	579,813.47	38.62	222,916.97	14.85
Vegetation complex**					
Serpentine River Complex	19,855.41	1,940.18	9.77	517.49	2.61
Local area					
10km radius	30,056.51	7,736.80	25.74	-	-

\*Government of Western Australia (2019a)

\*\*Government of Western Australia (2019b)

#### A.3. Fauna analysis table

With consideration for the site characteristics set out above, relevant datasets (see Appendix E.1), the habitat preferences of the aforementioned species, and photographs supplied by the applicant, impacts to the following conservation significant fauna required further consideration.

Species name	Conservation status	Suitable habitat features? [Y/N]	Suitable vegetation type? [Y/N]	Distance of closest record to application area (km)	Number of known records (total)	Are surveys adequate to identify? [Y, N, N/A]
Calyptorhynchus banksii naso (forest red-tailed black cockatoo)	VU	Y	Y	2.9	29	N/A
Zanda baudinii (Baudin's cockatoo)	EN	Υ	Y	9.1	1	N/A
Zanda latirostris (Carnaby's cockatoo)	EN	Υ	Y	2.1	243	N/A

T: threatened, CR: critically endangered, EN: endangered, VU: vulnerable, P: priority

# Appendix B. 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."	Not likely to be at	No
<u>Assessment:</u> The application area comprises three marri trees in Completely Degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition within a patch of isolated roadside trees over weeds and does not comprise a high level of biodiversity.	variance	
<u>Principle (b):</u> "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."	At variance	Yes Refer to Section 3.2.1. above
<u>Assessment:</u> The application area contains primary foraging, habitat for conservation significant fauna in a highly modified part of the species' range.		0.2.7, 0.0070.

Assessment against the clearing principles	Variance level	Is further consideration required?		
<u>Principle (c):</u> "Native vegetation should not be cleared if it includes, or is necessary for the continued existence of, threatened flora."	Not likely to be at	No		
<u>Assessment:</u> The application area is unlikely to contain suitable habitat for flora species listed under the BC Act, given the Completely Degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition and high weed load.	variance			
<u>Principle (d):</u> "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."	Not likely to be at variance	No		
<u>Assessment:</u> The application area does not contain vegetation representative of a TEC given it is a patch of isolated roadside trees over weeds in Completely Degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition.				
Environmental value: significant remnant vegetation and conservation areas				
<u>Principle (e):</u> "Native vegetation should not be cleared if it is significant as a remnant of native vegetation in an area that has been extensively cleared."	May be at variance	No		
<u>Assessment:</u> The extent of the mapped vegetation type (Serpentine River Complex) is inconsistent with the national objectives and targets for biodiversity conservation in Australia and the EPA's recommended 10 per cent threshold in constrained areas. However, as the application area does not contain species representative of the Serpentine River Complex and consists of isolated roadside trees over weeds in Completely Degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition, it is not considered to be significant as a remnant within an extensively cleared area.				
<u>Principle (h):</u> "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."	Not likely to be at variance	No		
<u>Assessment:</u> Given the distance to and separation from the nearest conservation area, the proposed clearing is not likely to have an impact on the environmental values of any conservation areas.				
Environmental value: land and water resources				
<u>Principle (f):</u> "Native vegetation should not be cleared if it is growing in, or in association with, an environment associated with a watercourse or wetland."	At variance Yes <i>Refer to Sectior</i> <i>3.2.2, above.</i>	Yes Refer to Section		
<u>Assessment:</u> Given the application area is mapped within a Multiple Use wetland and adjacent to a drainage line, the proposed clearing will impact vegetation growing in association with a watercourse or wetland.		3.2.2, above.		
<u>Principle (g):</u> "Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause appreciable land degradation."	Not likely to be at	No		
<u>Assessment:</u> The mapped soils are highly susceptible to subsurface acidification and waterlogging but are not susceptible to other forms of land degradation. Noting the extent of clearing and that the application area consists of isolated roadside trees over weeds in Completely Degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition, the proposed clearing is not likely to have an appreciable impact on land degradation.	variance			
<u>Principle (i):</u> "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."	Not likely to be at variance	No		
<u>Assessment:</u> Given the extent of clearing and condition of the application area, the proposed clearing is unlikely to impact surface or ground water quality.				

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Assessment against the clearing principles	Variance level	Is further consideration required?
<u>Principle (j):</u> "Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause, or exacerbate, the incidence or intensity of flooding."	Not likely to be at variance	No
<u>Assessment:</u> Given <i>the extent of clearing, condition of</i> the application area, and mapped flood risk, the proposed clearing is unlikely to contribute to an increase in the incidence or intensity of flooding.		

# Appendix C. 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.

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.

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

# Appendix D. Photographs of the vegetation



Figure 3. Photograph of the three trees proposed to be cleared (City of Rockingham, 2025).



Figure 5. Photograph of tree proposed to be cleared (City of Rockingham, 2025).



Figure 4. Photograph of trees proposed to be cleared (City of Rockingham, 2025).



Figure 6. Photograph of the three trees proposed to be cleared (City of Rockingham, 2025).



Figure 7. Photograph of the three trees proposed to be cleared (City of Rockingham, 2025).



Figure 8. Photograph of the three trees proposed to be cleared (City of Rockingham, 2025).

# Appendix E. Sources of information

#### E.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)
- Bush Forever Areas 2000 (DPLH-019)
- Cadastre (LGATE-218)
- Cadastre Address (LGATE-002)
- CAWSA Part 2A Clearing Control Catchments (DWER-004)
- Consanguineous Wetlands Suites (DBCA-020)
- Contours (DPIRD-073)
- DBCA Lands of Interest (DBCA-012)
- DBCA Legislated Lands and Waters (DBCA-011)
- DBCA Statewide Vegetation Statistics
- Directory of Important Wetlands in Australia Western Australia (DBCA-045)
- Environmentally Sensitive Areas (DWER-046)
- Flood Risk (DPIRD-007)
- Geomorphic Wetlands, Swan Coastal Plain (DBCA-019)
- Groundwater Salinity Statewide (DWER-026)
- Hydrographic Catchments Catchments (DWER-028)
- Hydrographic Catchments Divisions (DWER-029)
- Hydrography, Linear (Hierarchy) (DWER-031)
- 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 (DPIRD-006)
- 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 (DPIRD-027)
- Soil Landscape Mapping Systems (DPIRD-064)
- Vegetation Complexes Swan Coastal Plain (DBCA-046)

Restricted GIS Databases used:

- Conservation Covenants Western Australia (DPIRD-023)
- Contaminated Sites Database Restricted (DWER-073)
- 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)

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