



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Purpose Permit number:	CPS 11053/1
Permit Holder:	Shire of Derby-West Kimberley
Duration of Permit:	From 28 August 2025 to 28 August 2030

The permit holder is authorised to clear *native vegetation* subject to the following conditions of this permit.

PART I – CLEARING AUTHORISED

1. Clearing authorised (purpose)

The permit holder is authorised to clear *native vegetation* for the purpose of cemetery expansion.

2. Land on which clearing is to be done

Lot 537 on Deposited Plan 16663314, Derby.

3. Clearing authorised

The permit holder must not clear more than 0.97 hectares of *native vegetation* within the area cross-hatched yellow in Figure 1 of Schedule 1.

PART II – MANAGEMENT CONDITIONS

4. 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.

5. Weed 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*:

- (a) clean earth-moving machinery of soil and vegetation prior to entering and leaving the area to be cleared;
- (b) ensure that no known *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.

6. Directional clearing

The permit holder must:

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

PART III - RECORD KEEPING AND REPORTING

7. 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.

Table 1: Records that must be kept

No.	Relevant matter	Specifications
1.	In relation to the authorised clearing activities generally	<p>(a) the species composition, structure, and density of the cleared area;</p> <p>(b) the location where the clearing occurred, recorded using a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit set to GDA2020, expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings;</p> <p>(c) the date that the area was cleared;</p> <p>(d) the size of the area cleared (in hectares);</p> <p>(e) actions taken to avoid, minimise, and reduce the impacts and extent of clearing in accordance with condition 4;</p> <p>(f) actions taken to minimise the risk of the introduction and spread of <i>weeds</i> in accordance with condition 5; and</p> <p>(g) actions taken in accordance with condition 6.</p>

8. Reporting

The permit holder must provide to the *CEO* the records required under condition 7 of this permit when requested by the *CEO*.

DEFINITIONS

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

Table 2: Definitions

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> .

Term	Definition
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.
fill	means material used to increase the ground level, or to fill a depression.
department	means the department established under section 35 of the <i>Public Sector Management Act 1994</i> (WA) and designated as responsible for the administration of the EP Act, which includes Part V Division 3.
EP Act	<i>Environmental Protection Act 1986</i> (WA)
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.
weeds	means any plant – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) that is a declared pest under section 22 of the <i>Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act 2007</i>; or (b) published in a Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions species-led ecological impact and invasiveness ranking summary, regardless of ranking; or (c) not indigenous to the area concerned.

END OF CONDITIONS


 Jessica Burton

MANAGER

NATIVE VEGETATION REGULATION

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

4 August 2025

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



Figure 1: Map of the boundary of the area within which clearing may occur



Clearing Permit Decision Report

1 Application details and outcome

1.1. Permit application details

Permit number:	CPS 11053/1
Permit type:	Purpose permit
Applicant name:	Shire of Derby-West Kimberley
Application received:	1 May 2025
Application area:	0.97 hectares of native vegetation
Purpose of clearing:	Cemetery expansion
Method of clearing:	Mechanical
Property:	Lot 537 on Deposited Plan 16663314
Location (LGA area/s):	Shire of Derby-West Kimberley
Localities (suburb/s):	Derby

1.2. Description of clearing activities

The vegetation proposed to be cleared is contained within a single contiguous area (see Figure 1, Section 1.5).

The proposed clearing is to expand the existing cemetery to create additional burial space as the cemetery is reaching its capacity (Shire of Derby-West Kimberley, 2025a).

1.3. Decision on application

Decision:	Granted
Decision date:	4 August 2025
Decision area:	0.97 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), the photographs of vegetation proposed to be cleared, provided 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 proposed clearing is to facilitate the expansion of an existing cemetery which is reaching its current capacity.

The assessment identified that the proposed clearing will result in:

- the potential introduction and spread of weeds into adjacent vegetation, which could impact on the quality of the adjacent vegetation and its habitat values; and
- potential impacts to fauna individuals if present within the application area during the clearing process.

After consideration of the available information, the Delegated Officer determined the above potential impacts can be minimised and managed through permit conditions to 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.

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 51O 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 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)
- *Country Areas Water Supply Act 1947* (WA) (CAWS Act)
- *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (Cth) (EPBC Act)
- *Right in Water and Irrigation Act 1914* (RiWI Act)

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)

3 Detailed assessment of application

3.1. Avoidance and mitigation measures

The applicant has stated that the proposed clearing is necessary to ensure adequate burial space for both current and future needs. Given its role in continuing essential public services, the clearing cannot be reasonably avoided or reduced (Shire of Derby-West Kimberley, 2025b).

Noting that the proposed clearing is located within a Crown Reserve vested for cemetery use and the purpose of clearing is to expand the existing cemetery which is unavoidable, and the potential impacts of the proposed clearing on environmental values are unlikely to be significant (see detailed assessment in Section 3.2 below) which can be managed through permit conditions, the Delegated Officer has determined that the avoidance and mitigation measures are not required in this instance.

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 **Error! Reference source not found.**) identified that the impacts of the proposed clearing present a risk to biological values (fauna and flora) 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 and biodiversity) - Clearing Principles (a) and (b)

Assessment

The desktop assessment identified that there are 58 conservation significant fauna species recorded in the local area, including 47 bird species, five mammal species, two reptile species and four fish species. All mapped mammal, reptile and fish species are unlikely to occur within the application area, noting the lack of suitable habitat. Most of bird species are migratory or shorebird species associated with coastal or freshwater habitats which are not represented within the application area. The area proposed to be cleared is considered to provide suitable habitat for only one conservation significant fauna species which is grey falcon (*Falco hypoleucos* – Vulnerable).

The grey falcon occurs in arid and semi-arid inland Australia and is associated with timbered lowland plains such as tussock grassland, open woodland, and particularly *Acacia* shrublands that are crossed by tree-lined watercourses (TSSC, 2020). The grey falcon roosts and nests in the tallest trees along watercourses, particularly river red gum (*Eucalyptus camaldulensis*) and coolibah (*Eucalyptus coolabah*) (TSSC, 2020). Considering there is no watercourses within the application area, the proposed clearing area may not be a preferable roosting and nesting habitat of this species. However, grey falcon may utilize the clearing area as its foraging habitat. Noting the extensive and similar habitat within the surrounding remnant vegetation available in the local area, the area proposed to be cleared is unlikely to provide significant habitat for grey falcons.

The clearing may have direct impact on the fauna individuals if they are utilising the application area at the time of clearing.

Conclusion

Based on the above assessment, the proposed clearing is unlikely to have significant impacts to habitat conservation significant fauna species habitat, however, may result in impacts on fauna individuals if they present within the application area when clearing.

Conditions

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

- Slow directional clearing to allow fauna to move into adjacent vegetation ahead of the clearing activity will minimise impact to individuals.

3.2.2. Biological values (flora and biodiversity) - Clearing Principles (a) and (c)

Assessment

According to the GIS database, no threatened flora species have been recorded within the local area. A total of 11 priority flora species are mapped. Of these, five species are mapped in the same soil and vegetation types as the application area. However, three of them are aquatic species or associated with swamp environment, and another one is associated with tussock or hummock grassland. Since there are no watercourses mapped within the application area and the vegetation proposed to be cleared primarily consists of Acacia thicket, the proposed clearing area is unlikely to provide suitable habitat for these four species. Based on the mapped soil, vegetation types and habitat suitability, one priority flora species, *Goodenia sepalosa* var. *glandulosa* (P3), is considered likely to occur within the application area (see Appendix B.3 for the flora analysis table).

Goodenia sepalosa var. *glandulosa* is a prostrate to sprawling herb that grows between three to 30 centimetres in height. This species is native to Western Australia and is classified as Priority 3, indicating it is poorly known but not currently under significant threat. There are 18 records of *Goodenia sepalosa* var. *glandulosa* recorded in Florabase with majority are mapped in the Dampierland bioregion (WA Herb, 1998-). This species habitat is associated with woodland including *Corymbia* spp., *Acacia* spp. which occurs within the application area. However, noting the relatively small extent of the clearing area in comparison with the extensive area of similar remnant vegetation in the surrounding area, the area proposed to be cleared is not considered as a significant habitat for *Goodenia sepalosa* var. *glandulosa* and the proposed clearing will not significantly impact the conservation status of this Priority 3 flora species.

The proposed clearing may increase the risk of the introduction and spread of weeds into adjacent remnant vegetation.

Conclusion

Based on the above assessment, the proposed clearing is unlikely to result in impacts on threatened or priority flora. However, the clearing activities may impact the remnant vegetation by the increasing risk of weed spreading.

Conditions

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

- Weed management.

3.2.3. Environmental value: Water resources - Clearing Principles (j)

Assessment

There is no watercourses or wetlands mapped within the application area; therefore, the proposed clearing is unlikely to impacts to watercourses and surface water quality.

The application area falls within the Irrigation-Derby Town Water Supply proclaimed under the *Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914*. DWER's North West Region - Water Regulation (NWR) team advised that if the applicant needs to use groundwater for dust suppression or any other purposes, they will need to apply for a 5C licence to take water and a 26D licence to construct any new water supply bores (DWER, 2025).

NWR advised that no information on groundwater level and cemetery activities is available to help determine the potential impacts of cemetery activities to groundwater quality. To minimise the potential impacts and contamination risks to groundwater quality, the applicant is recommended to undertake best practice management and apply the following guidelines:

- [WQPN 25 - Land use compatibility tables for public drinking water source areas](#) which contains guidance for cemeteries.
- [WQPN 65 - Toxic and hazardous substances](#) is recommended to be considered for future cemetery activity.
- Hydrocarbons, chemicals, and potentially hazardous substances should be stored and disposed of in accordance with DWER' Guidelines and Water Quality Protection Notes.

Conclusion

Based on the above assessment, the proposed clearing is unlikely to impact surface water and groundwater quality. However, the final land use may have impacts to groundwater quality which can be minimised if the applicant applies best practice management and adheres to relevant regulatory guidelines.

Conditions

No management measures are required.

3.3. Relevant planning instruments and other matters

The clearing permit application was advertised on DWER's website on 04 June 2025, inviting submissions from the public within a 21-day period. No submissions were received.

The application area is located within the Crown Reserve 31172 which is vested under the management of the Shire of Derby/West Kimberley for the purpose of cemetery. The purpose of the proposed clearing aligns with the land vesting purpose.

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	<p>The area proposed to be cleared is part of an expansive tract of native vegetation in the extensive land use zone of Western Australia. It borders the cleared area/entrance road on its west and north; and is surrounded by remnant vegetation on its east and south.</p> <p>Aerial imagery indicates the local area (50-kilometre radius from the centre of the area proposed to be cleared – excluding the ocean) retains more than 99 per cent of the original native vegetation cover.</p>
Ecological linkage	The application area is not within any mapped ecological linkages.
Conservation areas	There are no conservation areas mapped within the local area. The closest on-land conservation area is Miluwindi (Sth) and Wunaamin (Nth) Conservation Park, located approximately 130 kilometres from the application area.
Vegetation description	<p>Photographs supplied by the applicant (SoD/WB, 2025b) indicate the vegetation within the proposed clearing area likely consistent with the mapped vegetation type Beard 764, which is described as <i>Acacia</i> thicket with scattered low trees over spinifex <i>Acacia eriopoda</i>, <i>Corymbia dichromophloia</i>, <i>Triodia pungens</i>, <i>T. bitextura</i> (Shepherd et al, 2001). Representative photos are available in Appendix D.</p> <p>The mapped vegetation type retains approximately 97.6 per cent of the original extent (Government of Western Australia, 2019).</p>
Vegetation condition	<p>Photographs supplied by the applicant (SoD/WB, 2025b) indicate the vegetation within the proposed clearing area is in Very Good to Excellent (Trudgen, 1991) condition.</p> <p>The full Trudgen (1991) condition rating scale is provided in Appendix C. Representative photos are available in Appendix D.</p>
Climate	<p>Climate: Mean maximum temperature is 34.8 degrees Celsius.</p> <p>Mean minimum temperature is 21.6 degrees Celsius.</p> <p>Rainfall: Mean annual rainfall is 706.3 millimetres.</p> <p>(BOM, 2025)</p>
Soil and landform description	The soil is mapped as Wanganut System 337Wa, which is described as sandplain and dunefields with through-going drainage; sandplain, mainly in the upper parts, with stable dunefields, low-lying sandplain, and scattered pans and depressions; sparse to moderately dense branching drainage pattern; relief up to 9 meters (DPIRD, 2022).
Land degradation risk	The mapped soil type is not susceptible to erosion and degradation (DPIRD, 2022).
Waterbodies	The desktop assessment and aerial imagery indicated that no watercourses transect the areas proposed to be cleared. The closest watercourse is the Doctors Creek West, located approximately 820 metres from the north-eastern part of the proposed clearing area.
Hydrogeography	<p>The application area falls within the Irrigation-Derby Town Water Supply proclaimed under the <i>Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914</i> and the <i>Rights in Water and Irrigation Act Amendment Act 1971</i>).</p> <p>The groundwater salinity level is mapped as less than 500 milligrams total dissolved solids per litre.</p>
Flora	No threatened flora species and 11 priority flora species are mapped within the local area. None of these priority flora species are recorded within the application area. The

Characteristic	Details
	closest recorded priority species are <i>Eriochloa fatmensis</i> and <i>Gomphrena cucullata</i> , located approximately 7.2 kilometres from the application area. There are five species found on the same soil type and vegetation type as the application area.
Ecological communities	No threatened ecological communities are mapped within the local area. The closest mapped priority ecological community is Gogo Land System, located approximately 26.8 kilometres away from the application area.
Fauna	The desktop assessment identified that a total of 58 threatened or priority fauna species have been recorded within the local area (excluding the ocean), including 12 threatened fauna species, ten priority fauna species, and 36 specially protected fauna species.

A.2. Flora analysis table

With consideration for the site characteristics set out above and relevant datasets (see Appendix E.1), impacts to the following conservation significant flora required further consideration.

Species name	Conservation status	Suitable habitat features? [Y/N]	Suitable vegetation type? [Y/N]	Suitable soil 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]
<i>Eriochloa fatmensis</i>	P3	N	Y	N	7.2	2	N/A
<i>Gomphrena cucullata</i>	P3	N	Y	Y	7.2	6	N/A
<i>Goodenia sepulosa</i> var. <i>glandulosa</i>	P3	Y	Y	Y	9.2	5	N/A
<i>Nymphoides beaglesensis</i>	P3	N	Y	Y	8.8	3	N/A
<i>Utricularia byrneana</i>	P1	N	Y	Y	8.8	1	N/A
<i>Utricularia tubulata</i>	P1	N	Y	Y	8.8	1	N/A

P: priority

A.3. Fauna analysis table

Species name	Conservation status	Suitable habitat features? [Y/N]	Distance of closest record to application area (km)	Number of known records in local area	Most recent record in local area	Are surveys adequate to identify? [Y, N, N/A]
<i>Cuculus optatus</i> (Oriental cuckoo)	MI	Y	0.63	4	2008	N/A
<i>Falco hypoleucos</i> (Grey falcon)	VU	Y	6.3	5	1999	N/A

VU: vulnerable, MI: migratory

A.4. Land degradation risk table

Risk categories	Land Unit 337Wa
Erosion	Not prone to erosion and degradation
Salinity	100% of the map unit has a slight to nil hazard
Subsurface Acidification	100% of the map unit has a low hazard

(DPIRD, 2022)

Appendix B. Assessment against the clearing principles

Assessment against the clearing principles	Variance level	Is further consideration required?
Environmental value: biological values		
<p><u>Principle (a):</u> “Native vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises a high level of biodiversity.”</p> <p><u>Assessment:</u></p> <p>The area proposed to be cleared contains suitable habitat for two conservation significant fauna species and one priority flora species. However, noting the existence of similar or better habitat in surrounding vegetation, the vegetation proposed to be cleared is unlikely to comprise a high level of biodiversity, compared with the surrounding remnant vegetation.</p>	Not likely to be at variance	Yes <i>Refer to Section 3.2.1 and 3.2.2, above.</i>
<p><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.”</p> <p><u>Assessment:</u></p> <p>The area proposed to be cleared contains suitable habitat for grey falcon. However, the habitat is considered not significant noting the existence of extensive similar habitat in the surrounding remnant vegetation.</p>	Not likely to be at variance	Yes <i>Refer to Section 3.2.1, above.</i>
<p><u>Principle (c):</u> “Native vegetation should not be cleared if it includes, or is necessary for the continued existence of, threatened flora.”</p> <p><u>Assessment:</u></p> <p>No threatened flora species are mapped within the local area (50-kilometre radius from the application area). The area proposed to be cleared is unlikely to contain suitable habitat for threatened flora species.</p>	Not likely to be at variance	No
<p><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.”</p> <p><u>Assessment:</u></p> <p>The area proposed to be cleared does not contain species that can indicate a threatened ecological community. No threatened priority ecological communities are mapped within the local area</p>	Not at variance	No
Environmental value: significant remnant vegetation and conservation areas		
<p><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.”</p> <p><u>Assessment:</u></p> <p>The extent of native vegetation in the local area is consistent with the national objectives and targets for biodiversity conservation in Australia. The vegetation proposed to be cleared is not considered to be part of a significant ecological linkage in the local area.</p>	Not at variance	No
<p><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.”</p> <p><u>Assessment:</u></p> <p>Given the distance to the nearest conservation area, the proposed clearing does not have an impact on the environmental values of nearby conservation areas.</p>	Not at variance	No

Assessment against the clearing principles	Variance level	Is further consideration required?
Environmental value: land and water resources		
<p><u>Principle (f):</u> <i>"Native vegetation should not be cleared if it is growing in, or in association with, an environment associated with a watercourse or wetland."</i></p> <p><u>Assessment:</u></p> <p>Given that no watercourses are recorded within the application area, the proposed clearing is unlikely to impact an environment associated with a watercourse or wetland.</p>	Not likely to be at variance	No
<p><u>Principle (g):</u> <i>"Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause appreciable land degradation."</i></p> <p><u>Assessment:</u></p> <p>Noting that the mapped soils are not susceptible to erosion and degradation, the proposed clearing is not likely to have an appreciable impact on land degradation.</p>	Not likely to be at variance	No
<p><u>Principle (i):</u> <i>"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."</i></p> <p><u>Assessment:</u></p> <p>Given no water courses/wetlands are recorded within the application area, the proposed clearing is unlikely to impact surface water quality. However, the application area is located within the proclaimed Derby ground water area and the subsequent activities (cemeteries) may impact the ground water quality.</p>	Not likely to be at variance	Yes <i>Refer to Section 3.2.3, above.</i>
<p><u>Principle (j):</u> <i>"Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause, or exacerbate, the incidence or intensity of flooding."</i></p> <p><u>Assessment:</u></p> <p>The mapped soils and topographic contours in the surrounding area do not indicate the proposed clearing is likely to contribute to increased incidence or intensity of flooding.</p> <p>Given no watercourses are recorded within the application area, the proposed clearing is unlikely to contribute to waterlogging.</p>	Not likely to be at variance	No

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 Trudgen, M.E. (1991) *Vegetation condition scale* in National Trust (WA) 1993 Urban Bushland Policy. National Trust of Australia (WA), Wildflower Society of WA (Inc.), and the Tree Society (Inc.), Perth.

Measuring vegetation condition for the Eremaean and Northern Botanical Provinces (Trudgen, 1991)

Condition	Description
Excellent	Pristine or nearly so, no obvious signs of damage caused by human activities since European settlement.

Condition	Description
Very good	Some relatively slight signs of damage caused by human activities since European settlement. For example, some signs of damage to tree trunks caused by repeated fire, the presence of some relatively non-aggressive weeds, or occasional vehicle tracks.
Good	More obvious signs of damage caused by human activity since European settlement, including some obvious impact on the vegetation structure such as that caused by low levels of grazing or slightly aggressive weeds.
Poor	Still retains basic vegetation structure or ability to regenerate it after very obvious impacts of human activities since European settlement, such as grazing, partial clearing, frequent fires or aggressive weeds.
Very poor	Severely impacted by grazing, very frequent fires, clearing or a combination of these activities. Scope for some regeneration but not to a state approaching good condition without intensive management. Usually with a number of weed species present including very aggressive species.
Completely degraded	Areas that are completely or almost completely without native species in the structure of their vegetation; i.e. areas that are cleared or 'parkland cleared' with their flora comprising weed or crop species with isolated native trees or shrubs.

Appendix D. Photographs of the vegetation

Figure D.1. Representative photos of vegetation proposed to be cleared. The bottom photo showing that the recent burial places are quite closed to the edge of already cleared area (SoD/WB, 2025b)

Appendix E. Sources of information

E.1. GIS databases

Publicly available GIS Databases used (sourced from www.data.wa.gov.au):

- Aboriginal Heritage Places (DPLH-001)
- Cadastre (LGATE-218)
- Cadastre Address (LGATE-002)
- Contours (DPIRD-073)
- DBCA – Lands of Interest (DBCA-012)
- DBCA Legislated Lands and Waters (DBCA-011)
- Directory of Important Wetlands in Australia – Western Australia (DBCA-045)
- Environmentally Sensitive Areas (DWER-046)
- Flood Risk (DPIRD-007)
- Groundwater Salinity Statewide (DWER-026)
- Hydrography – Inland Waters – Waterlines
- Hydrological Zones of Western Australia (DPIRD-069)
- IBRA Vegetation Statistics
- Imagery
- Local Planning Scheme – Zones and Reserves (DPLH-071)
- Native Title (ILUA) (LGATE-067)
- Pre-European Vegetation Statistics
- 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
- Soil Landscape Mapping – Systems

Restricted GIS Databases used:

- 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)

E.2. References

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