GOVERNMENT OF
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Purpose Permit number:	CPS 11082/1
Permit Holder:	Mr Jeffrey Charles Bennett and Mr Michael Gerard Bennett
Duration of Permit:	From 18 December 2025 to 18 December 2036

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 thinning and pasture.

2. Land on which clearing is to be done

Lot 11156 on Deposited Plan 15391, Crowea
Lot 11157 on Deposited Plan 15391, Crowea

3. Clearing authorised

The permit holder must not clear more than 0.94 hectares of *native vegetation* within the areas cross-hatched yellow in Figure 1 of Schedule 1.

4. Period during which clearing is authorised

The permit holder must not clear any *native vegetation* after 18 December 2030.

PART II – MANAGEMENT CONDITIONS

5. Type of clearing authorised

To the extent authorised under this permit, the permit holder may undertake the following activities within the area cross-hatched yellow in Figure 1 of Schedule 1:

(a) thinning of *Eucalyptus diversicolor* (karri) trees to promote growth of selected retained trees to a target basal area of 15 square metres per hectare;

(b) clearing of *understorey* where undertaken in association with the activities described under condition 5(a);

(c) *prescribed burning* of *understorey*; and

(d) clearing of the isolated, native paddock trees located in the western side of the areas cross- hatched yellow in Figure 1 of Schedule 1.

6. 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.

7. 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.

8. Directional clearing

The permit holder must:

(a) conduct clearing activities in a slow, progressive manner towards adjacent *native vegetation*; and

(b) allow reasonable time for fauna present within the area being cleared to move into adjacent *native vegetation* ahead of the clearing activity.

9. Vegetation management - thinning

(a) *Thinning* activities undertaken in accordance with condition 5(a) of this permit must be performed by a *forestry operator.*

(b) Operation of logging machinery used to undertake activities authorised under this permit must only be performed during *dry conditions.*

(c) Prior to undertaking any clearing authorised under this permit, the permit holder must:

  (i) identify and demarcate all *habitat trees* within the areas cross-hatched yellow in Figure 1 of Schedule 1; and

  (ii) take photos of the species composition, structure and density of the *understorey* of areas proposed to be *thinned.*

(d) The permit holder must not clear any *Eucalyptus diversicolor* (karri) trees that have a diameter, measured at 130 centimetres from the base of the tree, of 70 centimetres or greater, unless they pose an unacceptable safety risk;

(e) The permit holder must retain a minimum of five (5) *habitat trees* per hectare within the areas cross-hatched yellow in Figure 1 of Schedule 1, where present.

(f) Where five (5) *habitat trees* per hectare are not present within the areas cross-hatched yellow in Figure 1 of Schedule 1, the permit holder must retain a

minimum of five (5) of the largest trees with the potential to become *habitat trees* per hectare within the area cross-hatched yellow in Figure 1 of Schedule 1.

(g) In addition to the retained five (5) *habitat trees* per hectare, six (6) to eight (8) secondary *habitat trees* (medium sized 30-50 centimetres diameter) must also be retained per hectare.

(h) Prior to undertaking any *clearing* authorised under this permit, the permit holder must provide the location of all *habitat trees* and potential *habitat trees* to be retained in accordance with conditions 9(d), 9(e), 9(f) and 9(g) of this permit to the *CEO*, recorded using a GPS unit set to GDA2020, expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings or decimal degrees.

(i) The permit holder is required to maintain a minimum retention rate of:

(i) 15m2/ha basal area for *Eucalyptus diversicolor* (karri) dominated stands;

(j) A minimum of one 30 metre diameter patch of *healthy representative understorey*, on average, per hectare authorised to be cleared under this permit, is required to be retained, within which clearing of *understorey* described under condition 9(c) is not permitted;

(k) The permit holder must retain all *ground habitat logs* within the areas cross-hatched yellow in Figure 1 of Schedule 1.

(l) The permit holder must remove all *woody fuels* present within a one (1) metre radius of each *habitat tree* and potential *habitat tree* retained in accordance with conditions 9(d), 9(e), 9(f), and 9(g) of this permit and each *ground habitat log* retained in accordance with condition 9(k) of this permit;

(m) The permit holder must, within 12 months of the cessation of activities undertaken in accordance with condition 5 of this permit and no later than 15 December 2031, *rehabilitate* any *established log landings* and *extraction tracks* by scarifying the soil surface to reduce compaction to facilitate natural *regeneration*.

(n) Within 36 months of undertaking activities required under condition 9 (m) of this permit, the permit holder must:

(i) Inspect and take photographs of the species composition, structure and density of the *understorey* vegetation of the *rehabilitated established log landings* and *extraction tracks*.

(ii) If it is determined that the *understorey* vegetation is not recovering towards its pre-clearing structure, composition and density, the applicant must engage an *environmental specialist* to undertake *remedial actions* at an *optimal time* within the next 12 months to ensure the re-establishment of *understorey* prior to the expiry of this permit.

10. Vegetation management – Prescribed burning

(a) The permit holder must ensure that any *prescribed burning* undertaken in accordance with condition 1(c) of this permit:

(i) Occurs during *suitable conditions;*

(ii) Initial *prescribed burning* to occur within three years after the commencement of the thinning operation; and

(iii) After initial *prescribed burning* has been undertaken in accordance with condition 10(a)(ii), subsequent *prescribed burning* must not occur less than six (6) years a part.

11. Revegetation and rehabilitation - Mitigation

(a) Within 24 months of commencing clearing authorised under this permit and no later than 15 December 2027, the permit holder must undertake the deliberate *planting* of at least twenty (20) *Eucalyptus patens* 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 *Eucalyptus patens* trees in accordance with condition11(a) of this permit, the permit holder must:

(i) make a determination that at least 20 *Eucalyptus patens* trees will persist and survive; and

(ii) if the determination made under condition 11(b)(i) is that at least 20 *Eucalyptus patens* trees will not survive, undertake additional *planting* that will result in at least 20 *Eucalyptus patens* trees persisting within the area cross hatched red in Figure 2 of Schedule 1.

(c) Where additional *planting* of *Eucalyptus patens* trees is undertaken in accordance with condition 11(b)(ii), the permit holder must repeat the activities required by conditions 11(a) and 11(b).

PART III - RECORD KEEPING AND REPORTING

12. 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	(a) the species composition, structure, and density of the cleared area; (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; (c) the date that the area was cleared; (d) the size of the area cleared (in hectares); and (e) actions taken to avoid, minimise, and reduce the impacts and extent of clearing in accordance with condition 6; and (f) actions taken to minimise the risk of the introduction and spread of *weeds* and *dieback* in accordance with condition 7; and (g) actions taken to undertake directional clearing in accordance with condition 8.

No.	Relevant matter	Specifications
2.	In relation to vegetation management pursuant to condition 9.	(a) photographs documenting the species composition, structure and density of the *understorey* in accordance with condition 9(c); (b) for *habitat trees* and potential *habitat trees* retained in accordance with conditions 9(e),9(f) and 9(g): (i) the species of each tree; (ii) the location of each *habitat tree* and potential *habitat tree*, recorded using a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit set to Geocentric Datum Australia 2020 (GDA20), expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings; (iii) a photograph of each *habitat tree* and potential *habitat tree*; and (iv) the number of *habitat trees* and potential *habitat trees* retained per hectare. (c) monitoring undertaken to ensure that the specified minimum *basal area* is retained in accordance with condition 9(i); (d) Photographs of the *understorey* taken at one year, two years and three years after completing clearing authorised under this permit; (e) for *ground habitat logs* retained in accordance with condition 9(l): (i) the location of each *ground habitat log* recorded using a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit set to Geocentric Datum Australia 2020 (GDA 20), expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings; (ii) the number of *ground habitat logs* retained; (f) action taken to remove *woody fuels* surrounding retained *habitat trees* and *ground habitat logs* in accordance with condition 9(m); (g) the date(s) the *extraction tracks* were *rehabilitated* in accordance with condition 9(m); and (i) a detailed description of the nature and extent of any *remedial actions* undertaken

No.	Relevant matter	Specifications
		in accordance with condition 9(n).
3.	In relation to vegetation management pursuant to condition 10	(a) Date(s) when the *prescribed burning* activities were undertaken.
4.	In relation to revegetation and rehabilitation pursuant to condition 11	(a) the size of the planted *Eucalyptus patens* trees; (b) the dates on which the *planting* was undertaken; (c) the boundaries of the *planted* 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; (d) a description of the *planting* activities undertaken pursuant to condition 11, including actions taken to implement watering and *weed* control; and (e) a description of any *remedial actions* undertaken pursuant to conditions 11 (b)(ii) and 11(c) where monitoring indicates that the *planted* trees will not survive.

13. Reporting

(a) The permit holder must provide to the *CEO* on or before 30 June of each year, a written report:

(i) of records required under condition12 of this permit; and

(ii) concerning activities done by the permit holder under this permit between 1 January and 31 December of the preceding calendar year.

(b) If no clearing authorised under this permit was undertaken between 1 January and 31 December of the preceding calendar year, a written report confirming that no clearing under this permit has been carried out, must be provided to the *CEO* on or before 30 June of each year.

(c) Prior to 18 September 2036, the permit holder must provide to the *CEO* a written report of records required under condition 12 of this Permit where these records have not already been provided under condition 13(a) of this Permit.

DEFINITIONS

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

Table 2: Definitions

Term	Definition
basal area	is the method of expression of tree cover density in an area where the total area of tree trunk, whose diameter over bark is measured at 1.3

Term	Definition
	metres above the ground, is expressed as square metres per hectares of land area.
CEO	Chief Executive Officer of the department responsible for the administration of the clearing provisions under the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*.
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.
culled/ing	means the selective removal and/or killing of unsaleable trees for thinning, using methods including notching, felling or machine pushing
dieback	means the effect of *Phytophthora* species on native vegetation.
direct seeding	means a method of re-establishing vegetation through the establishment of a seed bed and the introduction of seeds of the desired plant species.
department	means the department established under section 35 of the *Public Sector Management Act 1994* (WA) and designated as responsible for the administration of the EP Act, which includes Part V Division 3.
dry conditions	means when soils (not dust) do not freely adhere to rubber tyres, tracks, vehicle chassis or wheel arches.
environmental specialist	means a person who holds a tertiary qualification in environmental science or equivalent, and has a minimum of two (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)
extraction tracks	means formally established temporary tracks in which understorey has been cleared and topsoil has been disturbed, along which trees felled by logging machinery are moved from the cutting site to a landing or roadside
fill	means material used to increase the ground level, or to fill a depression.
forestry operator	means an external person with a minimum of 5 years of experience in conducting forestry activities to meet harvest and silvicultural standards required for native forest operations on lands managed by Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions
forestry technician	means an external person with a minimum of 5 years of experience in conducting forestry activities relevant to forest ecology in native forest operations including habitat tree identification and tree marking
ground habitat logs	means a log with a minimum length of 3 metres and a minimum internal hollow diameter of 10 centimetres
habitat tree/s	means trees that have a diameter, measured over bark at 1.3 meters from the base of the tree, of at least 70 centimetres for marri (*Corymbia calophylla*), of at least 50 centimetres for jarrah (*Eucalyptus marginata*) and karri (*Eucalyptus diversicolor*) and of at least 30 centimetres of wandoo (*Eucalyptus wandoo*), that contain or have the potential to develop hollows or roosts suitable for native fauna.

Term	Definition
local provenance	means native vegetation seeds and propagating material from natural sources within 100 kilometres and the same IBRA subregion of the area cleared.
log landings	means an area established for the purpose of stockpiling commercially harvested trees, to enable loading for collection
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.
optimum time	means the period from April to June for undertaking direct seeding, and the period from May to July for undertaking planting.
planting	means the re-establishment of vegetation by creating soil conditions and planting seedlings of the desired species.
prescribed burning	is the process of planning and applying fire to a predetermined area, under specific environmental conditions, to minimise the size and intensity of fire on life, property and critical infrastructure.
remedial action	means, for the purpose of this permit, any activity that is required to ensure successful re-establishment of understorey to its pre-clearing composition, structure and density, and may include a combination of soil treatments and revegetation.
regenerated/ing/ion	means actively managing an area containing native vegetation in order to improve the ecological function of that area.
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.
revegetated/ing/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.
suitable conditions	means conditions that have been determined by a Bush Fire Officer appointed under the *Bush Fires Act 1954* to be suitable to allow the burning of vegetation within the area authorised under this permit to occur
thinned/ing	describes a silvicultural activity to promote the growth of selected trees by reducing competition through the removal of smaller stems with consideration of tree spacing to maintain the overall structure and composition of the dominant overstorey species.
understorey	means, for the purpose of this Permit, all native vegetation that does not include trees to be culled or subject to harvest.
weeds	means any plant – (a) that is a declared pest under section 22 of the *Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act 2007*; or (b) published in a Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions species-led ecological impact and invasiveness

Term	Definition
	ranking summary, regardless of ranking; or (c) not indigenous to the area concerned.
woody fuels	means woody vegetative materials that have a diameter of 75 mm or greater and a length of 1 metre or greater

END OF CONDITIONS

Jessica Burton
MANAGER
NATIVE VEGETATION REGULATION

Officer delegated under Section 20
of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

25 November 2025

Schedule 1

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

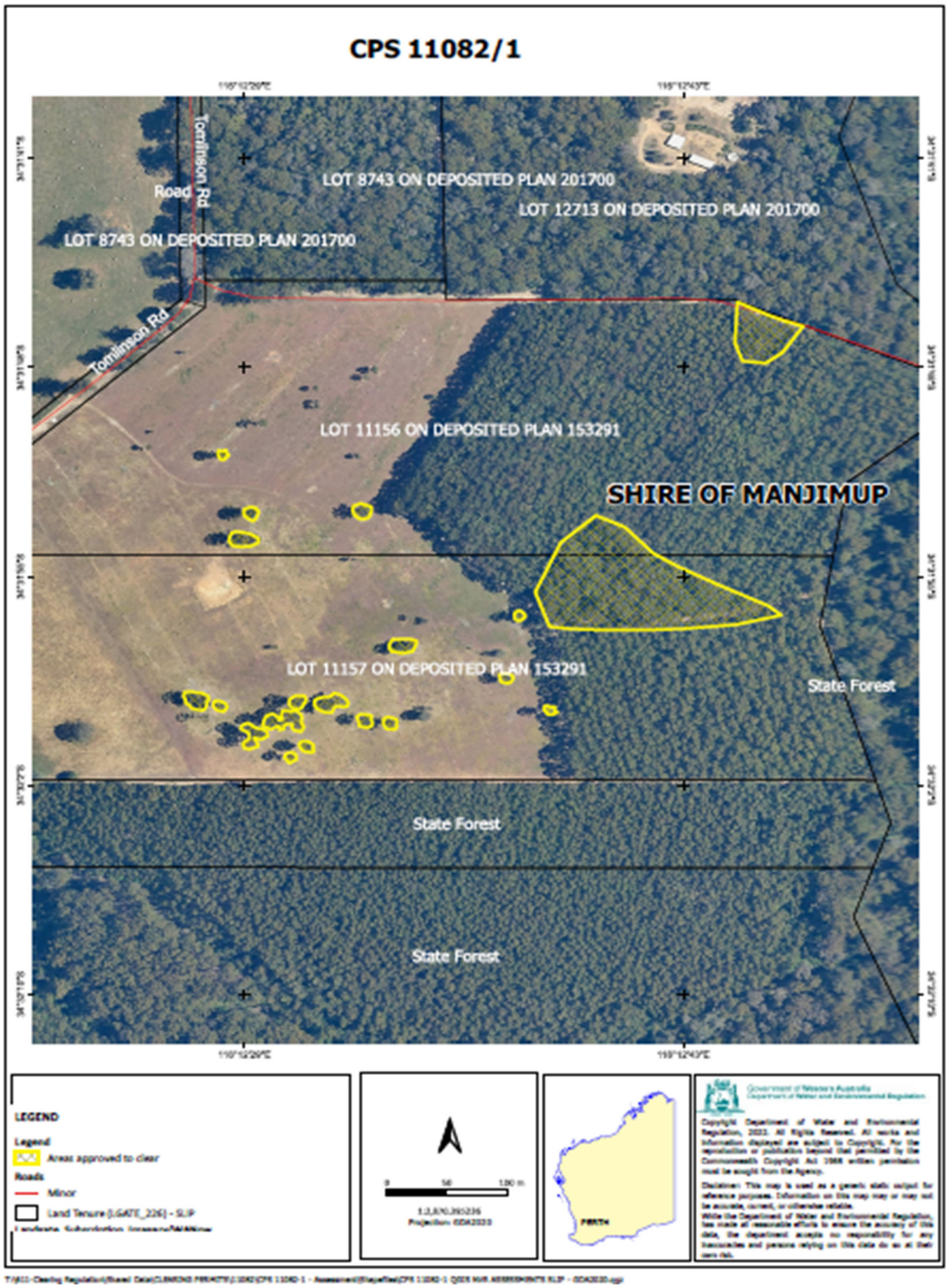

Figure 1: Map of the boundary of the area within which clearing may occur

The boundary of the area in which rehabilitation must occur is shown in the map below (Figure 2).

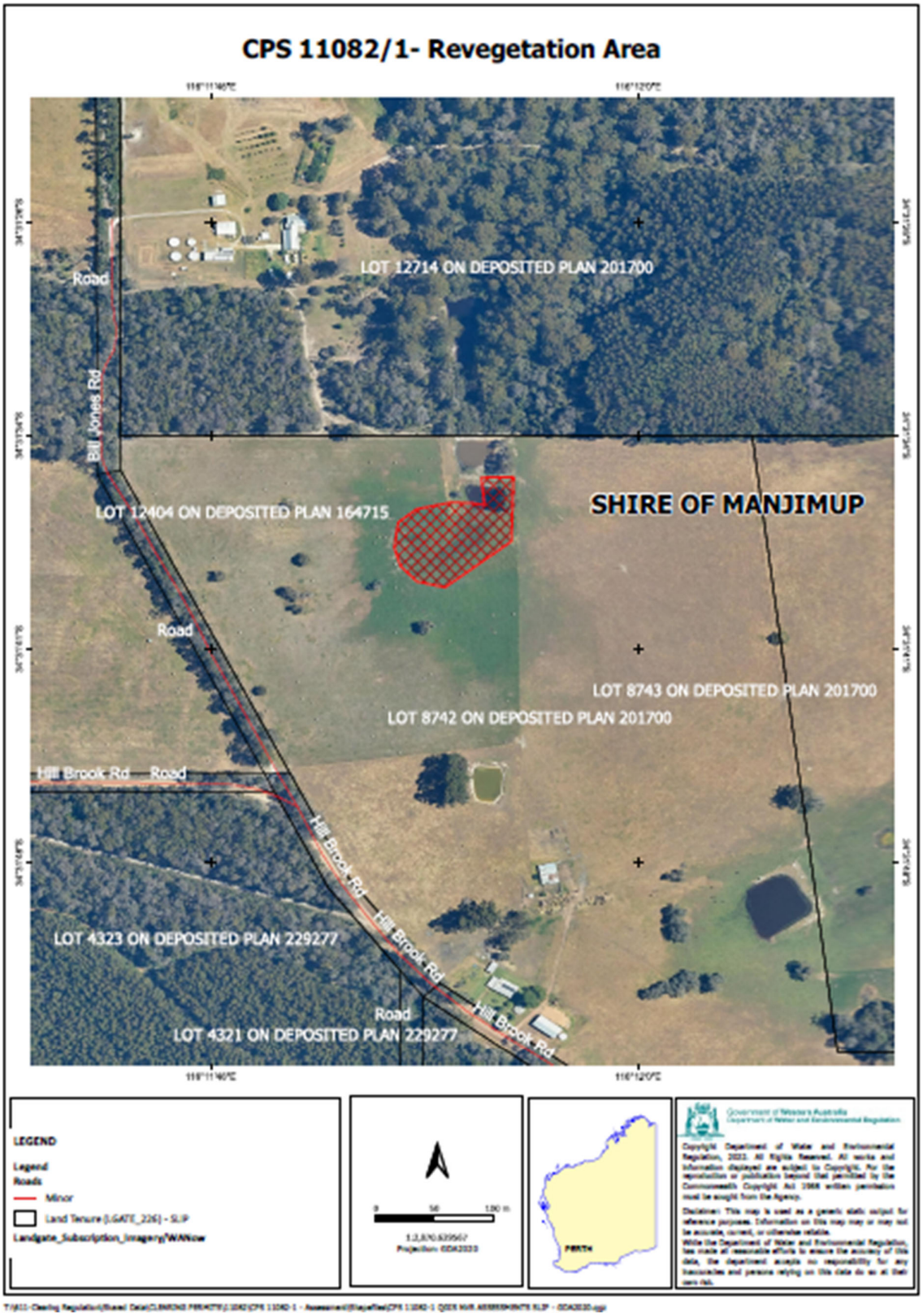

Figure 2: Map of the boundary of the area within which specific revegetation and rehabilitation conditions apply.

Government of Western Australia
Department of Water and Environmental Regulation

Clearing Permit Decision Report

1 Application details and outcome

1.1. Permit application details

Permit number:	CPS 11082/1
Permit type:	Purpose permit
Applicant name:	Mr Jeffrey Bennett and Mr Michael Bennett
Application received:	17 May 2025
Application area:	0.94 hectares of native vegetation
Purpose of clearing:	Thinning and pasture
Method of clearing:	Mechanical
Property:	Lot 11156 on Deposited Plan 153291 Lot 11157 on Deposited Plan 153291
Location (LGA area/s):	Shire of Manjimup
Localities (suburb/s):	Crowea

1.2. Description of clearing activities

The vegetation proposed to be cleared consists of isolated paddock trees for pasture and two areas for silvicultural thinning (see Figure 1, Section 1.5). Thinning activities will be undertaken for *Eucalyptus diversicolor* (karri) trees and done in a way that a basal area of at least 15m² per hectare is retained to improve forest health. Burning to reduce fuel load is also proposed (Bennett, 2025b). The clearing for pasture will allow for the growth of pasture and reduce the risk of windfall (Bennett, 2025b).

1.3. Decision on application

Decision:	Granted
Decision date:	25 November 2025
Decision area:	0.94 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 B), relevant datasets (see Appendix F.1), the applicant's Forest Management Plan (FMP) (Bennett, 2025b) a site inspection undertaken by DWER officers (DWER, 2025b), the clearing principles set out in Schedule 5 of the EP Act (see Appendix C), 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 relates only to activities associated with the selective thinning of karri trees within the native forest section of the application area as well as clearing isolated trees within the paddock section of the application area to promote pasture growth and reduce safety hazards.

The assessment identified that the proposed clearing will result in:

- A reduction of area of native vegetation within the land holdings below the 10 per cent threshold required under the *Country Areas Water Supply Act 1947* (CAWS Act).
- The loss of suitable habitat for Carnaby's cockatoo, Baudin's cockatoo and forest red-tailed black cockatoo (black cockatoo species) and other conservation significant fauna species.
- 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 that the impacts of the proposed clearing, including the impacts to fauna present at the time of clearing, the potential spread of weeds and dieback and clearing within a CAWS Act managed area, can be minimised and managed to be unlikely to 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,
- a rehabilitation action of planting 20 *Eucalyptus patens* trees within Lot 8742 on Deposited Plan 201700, Crowea to meet CAWS Act requirements,
- the applicant must ensure that:
    - all karri trees with greater than 70-centimetre DBH trees be retained,
    - primary habitat trees are retained at five trees per hectare, and
    - secondary habitat trees are also retained at six to eight trees per hectare (applicant must demarcate and take photos of trees to ensure correct trees are felled)
- 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,
- retain a minimum basal area of 15m² for karri forest,
- retain all ground habitat logs and remove woody fuels surrounding retained habitat trees,
- rehabilitate log landings and extraction tracks within 12 months of cessation of thinning activities by scarifying the soil surface to reduce compaction and facilitate natural regeneration,
- harvesting methodology is to be undertaken in a sustainable manner to reduce damage to mid storey canopy and non-target vegetation when conditions are dry,
- undertake prescribed burning only during suitable conditions, initially within three years after the commencement of the thinning operation and subsequently, no less than every six years apart, and
- monitoring of the area thinned within two years of undertaking activities to ensure the understorey is recovering towards pre-clearing composition, structure and density.

1.5. Site map

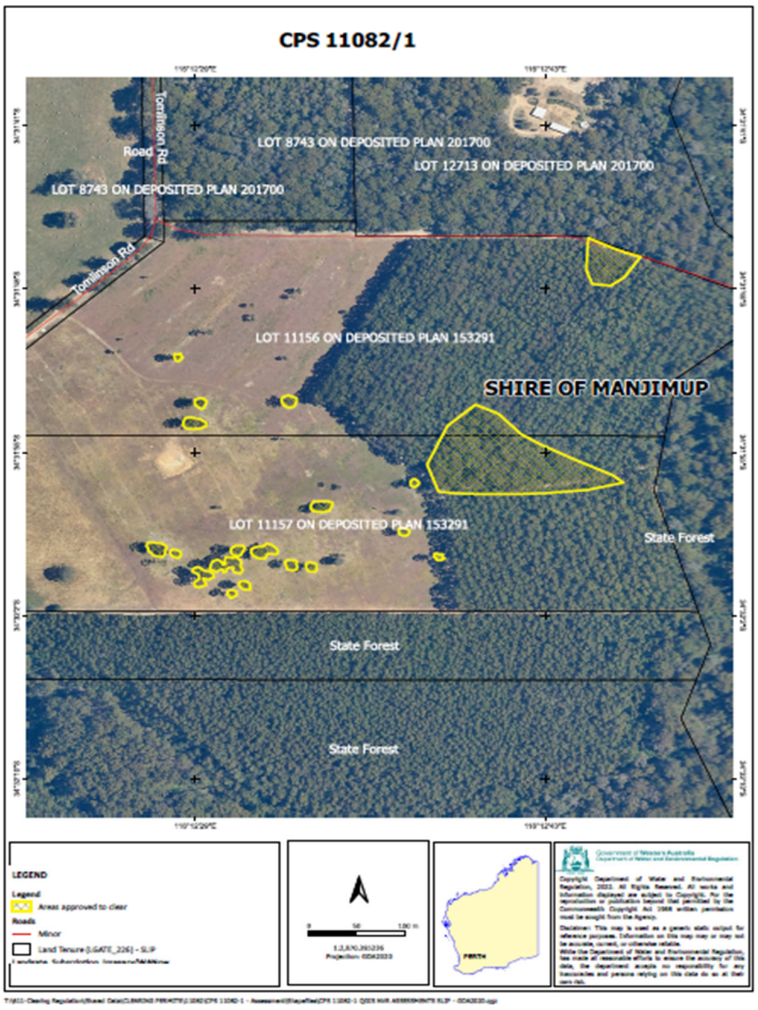

Figure 1. Map of the application area

The areas crosshatched yellow indicate the areas 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 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)
- *Country Areas Water Supply Act 1947* (WA) (CAWS Act)
- *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (Cth) (EPBC Act)
- *Soil and Land Conservation Act 1945* (WA)

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)
- *Silviculture Guideline for Karri Forest, Sustainable Forest Management Series, FEM Guideline 3* (DPAW, 2014)

3 Detailed assessment of application

3.1. Avoidance, minimisation and mitigation measures

A Forest Management Plan (FMP) (Bennett, 2025b) has been provided by the applicant to support the clearing permit application, detailing measures that will be taken during the thinning activities. These include:

- The silvicultural prescription to be adopted follows the principles contained within the "Silvicultural Guidelines for the Karri Forest", published as "FEM Guideline No 3" by the Department of Parks and Wildlife (now DBCA) in 2014,
- The prescription for the Crowea property will be to promote the growth of selected retained trees by thinning to a target basal area of 15 m² per hectare,
- At least five habitat trees (70 centimetres diameter at breast height (DBH) or greater) per hectare , on average , will be retained. Selection of habitat trees will target all and any sound older trees with hollows or potential hollows, for fauna,
- At least six to eight secondary habitat trees (30-70 centimetres DBH) per hectare to be retained,
- Harvesting will be carried out by an experienced and qualified local harvesting contractor using machinery suitable for the harvesting of native forest. This will compromise a tree harvester to fell trees and cut boles into appropriate lengths. This method is referred to by some people within DBCA as "soft felling",
- Some larger trees may require felling by manual needs using a chainsaw,
- Extraction of logs will be carried out using a rubber-tyred skidder or forwarder. Logs will be loaded onto trucks using the forwarder,
- Harvesting will be undertaken in a sustainable manner to reduce damage to mid storey canopy and non-target vegetation,
- Extraction tracts will, where necessary, be created by the tree harvester and will use natural gaps between trees,
- Where possible harvesting slash will be removed from around the bases of retained trees during harvesting,
- All harvesting activity will be conducted in accordance with the WA Timber industry Codes of Practice, as published from time to time by the Forest Industries Federation (WA) Inc. this includes any water erosion mitigation techniques as specified in the Code,
- Following harvesting, the thinned areas will be burnt under cool conditions in autumn or spring,
- A log landing (i.e. area where logs are stacked and then loaded onto truck) will be located within the property, within the grassed paddock area, adjacent to the forest.

Further information in the form of photographs was requested regarding the larger trees (DBH of 50 cm or greater) that will be thinned within the southern site. The applicant advised that 12 trees of DBH 50 centimetres or greater will be cleared and provided the requested photos which indicated no hollows being present (Bennett, 2025c).

In considering the above 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 B) 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 C) identified that the impacts of the proposed clearing present a risk to biological values (fauna), water quality and conservation areas. 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 Principles (a) and (b)

Assessment

The application area is located within the Warren IBRA bioregion. According to available databases a total of 15 conservation significant fauna species have been recorded within the local area (10-kilometre radius of the application area). Of the conservation significant fauna species recorded within the local area, the application area may provide habitat for the following six species:

- Carnaby's cockatoo (*Zanda latirostris)*
- Baudin's cockatoo, (*Zanda baudinii)*
- Forest red-tailed black cockatoo, (*Calyptorhynchus banksii naso)*
- Chuditch, (*Dasyurus geoffroii)*
- Western ringtail possum, (*Pseudocheirus occidentalis)* and

- Quokka, (*Setonix brachyurus)*

This assumption is based on habitat requirements, distribution, mapped vegetation types and the condition of the vegetation. A site visit by DWER officers (2025) identified that the vegetation types within the application area was largely consistent with the mapped vegetation types of the area, consisting of open forest of karri (*Eucalyptus diversicolor*) and occasional marri (*Corymbia calopyhlla)* and jarrah (*Eucalyptus marginata)* in a good (Keighery, 1994) condition.

Black cockatoos

Collectively known as black cockatoo species, the forest red-tailed black cockatoo, Baudin's cockatoo and Carnaby's cockatoo are known to nest in hollows of live and dead trees, including *Corymbia calophylla* (marri), *Eucalyptus marginata* (jarrah), *Eucalyptus diversicolor* (karri), *Eucalyptus wandoo* (wandoo), *Eucalyptus gomphocephala* (tuart), *Eucalyptus rudis* (flooded gum), and other *Eucalyptus* spp. (DAWE, 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 (DAWE, 2022). While breeding, black cockatoos generally forage within a six to 12-kilometre radius of their nesting site (DAWE, 2022). According to available datasets, mapped potential black cockatoo feeding habitat is recorded within 12 kilometres of the application area, making it a suitable location for breeding if appropriate hollows are present. Given the above, and that the application area includes predominantly karri with occasional jarrah and marri and occurs within the predicted breeding range of all three black cockatoo species, the proposed clearing area may provide suitable breeding habitat for these species, if suitable breeding hollows are present.

Further information in the form of photographs of the canopy and trunks, was requested from the applicant during assessment of the larger trees (DBH of 50 cm or greater) that will be thinned within the southern thinning site (~0.5ha). The applicant advised that 12 trees of DBH 50 centimetres or greater are proposed to be thinned. A review of these photographs confirms that no hollows of suitable size for black cockatoo breeding, are present (Bennett, 2025c). It is not considered likely for the proposed clearing to impact suable breeding habitat for black cockatoos.

Food resources within the range of breeding sites are important to sustain populations of black cockatoos, and foraging resources should therefore be viewed in the context of the proximity to the known roosting and breeding sites to the application area. Available databases show that there is one record of a black cockatoo roost site, and one record of a black cockatoo breeding site within the local area. Following breeding, they will flock in search of food, usually within six kilometres of a night roost (Commonwealth of Australia, 2012), but may range up to 20 kilometres. It has been demonstrated that the proximity of foraging habitat and water is critical to support roosting and breeding sites, where individual night roosts for black cockatoo species require more food and water resources within six kilometres (Le Roux, 2017). No evidence of roosting was observed within the application area during the site visit (DWER, 2025).

Black cockatoo species are noted to forage on a range of plant species, with the primary foraging resources varying between species (DAWE, 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 *Allocasuarina* and *Eucalyptus* species, marri, and a range of introduced species (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). Given the application area contains occasional marri and jarrah trees and occurs within the predicted occurrence range for all the black cockatoo species, the application area may provide suitable foraging habitat for black cockatoos. However, as the primary purpose of the clearing is to thin Karri only (within two areas over 0.6 ha area), with marri and jarrah being retained, it is not likely to significantly impact the foraging habitat for black cockatoos.

The isolated karri trees within the paddock area (0.4 ha) are in Degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition and are not large enough to provide any roosting or breeding habitat for black cockatoos.

A Forest Management Plan provided by the applicant, identified that primary habitat trees of 50-centimetre DBH or greater will be retained at a minimum of five trees per hectare. The applicant has also advised that secondary habitat trees (medium sized 30- 50-centimetre DBH) will also be retained at six to eight trees per hectare (Bennett, 2025b). Given the application area is adjacent to foraging, breeding and roosting habitat within State Forest, which is no

longer subject to commercial forestry practices, the proposed silviculture activity is unlikely to be highly significant to black cockatoo habitat.

A permit condition to ensure the retention of a minimum of five primary habitat trees (50 cm DBH or greater) per hectare and six to eight secondary habitat trees (30-50 cm DBH) per hectare will be included in the permit and will mitigate potential impacts to significant breeding and roosting habitat for black cockatoo species, if present.

Chuditch
Chuditch are ground dwelling marsupials, typically associated with riparian jarrah forest or other forest, woodland or shrubland habitats that contain suitable den sites, including hollow logs and tree hollows, and sufficient prey biomass that are usually associated with watercourses (DEC, 2012). Given that the application area comprises karri and occasional jarrah and marri the application area may contain suitable habitat for chuditch. Noting the proposed clearing relates only to ecological thinning, which is likely to present short-term impacts to habitat resources at ground level, it is not considered likely that the proposed clearing will significantly impact habitat for ground-dwelling fauna. Directional clearing and conditions to retain ground habitat logs and patches of healthy understorey will allow any ground-dwelling fauna present at the time of clearing to disperse into adjacent suitable habitat.

Western ringtail possum (WRP)
The WRP is an arboreal folivore and significant habitat to WRP survival is described as long unburnt mature remnants of Peppermint *(Agonis flexuosa*) woodlands with high canopy continuity and high foliage nutrients. Other habitats comprise Jarrah (*Eucalyptus marginata*) and Marri (*Corymbia calophylla*) forests and woodlands with adequate hollows (DPAW, 2017). WRP is active between dusk and dawn and typically avoids moving over bare ground, foraging almost exclusively within tree canopies. Tree hollows are important across the range of the WRP, and hollow abundance has been positively correlated with possum abundance in peppermint/tuart associations which constitutes more than 70 per cent of the refuges used by WRP in the jarrah forest (Wayne *et al.* 2000). Given the habitat requirements, the application area does not provide suitable habitat for the WRP. There is limited canopy connectivity and lack of larger trees containing hollows within the application area. The proposed clearing is unlikely to impact any significant habitat for the WRP.

Quokka
On the mainland, quokka occupy jarrah, marri, and karri forests and woodlands in high rainfall areas. These habitats generally have thick understorey, nearby to swamps and will be close to more open, recently burnt vegetation (DEC, 2013). Given the extent of the application area and quality of the understorey it is unlikely to comprise significant habitat for quokka. It is likely that quokka utilise the application area transiently whilst moving through the landscape. Noting the proposed clearing relates to ecological thinning of karri trees, the proposed clearing may present short term impacts to quokka habitat. Directional clearing and will allow any quokka, if present at the time of clearing, to disperse into adjacent suitable habitat.

Ecological linkage
The application area may function as an ecological linkage for fauna to move between larger remnants of native vegetation within the local area. The ecological linkage values will not likely be severed by the proposed clearing, noting native vegetation will remain within the application area. Given that native vegetation will remain and vegetation surrounds the application area, a weed and dieback management condition will be required to assist in mitigating impacts to surrounding vegetation and maintaining ecological linkage values.

Conclusion
Based on the above assessment, the proposed clearing is not likely to result in the loss of significant habitat for black cockatoo or other conservation significant fauna species however may impact on adjacent fauna habitat and on individuals that may be using the vegetation at the time of clearing.

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

- directional clearing, which requires, slow one directional clearing to allow terrestrial fauna to disperse ahead of the clearing activity should they occur on site at the time of clearing which will minimise impacts to individuals,
- weed and dieback management measures will be required as a condition on the clearing permit to mitigate impacts to adjacent vegetation, and
- vegetation management- silvicultural thinning requirements to:

- retains a minimum of five primary habitat trees per hectare and a minimum of six to eight secondary habitat trees per hectare,
- retains a minimum basal area of 15m² for karri forest,
- retain all ground habitat logs and remove woody fuels surrounding habitat trees, and
- rehabilitate log landings and extraction tracks within 12 months of cessation of thinning activities by scarifying the soil surface to reduce compaction and facilitate natural regeneration.

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

Assessment

The desktop assessment identified that a total of 12 conservation significant flora species have been recorded within the local area. With consideration for the relevant datasets (see Appendix F), the habitat preferences and conservation statuses of the aforementioned species, the distribution and extent of existing records, the application area is unlikely to provide significant habitat for threatened or priority flora species.

In addition, whilst the application area is unlikely to provide significant habitat for threatened or priority flora species, the primary method of clearing is thinning of karri forest, which will not target mid- or understorey species. The extent of impacts to mid- and understorey species are likely to be indirect through incidental clearing during thinning activities or through altered environmental conditions resulting from the clearing of canopy species and fire hazard reduction burning. Given the nature of the proposed clearing, a vegetation management condition will be placed on the permit, requiring the applicant to monitor understorey species composition, structure, and density within the application area during thinning and bushfire mitigation activities and to undertake remedial action where there is evidence that understorey will not recover and develop towards its pre-clearing condition. Therefore, while it is unlikely that conservation significant flora species occur within the application area due to the degraded nature of its understorey, it is also not expected that the proposed clearing will significantly alter the condition of the vegetation or the potential for these species to occur in the future.

Conclusion

Based on the above assessment, the proposed clearing area is not considered likely to represent significant habitat for any threatened or priority flora species or to be critical for the continuation of these species. For the reasons set out above, it is considered that impacts to conservation significant flora species are unlikely to result from the proposed clearing and that this does not constitute a significant residual impact, subject to the below conditions being imposed on the permit.

Conditions

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

- Applicant must undertake photographic monitoring of understorey and mid storey vegetation taken at one year, two years and three years after completing the clearing authorised. If it is determined that the vegetation is not recovering towards its pre-clearing structure and density, the applicant must engage an environmental specialist to undertake remedial action to ensure re-establishment of understorey.

3.2.3. Conservation areas - Clearing Principle (h)

Assessment

There are several conservation areas mapped within the local area. The closest mapped conservation area is the Warren State Forest which is located adjacent to the application area. The proposed clearing may result in indirect impacts to Warren State Forest, through increasing edge effects such as weed spread. Taking into consideration the extent and the selective thinning nature of the proposed clearing, and the separation by tracks, it is considered that the clearing will not significantly impact the environmental values of the Warren State Forest.

Conclusion

The proposed clearing is not likely to impact on fauna dispersal through any adjacent or nearby conservation area. A weed and dieback management condition will minimise impacts to the adjacent conservation reserve through potential edge effects.

Conditions

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

- weed and dieback management measures will be required as a condition on the clearing permit to mitigate impacts to adjacent vegetation

3.3. Relevant planning instruments and other matters

The clearing permit was advertised on the DWER's website on 17 July 2025, inviting submissions from the public within a 21-day period. No submissions were received.

The Shire of Manjimup advised that local government approvals are not required, and that the proposed clearing is consistent with the Shire's Local Planning Scheme. The Shire did not have any objections to the proposed clearing.

Under Regulation 63 of the *Biodiversity Conservation Regulations 2018*, a person who possesses any flora taken from private land with the intent to supply (including a person who is an owner or occupier of the land) must be the holder of a Private Land Supplier's Licence (and must continue to hold such a licence until the flora is supplied to another person). The applicant has advised that the harvested wood will be sold as a form of supplementary income for the land owners (Bennett, 2025b). The applicant will be required to obtain the licence on receipt of the clearing permit.

The proposed clearing area lies within the Country Areas Water Supply 1947 (CAWS Act) Warren River Water Catchment Area which has been subject to native vegetation controls under CAWS Act since November 1976, to prevent salinisation of water resources. The proposed clearing is located in Zone D of the catchment which is a low salinity risk area where the CAWS Act Policy and Guidelines for Licences to Clear, allow for clearing for any purpose subject to the statutory requirement that greater than one-tenth native vegetation remain on the land holding (10 per cent).

The proposed clearing will reduce the area of native vegetation within the land holdings below this 10 per cent threshold. To comply with the requirements of the CAWS Act, planting of deep-rooted native vegetation is required to mitigate any potential impact to water quality within the catchment and maintain one-tenth native vegetation cover on the land holdings. The applicant agreed to undertake revegetation of deep-rooted native trees within the area hatched red on Figure 2 below. It is the department's view that this action satisfies the CAWS Act Part II A Section 12C(3) exceptional circumstances requirements. This requirement has been conditioned on the permit.

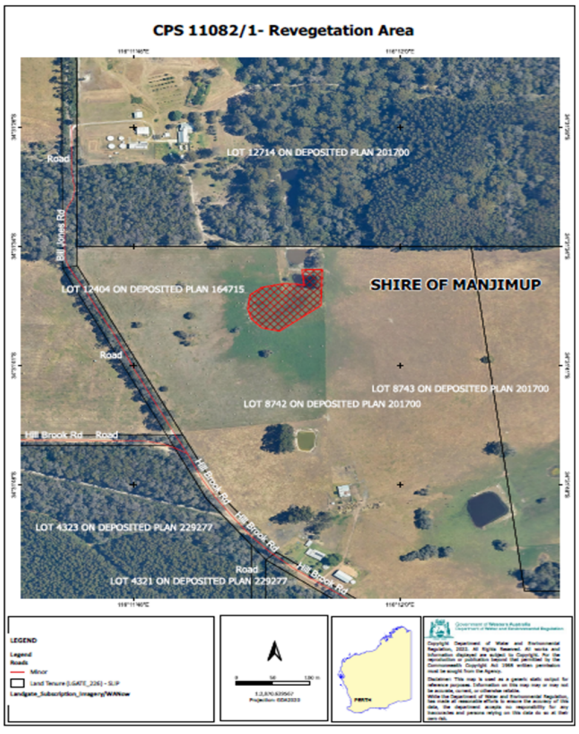

Figure 2. Revegetation area required under the CAWS Act

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. Additional information provided by applicant

Summary of comments	Consideration of comment
On 22 October 2025, the applicant provided a FMP and confirmation of advice received from the Water Planning Directorate regarding CAWS Act revegetation requirements.	See Section 3.1
On 28 October 2025, the applicant provided further information regarding larger trees proposed to be cleared.	See Section 3.1

Appendix B. Site characteristics

B.1. Site characteristics

The information provided below describes the key characteristics of the application area 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 C.

Characteristic	Details
Local context	The application area is 0.94-hectares of native vegetation in the intensive land use zone of Western Australia. It is adjacent to Warren State Forest, plantations and agricultural land. The local area (10-kilometre radius from the centre of the application area) retains approximately 85.88 per cent of the original native vegetation cover.
Ecological linkage	The application area does not intersect any formal mapped ecological linkages.
Conservation areas	No conservation areas are mapped within the application area. The closest conservation area is Warren State Forest which is located adjacent to the application area.
Vegetation description	Photographs supplied by the applicant and a DWER site inspection (2025) indicate the vegetation within the application area consists of mainly *Eucalyptus diversicolor* and occasional *Corymbia calophylla* and *Eucalyptus marginata.* Representative photos are available in Appendix E. This is consistent with the mapped vegetation types: • Crowea (Cry), which is described as Tall open forest of *Corymbia calophylla* with mixture of *Eucalyptus marginata subsp. marginata* and *Eucalyptus diversicolor* on uplands in hyperhumid and perhumid zones. • Granite Valleys (Vh3), which is described as Tall open forest of *Eucalyptus diversicolor-Eucalyptus guilfoylei* on slopes and woodland of *Eucalyptus rudis - Banksia littoralis* on lower slopes in hyperhumid and perhumid zones. The mapped vegetation types retain approximately 72.04 and 86.87 per cent of the original extent (Government of Western Australia, 2019).
Vegetation condition	Photographs supplied by the applicant and a DWER site inspection (2025) indicate the vegetation within the application area is in Good to Very Good (Keighery, 1994–) condition. The full Keighery (1994) condition rating scale is provided in Appendix D. Representative photos are available in Appendix E.
Climate	The southwest of Western Australia experiences a Mediterranean climate of hot dry summers and cool wet winters.

Characteristic	Details
	An average of 987 millimetres of rainfall is recorded annually from the Manjimup weather station.
Soil description	The soil is within the application area are mapped as: • Crowea (Pimelia), yellow duplex Phase (254Pv) which is described as Gravelly yellow duplex soils; jarrah-marri forest • Major Valleys V3 Subsystem (Pimelia) (254PvV3) which is described as Valleys in granitic areas; 20m relief; rocky slopes; terrace. Yellow duplex soils on slopes; Jarrah-Marri-Yellow Tingle forest. Deep sands on terrace; Wattle-Paperbark low forest.
Land degradation risk	The soils within the application area are mapped as having a high risk of wind erosion and subsurface acidification (DPIRD, 2025)
Waterbodies and hydrogeography	The desktop assessment and aerial imagery indicated that no waterbodies transect the application area. There are multiple manmade earth dams in the local area. The application area is located within Warren River and Tributaries Surface Water area which is proclaimed under the RIWI Act. The application area occurs within CAWS Act gazetted Zone D of the Warren River Water Reserve. Groundwater salinity within the application area is mapped at 500-1000 milligrams per total dissolved solids.
Flora	The desktop assessment identified that 12 conservation significant flora species have been recorded within the local area, comprising two threatened flora species and ten priority flora species (Western Australian Herbarium, 1998-). None of these existing records occur within the application area, with the closest record being an occurrence of *Actinotus repens* approximately 0.3 kilometres from the application area. With consideration for the relevant datasets (see Appendix F), the habitat preferences and conservation statuses of the aforementioned species, the distribution and extent of existing records, the application area is unlikely to provide significant habitat for threatened or priority flora species (see Section 3.2.2).
Ecological communities	No Threatened or Priority Ecological Communities (TEC/PEC) are mapped within the application area. The Epiphytic Cryptogams of the karri forest PEC is located approximately 7.9 kilometres south-west of the application area. With consideration for site characteristics, a DWER site inspection (2025) and relevant datasets (see Appendix F), the application area is not considered likely to contain vegetation representative of a TEC or PEC.
Fauna	The desktop assessment identified that 15 conservation significant fauna species have been recorded within the local area including 12 threatened fauna species, two priority fauna species and one other specially protected fauna species. None of these existing records occur within the application area, with the closest being an occurrence of *Pseudocheirus occidentalis* approximately 0.3 kilometres from the application area. With consideration of the site characteristics set out above, relevant datasets (see Appendix F), and the habitat preferences of the aforementioned species, the application area is considered to provide significant habitat for conservation significant fauna species and impacts to these fauna species have been detailed under Section 3.2.2.

B.2. Vegetation extent

	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*					
Warren	833985.56	659432.21	79.07	558485.38	66.97
Vegetation complex					
Crowea (Cry)	33764.55	24324.31	72.04	22509.41	66.67
Granite Valleys (Vh3)	12446.73	10812.30	86.87	9421.96	75.7
Local area					
10km radius	33084.72	28414.92	85.88	-	-

*Government of Western Australia (2019)

B.3. Fauna analysis table

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	2.5	1	N/A
Pseudocheirus occidentalis (western ringtail possum)	CR	Y	Y	0.3	5	N/A
Setonix brachyurus (quokka)	VU	Y	Y	8.2	19	N/A
Zanda baudinii (Baudin's cockatoo)	EN	Y	Y	4.3	3*	N/A
Zanda latirostris (Carnaby's cockatoo)	EN	Y	Y	6.5	4*	N/A
Zanda sp. 'white-tailed black cockatoo' (white-tailed black cockatoo)	EN	Y	Y	5.9	2*	N/A

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

- An Additional 2 records of *Zanda Sp.* White-tailed black cockatoo (White-tailed black cockatoo) were recorded in the local area, which may comprise either of these species.

Appendix C. 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."* Assessment: The application area does not contain significant flora assemblages, but may contain foraging and breeding habitat for Carnaby's cockatoo, Baudin's black cockatoo and Forest red-tailed black cockatoo and suitable habitat for other conservation significant fauna.	May be at variance	Yes *Refer to Section 3.2.1 and 3.2.2 above.*
Principle (b): *"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."* Assessment: The proposed clearing may impact on potential breeding and roosting habitat for Carnaby's cockatoo, Baudin's black cockatoo and Forest red-tailed black cockatoo and suitable habitat for other conservation significant fauna.	May be at variance	Yes *Refer to Section 3.2.1, above.*
Principle (c): *"Native vegetation should not be cleared if it includes, or is necessary for the continued existence of, threatened flora."* Assessment: The application area is unlikely to contain habitat for Threatened flora species.	Not likely to be at variance	Yes *Refer to Section 3.2.2, above.*
Principle (d): *"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."* Assessment: The application area is unlikely to be representative of any TEC listed under the BC or EPBC Act.	Not likely to be at variance	No
Environmental value: significant remnant vegetation and conservation areas		
Principle (e): *"Native vegetation should not be cleared if it is significant as a remnant of native vegetation in an area that has been extensively cleared."* Assessment: 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.	Not at variance	No
Principle (h): *"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."* Assessment: Given the application area is adjacent to the Warren State Forest, the proposed clearing may have an impact on the environmental values of nearby conservation areas.	May be at variance	Yes *Refer to Section 3.2.3, above.*
Environmental value: land and water resources		
Principle (f): *"Native vegetation should not be cleared if it is growing in, or in association with, an environment associated with a watercourse or wetland."* Assessment: Given no water courses or wetlands are recorded within the application area, the proposed clearing is unlikely to impact on- or off-site hydrology and water quality.	Not likely to be at variance	No

Assessment against the clearing principles	Variance level	Is further consideration required?
Principle (g): *"Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause appreciable land degradation."* Assessment: The mapped soils have a high risk of wind erosion. An inspection by an officer from the Department of Primary Industries and Rural Development (DPIRD) on the Lot concluded that the risk of land degradation within the paddock area is unlikely to increase with the clearing of native vegetation, provided that groundcover is maintained to protect the surface against wind erosion (CSLC, 2025). Clearing within the thinning area is also unlikely to increase wind erosion due to the excellent condition vegetation and intact structure of the surrounding area (CSLC, 2025).	Not likely to be at variance	No
Principle (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."* Assessment: Given no water courses or wetlands are recorded within the application area, the proposed clearing is unlikely to impact surface or ground water quality.	Not likely to be at variance	No
Principle (j): *"Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause, or exacerbate, the incidence or intensity of flooding."* Assessment: 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 or to contribute to waterlogging.	Not likely to be at variance	No .

Appendix D. 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.

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

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.

Condition	Description
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.

Appendix E. Photographs of the vegetation (Bennett, 2025b)

Figure 3. Karri to be thinned facing east north east (Bennett, 2025)

Figure 4. Trees marked with spray paint to be retained (Bennett, 2025)

Appendix F. Sources of information

F.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)
- Cadastre (LGATE-218)
- 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)
- 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

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

F.2. References

Bennett, J and M (2025a) *Clearing permit application and supporting information for CPS 11082/1*, received 17 May 2025 (DWER Ref: DWERVT18865).

Bennett, J and M (2025b) *Forest Management Plan to accompany Clearing Permit CPS 11082/1,* received 22 October 2025 (DWER Ref: DWERDT1216233).

Bennett, J and M (2025c) *Photos of large trees proposed to be thinned to accompany Clearing Permit CPS 11082/1,* received 28 October 2025 (DWER Ref: DWERDT1219704).

Commissioner of Soil and Land Conservation (CSLC) (2025) *Land Degradation Advice and Assessment Report for clearing permit application CPS 11082/1,* received 11 August 2025, Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development, Western Australia (DWER Ref: DWERDT1176126).

Commonwealth of Australia (2001) *National Objectives and Targets for Biodiversity Conservation 2001-2005*, Canberra.

Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment (DAWE) (2022). *Referral guideline for 3 WA threatened black cockatoo species: Carnaby's cockatoo, Baudin's cockatoo and the forest red-tailed black cockatoo,* Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment, Canberra. Available from: Referral guideline for 3 WA threatened black cockatoo species - DCCEEW.

Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC) (2008). *Forest red-tailed black cockatoo (Baudin's cockatoo, Calyptorhynchus baudinii, and forest red-tailed black cockatoo, Calyptorhynchus banksii naso) Recovery Plan.* Department of Environment and Conservation, Western Australia.

Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC) (2012). Chuditch (*Dasyurus geoffroii)* Recovery Plan. Wildlife Management Program No. 54. Department of Environment and Conservation, Perth, Western Australia.

Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC) (2013). Quokka (*Setonix brachyurus)* Recovery Plan. Wildlife Management Program No. 56. Department of Environment and Conservation, Perth, Western Australia.

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