

CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

CPS 1444/1

Permit holder: Purpose of clearing:	Shire of Murchison Gravel Pits, Road Re-alignment, Vee drains, Earth Bunds and access to exhausted gravel pits
Shire:	Murchison
Duration of permit:	26 November 2006 – 26 November 2007
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access to exhausted gravel pits.

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Duration of permit: 26 November 2006 – 26 November 2007

The permit holder is authorised to clear native vegetation for the above stated purposes, subject to the conditions of this Permit.

PART I-CLEARING AUTHORISED

1. Land on which clearing is to be done

Gravel Pits and Road re-alignment are permitted in the areas coloured yellow within:-

- Plan 1444/1a
- Plan 1444/1b
- Plan 1444/1c
- Plan 1444/1d
- Plan 1444/1e
- Plan 1444/1f

Clearing for vee drains, earth bunds and access to exhausted gravel pits is allowed throughout the Shire of Murchison with the exception of the areas coloured red on:

- Plan 1444/1g
- Plan 1444/1h
- Plan 1444/1i

and the areas marked as Priority species on:

- Plan 1444/1i
- Plan 1444/1k
- Plan 1444/11
- Plan 1444/1m

2. Area of clearing

Clearing of up to 25 hectares of native vegetation.

3. Application

This Permit allows the permit holder to authorise persons, including employees, contractors and agents of the permit holder, to clear *native vegetation* for the purposes of this Permit subject to compliance with the conditions of this Permit and approval from the Permit Holder.

4. Compliance with Assessment Sequence and Management Procedures

Prior to clearing any native vegetation under conditions 1 and 2 of this Permit, the permit holder must comply with the Assessment Sequence and the Management Procedures set out in Part II of this Permit.

PART II - ASSESSMENT SEQUENCE AND MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES

5. Avoid, minimise etc clearing

- (a) In determining the amount of native vegetation to be cleared for the purposes of road widening the Permit Holder must have regard to the following principles, set out in order of preference:
 - (i) avoid the clearing of native vegetation;
 - (ii) minimise the amount of native vegetation to be cleared; and
 - (iii) reduce the impact of clearing on any environmental value.

6. Revegetation

- a) The Permit Holder shall retain the vegetative material and topsoil removed by clearing in accordance with this Permit and shall, within one month of the area no longer being required for the purpose of gravel extraction, lay vegetative material and topsoil on the gravel pit.
- b) The Permit Holder shall undertake the following measures by 17 November 2007 for areas cleared prior to the 28 October 2007 for the purpose of gravel extraction within the Shire of Murchison:
 - i. Remove all rubbish and artificial debris;
 - ii. Deep rip the soil to a depth 1m;
 - iii. Spread overburden to an even depth;
 - iv. Lay the vegetative material and topsoil containing seed to an even depth on exposed overburden and soil:
 - v. Deliberately plant and/or seed native vegetation that will result in a similar species composition, structure and density of native vegetation to pre-clearing vegetation types in that area; and
 - vi. Ensure only local provenance seeds and propagating material from within 50km of the area cleared are used to revegetate the area.

PART III - RECORD KEEPING AND REPORTING

7. Records must be kept

The Permit Holder must maintain the following records for activities done pursuant to this Permit, as relevant:

- a) In relation to the *clearing* of *native vegetation* undertaken pursuant to the purpose of clearing:
 - (i) The species composition, structure and density of the cleared area;
 - (ii) The location where the clearing occurred, recorded using Geocentric Datum Australia 1994;
 - (iii) The date that the area was cleared; and
 - (iv) The size of the area cleared (in hectares).

- b) In relation to the revegetation of areas pursuant to condition 6:
 - (i) The location of any area revegetated recorded using Geocentric Datum Australia 1994;
 - (ii) A description of the revegetation activities undertaken;
 - (iii) The size of the area revegetated (in hectares); and
 - (iv) The commencement date of revegetation; and

8. Reporting

The Permit Holder must provide to the *CEO* on or before 26 November 2007 a written report of records requested under condition 7 and activities done by the Permit Holder under this Permit.

9. Definitions

The following meanings are given to terms used in this Permit:

CEO means the Chief Executive Officer of the Department of Environment and Conservation;

clearing has the meaning given to it in section 51A of the Environmental Protection Act 1986;

EP Act means the Environmental Protection Act 1986;

native vegetation has the meaning given to it in sections 3 and 51A of the Environmental Protection Act 1986 and regulation 4 of the Environmental Protection (Clearing of Native Vegetation) Regulations 2004;

revegetation means the re-establishment of a cover of *native vegetation* in an area such that the species composition, structure and density is similar to pre-*clearing* vegetation types in that area, and can involve regeneration, direct seeding and/or planting;

term means the duration of this Permit, including as amended or renewed;

Fred Tromp

Director, Natural Resource Management, Department of Environment and Conservation.

Officer delegated under Section 20 of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

26 October 2006