



## 1. Application details

### 1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 2228/1  
Permit type: Purpose Permit

### 1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Shire of Wyndham-East Kimberley

### 1.3. Property details

Property: Unallocated Crown Land  
Local Government Area: Shire Of Wyndham-East Kimberley  
Colloquial name:

### 1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
0.0027ha		Mechanical Removal	Maintenance of existing infrastructure

## 2. Assessment of application against clearing principles

### Comments

The proposal to clear 0.0027 hectares for the purpose of maintaining existing infrastructure is unlikely to have any significant environmental impacts. There are no recorded occurrences of declared rare or priority flora or threatened ecological communities in the vicinity of the project.

The vegetation to be cleared is well represented in the local area, and given the very small area proposed to be cleared and the poor quality of the vegetation at the site, it is not likely to be significant habitat for native fauna. Additionally, the clearing of this small area will not significantly exacerbate the level of current clearing experienced on the northern side of Lily Creek Lagoon.

The proposed clearing is not located within any water courses, however is within the water body of Lily Creek Lagoon wetland. Given the very small area to be cleared, the clearing will not effect the values of the wetland.

The waters surrounding the pump houses are sheltered, therefore not subject to high water flow velocities. Any suspension of sediments that occurs during clearing will remain in the local area and be of short duration, therefore will not significantly effect surface water quality. Additionally, the Public Drinking Water Source area is located downstream of the proposed clearing so is not likely to be affected. Therefore the proposal is not likely to effect surface or ground water quality.

The very small area to be cleared and the sheltered nature of the water ensure low water velocities, therefore land degradation is not likely to occur.

The proposed clearing is located within Lily Creek Lagoon, a portion of Lake Kununurra that is.

Lake Argyle and Lake Kununurra are classified under the Ramsar Convention and listed on the Directory of Important Wetlands in Australia, and extend over 150,000 hectares (Environment Australia, 2001). Given the extremely small size of the application area in comparison, the clearing is not likely to impact upon the Ramsar values of the lake system.

Mirima National Park is located 1km north-east of the proposed clearing. The park is upstream of the lagoon therefore the proposed clearing is not likely to impact on the conservation reserve.

It is considered that the proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance with any of the clearing principles.

## Planning instrument, Native Title, Previous EPA decision or other matter.

### Comments

The clearing is for 0.0027 hectares for the purpose of maintaining existing pumphouses. The proposal would have been exempt from requiring a clearing permit, as the purpose is for maintaining existing infrastructure (Item 15) and the area is less than 1 hectare, however the area is classified as a Ramsar wetland therefore an environmentally sensitive area.

The Department for Planning and Infrastructure gives permission for the proponent to access the land, conditional on the proponent obtaining a clearing permit, a bed and banks permit and complies with the Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972.

The area under assessment has been subject to three previous referrals to the Environmental Protection Authority. None of these referrals are related to the proposal under assessment.

The proponent has obtained an undertaking from the Department of Water for a Bed and Banks Permit, subject to obtaining a clearing permit.

The proposed works are not listed as Prescribed Premises under the *Environmental Protection Regulations 1987*, therefore no licences or works approvals are required.

Native title has been resolved for the Miriung Gajerrong peoples during negotiations for the Ord Stage II horticultural initiative.

The proposed clearing occurs in an area that is covered by the following Registered Indigenous Heritage Sites: Gunanurreng - Ord River (ID 15153), Lily Creek 8 (ID 14897), Mirima-Dumun.Gum (ID 12982). It is the proponent's responsibility to comply with the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972* and ensure that no Sites of Aboriginal Significance are damaged through the proposed works.

### 3. Assessor's comments

Purpose	Method	Applied area (ha)/ trees	Comment
Miscellaneous	Mechanical Removal	0.0027	The assessment found that the clearing is not likely to be at variance with any of the clearing principles.