



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*

Purpose Permit number:	CPS 2583/1
Permit Holder:	Wamballup Holdings Pty Ltd
Duration of Permit:	23 November 2008 – 23 November 2016

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

PART I – CLEARING AUTHORISED

1. Purpose for which clearing may be done

Clearing for the purpose of thinning Karri (*Eucalyptus diversicolor*), Marri (*Corymbia calophylla*) and Blackbutt (*Eucalyptus patens*) forest.

2. Land on which clearing is to be done

LOT 4335 ON DEPOSITED PLAN 229250

3. Area of clearing

The Permit Holder must not clear more than 4 hectares of native vegetation within the areas hatched yellow on attached Plan 2583/1.

4. 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.

5. Compliance with Assessment Sequence and Management Procedures

Prior to clearing any native vegetation under conditions 1, 2 and 3 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

6. Type of clearing authorised

- (a) The Permit Holder may undertake the following activities:
- clearing of *understorey* within the areas cross-hatched yellow on Plan 2583/1;
 - thinning* of Karri (*Eucalyptus diversicolor*), Marri (*Corymbia calophylla*) and Blackbutt (*Eucalyptus patens*) trees;
 - culling* of unsaleable trees; and
 - burning of cleared *understorey* and *culled* trees.

- (b) Clearing authorised under this Permit must be completed by 23 November 2012, being four years from the date from which this Permit becomes valid.

7. Avoid, minimise etc clearing

In determining the amount of native vegetation to be cleared for the purpose of this Permit, the Permit Holder must have regard to the following principles, set out in 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.

8. Dieback and weed control

- (a) When undertaking any clearing or other activity pursuant to this Permit, the Permit Holder must take the following steps to minimise the risk of the introduction and spread of *weeds* and *dieback*:
 - (i) clean earth-moving machinery of soil and vegetation prior to entering and leaving the area to be cleared;
 - (ii) ensure that no *dieback* or *weed*-affected soil, *mulch* or other material is brought into the area to be cleared; and
 - (iii) restrict the movement of machines and other vehicles to the limits of the areas to be cleared.
- (b) At least once in each 12 month period for the *term* of this Permit, the Permit Holder must remove or kill any *weeds* growing within areas cleared under this Permit.

9. Watercourse management

The Permit Holder shall not clear native vegetation within 30 metres of *riparian vegetation* of any *watercourse* or *wetland*.

10. Vegetation management

- (a) Prior to clearing of native vegetation authorised under this Permit, an *environmental specialist* must determine the species composition, structure and density of the *understorey* of areas proposed to be *thinned*.
- (b) The Permit Holder must retain a minimum of 5 *habitat trees* in each hectare authorised under this Permit.
- (c) A minimum retention rate of 18m²/ha *basal area* is required within the area authorised under this Permit.
- (d) Prior to clearing of native vegetation authorised under this Permit, the Permit Holder must exclude all *stock* from the areas subject to *thinning* activities.
- (e) Within two years of completing clearing of native vegetation authorised under this Permit, the Permit Holder must:
 - (i) determine the species composition, structure and density of the *understorey* of areas subject to *thinning*; and
 - (ii) where, in the opinion of an *environmental specialist*, there is evidence that *understorey* will not recover and develop *towards its pre-clearing* composition, structure and density determined under condition 10(e)(i), the Permit Holder must undertake *remedial action* at an *optimal time* within the next 12 months to ensure re-establishment of *understorey* prior to expiry of this Permit.

PART III – RECORD KEEPING AND REPORTING

11. 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 this Permit:
 - (i) the species composition, structure and density of the cleared area;
 - (ii) the location where the clearing occurred, recorded using a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit set to Geocentric Datum Australia 1994 (GDA94), expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings;
 - (iii) the date that the area was cleared; and
 - (iv) the size of the area cleared (in hectares).

- (b) In relation to vegetation management pursuant to condition 10 of this Permit:
 - (i) prior to clearing native vegetation authorised under this permit, the species composition, structure and density of *understorey*;
 - (ii) the species and number per hectare of *habitat trees* retained;
 - (iii) the location of *habitat trees* retained, recorded using a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit set to Geocentric Datum Australia 1994 (GDA94), expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings;
 - (iv) monitoring undertaken to ensure that the specified minimum *basal area* is retained;
 - (v) photographs of the *understorey* taken at 12 months, two years and three years after completing clearing authorised under this Permit; and
 - (vi) a detailed description of the nature and extent of any *remedial actions* undertaken.

12. Reporting

- (a) The Permit Holder must provide to the CEO, on or before 31 December of each year, a written report of records required under condition 11 and activities done by the Permit Holder under this Permit between 1 July of the preceding year and 30 June of the current year.

- (b) Prior to 23 August 2016, the Permit Holder must provide to the CEO a written report of records required under condition 11 where these records have not already been provided under condition 12(a).

Definitions

basal area is the method of expression of tree cover density in an area where the total area of tree trunk, measured at average adult human breast height, is expressed as square metres per hectares of land area;

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;

environmental specialist means a person who is engaged by the Permit Holder for the purpose of providing environmental advice, who holds a tertiary qualification in environmental science or equivalent, and has experience relevant to the type of environmental advice that an environmental specialist is required to provide under this Permit;

habitat trees means trees that have a diameter, at average adult human chest height, of greater than 70cm, healthy but with dead limbs and broken crowns that are likely to contain hollows and roosts suitable for native fauna, or where these are not present then healthy but with the potential to contain hollows and roosts;

local provenance means native vegetation seeds and propagating material from natural sources within 10-40 kilometres of the area cleared.

mulch means the use of organic matter, wood chips or rocks to slow the movement of water across the soil surface and to reduce evaporation;

optimal 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 favourable soil conditions and planting seedlings of the desired species;

regenerate/ed/ion means *revegetation* that can be established from in situ seed banks contained either within the topsoil or seed-bearing *mulch*;

remedial action/s 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*.

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

riparian vegetation has the meaning given to it in Regulation 3 of the Environmental Protection (Clearing of Native Vegetation) Regulations 2004;

stock means the horses, cattle, sheep, pigs and other non-indigenous grazing animals kept or bred on a property;

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

thinned/ing describes a silvicultural activity to promote the growth of selected trees by removing competing trees;

understorey means, for the purpose of this Permit, all native vegetation that does not include trees to be *culled* or subject to harvest;

watercourse has the same meaning as it has in the *Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914*;

weed/s means a species listed in Appendix 3 of the "Environmental Weed Strategy" published by the Department of Conservation and Land Management (1999), and plants declared under section 37 of the *Agricultural and Related Resources Protection Act 1976*; and

wetland means an area of seasonally, intermittently or permanently waterlogged or inundated land, whether natural or otherwise, and includes a lake, swamp, marsh, spring, dampland, tidal flat or estuary.


Keith Claymore
A/ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
NATURE CONSERVATION DIVISION
*Officer delegated under Section 20
of the Environmental Protection Act 1986*

23 October 2008