

CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Purpose Permit number: CPS 3003/3

Permit Holder: Italia Stone Group Pty Ltd trading as Roadstone Quarries

Duration of Permit: 07 June 2009 – 07 June 2014

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 extractive industry

2. Land on which clearing is to be done

Lot 103 and Lot 104 on Plan 14371 McLennan Drive, Nowergup

3. Area of Clearing

The Permit Holder must not clear more than 4.5 hectares of native vegetation, within the area crossed-hatched yellow on attached Plan 3003/3.

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. Avoid, minimise etc clearing

In determining the amount of native vegetation to be cleared for the authorised 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.

7. Revegetation

- (a) The Permit Holder shall retain the vegetative material and topsoil removed by clearing authorised under this Permit and stockpile the vegetative material and topsoil in an area that has already been cleared.
- (b) Within six months of the area no longer being required for extractive industry, the Permit Holder must *revegetate* and *rehabilitate* the area cleared in accordance with this Permit, by:
 - (i) laying vegetative material and topsoil retained under condition 7(a), on the cleared area; and
 - (ii) deliberately *planting* and/or *direct seeding* native vegetation using only *local provenance* seeds and propagating material.
- (c) Within twelve months of undertaking revegetation and rehabilitation in accordance with condition 7 (b), the Permit Holder must where, in the opinion of an environmental specialist, the revegetation and rehabilitation does not provide adequate stabilisation of surface soils, undertake additional planting or direct seeding of native vegetation in accordance with the requirements of condition 7(b)(ii) of this Permit.

PART III - RECORD KEEPING AND REPORTING

8. Records must be kept

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

- (a) In relation to the clearing of native vegetation authorised under this Permit:
 - (i) 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;
 - (ii) the date that the area was cleared:
 - (iii) the size of the area cleared (in hectares); and
 - (iv) purpose for the clearing was undertaken.
- (b) In relation to revegetation and rehabilitation of areas pursuant to condition 7 of this Permit:
 - the location of any areas revegetated and rehabilitated, recorded using Global Positioning System (GPS) unit set to Geocentric Datum Australia 1994 (GDA94), expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings;
 - (ii) a description of the revegetation and rehabilitation activities undertaken; and
 - (iii) the size of the area revegetated and rehabilitated (in hectares).

9. Reporting

- (a) The Permit Holder must provide to the CEO, on or before 30 June of each year, a written report of records required under condition 8 and activities done by the Permit Holder under this Permit between 1 January and 31 December of the preceding year.
- (b) Prior to 07 March 2014, the Permit Holder must provide to the CEO a written report of records required under condition 8 where these records have not already been provided under condition 9(a) of this Permit.

Definitions

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

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;

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

planting means the re-establishment of vegetation by creating favourable soil conditions and planting seedlings of the desired species;

rehabilitate/ed/ion means actively managing an area containing native vegetation in order to improve the ecological function of that area;

revegetate/ed/ion 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;

Kelly Faulkner MANAGER

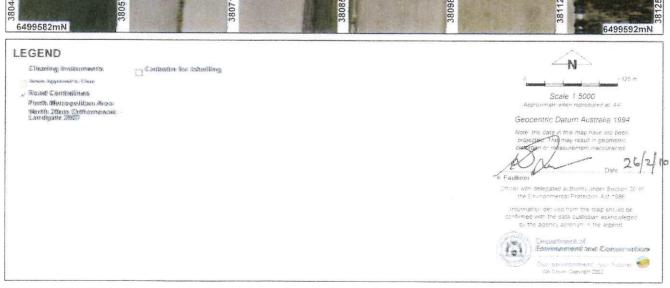
NATIVE VEGETATION CONSERVATION BRANCH

Officer delegated under Section 20 of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

26 February 2010

Plan 3003/3







Clearing Permit Decision Report

1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.:

3003/3

Permit type:

Purpose Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name:

Roadstone Quarries - Italia Stone Group

1.3. Property details

Property:

LOT 103 ON PLAN 14371 (House No. 44 GODEL NOWERGUP 6032)
LOT 104 ON PLAN 14371 (House No. 170 MCLENNAN NOWERGUP 6032)

Local Government Area: Colloquial name:

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)

No. Trees

Method of Clearing Mechanical Removal For the purpose of: Extractive Industry

2. Site Information

2.1. Existing environment and information

2.1.1. Description of the native vegetation under application

Vegetation Description

Beard Vegetation Association: 949 - Low woodland; banksia 998 - Medium woodland; tuart (Shepherd 2007; SAC Bio datasets 12/3/2009)

Heddle Vegetation Complex: Cottesioe Complex Central/S

Cottesloe Complex Central/South - Mosaic of woodland of E. gomphocephala and open forest of E. gomphocephala - E. marginata - E. calophylla; closed heath on the Limestone outcrops.

(Heddle et al. 1980)

Clearing Description

The area under application (4.5 ha of vegetation within a 16.4 ha area) is located within Lot 103 and Lot 104 (zoned rural). The proposed clearing is for the extension of an existing limestone quarry.

The area under application has been identified as being predominantly parkland pastures with a small section being Dryandra sessilis closed shrubland (~0.5 ha) (Landform Research, 2008). The vegetation includes species included Eucalyptus marginata, Eucalyptus gomphocephala, Banksia sessilis, Acacia pulchella, Hakea sp, Macrozamia sp, Xanthorrhoea preisii and weeds (veldt grass, wild oats and gladiolus).

Vegetation Condition

Degraded: Structure severely disturbed; regeneration to good condition requires intensive management (Keighery 1994)

Comment

The condition of the native vegetation under application was sourced from the Consultant's report (Landform Research, 2008) and site inspection undertaken on 9 March 2009 (DEC, 2009). The area under application was considered to be predominantly in degraded condition with the area of Dryandra sessilis closed shrubland in good condition and the excavated areas in completely degraded condition.

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

Comments

The area under application includes approximately 4.5 ha of native vegetation within a 16.4 ha area. The area under application has been subject to limestone excavation and grazing with the area showing signs of significant disturbance including areas of veldt grass (DEC, 2009).

The application area has been identified in an Atlas of Tuart Woodlands on the Swan Coastal Plain in Western Australia (CALM 2003) as being a highly disturbed area with 30 to 39% canopy density. The vegetation under application is considered to be in predominantly degraded condition (DEC, 2009); therefore, comprises limited habitat or biodiversity values. The assessment considered that the proposed clearing is not likely to impact any biodiversity, land degradation, or environmental water values within the local or regional context.

The vegetation assessment (Landform Research, 2008) of Lots 103 and 104 identified Jacksonia sericea (Priority 4), and significant flora Leschenaultia linarioides (poorly reserved) and Petrophile serruriae subsp. nov (poorly reserved and significant populations). Given the degraded condition of the vegetation the proposed clearing is not likely to significantly impact these species.

Given the degraded condition of the vegetation under application and the location of the area under application within and immediately adjacent to historically excavated areas, the proposed clearing is not considered likely to be at variance to any of the clearing principles.

Development Approval from the Western Australian Planning Commission was approved in 1999.

There is no other RIWI Act Licence, Works Approval or EP Act Licence that affects the area under application.

The State Planning Policy 2.4 - Basic Raw Materials identifies Lot 103 and Lot 104 as being within a priority area for extraction of basic raw material.

Two submissions (Submission, 2009a and 2009b) for the proposed clearing of the area under application were received. The submissions outlined that there would be the potential loss of large and locally significant tuart trees, this issue was considered as part of the assessment; and the potential increase in air borne limestone dust, this issue would be considered under the extractive industry licence.

Lot 103 and Lot 104 are freehold land and are zoned Rural under the Metropolitan Regional Scheme.

An amendment to Clearing Permit CPS 3003/2 has occurred due to the applicant requesting that Condition 7 (Revegetation) of the Permit be modified due to an administrative error; the area cleared under the Permit be revegetated and rehabilitated within 'six months of clearing' replaced with 'six months of the area no longer being required for extractive industry'.

Methodology

- References:
- CALM (2003)
- DEC (2009)
- DEC (2009a)
- Landform Research (2008)
- Submission (2009a)
- Submission (2009b)

GIS databases:

- Cadastre
- Metropolitan Regional Scheme
- SAC Bio Datasets 31/03/2009

4. Assessor's comments

Comment

The clearing application has been assessed against the clearing principles, planning instruments and other matters in accordance with s51O of the Environmental Protection Act 1986, and the assessment recommendation is that the clearing as proposed is not likely to be at variance to any of the clearing principles.

5. References

CALM (2003) An Atlas of Tuart Woodlands on the Swan Coastal Plain in Western Australia. Department of Conservation and Land Management, Western Australia.

DEC (2009) Site Inspection Report for Clearing Permit Application CPS 3003/1, Lots 102, 103 and 104 McLennan Drive, Nowergup. Site inspection undertaken 09/03/2009. Department of Environment and Conservation, Western Australia (TRIM Ref DOC78729).

DEC (2009a) DEC Species and Communities Branch - advice for CPS 3003/1 on threatened and priority ecological communities, and rare flora. Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC), Western Australia. TRIM Ref DOC80370

Heddle, E. M., Loneragan, O. W., and Havel, J. J. (1980) Vegetation Complexes of the Darling System, Western Australia. In Department of Conservation and Environment, Atlas of Natural Resources, Darling System, Western Australia.

Keighery, B.J. (1994) Bushland Plant Survey: A Guide to Plant Community Survey for the Community. Wildflower Society of WA (Inc). Nedlands, Western Australia.

Landform Research (2008) Mining Proposal Limestone and Sand Excavation Lots 101-104 McLennan Drive, Nowergup and Vegetation Assessment for Italia Stone Group. TRIM Ref DOC76830

Shepherd, D.P. (2007). Adapted from: Shepherd, D.P., Beeston, G.R., and Hopkins, A.J.M. (2001), Native Vegetation in Western Australia. Technical Report 249. Department of Agriculture Western Australia, South Perth. Includes subsequent updates for 2006 from Vegetation Extent dataset ANZWA1050000124. Submission (2009a) Direct interest submission for CPS 3003/1, TRIM Ref DOC82398

Submission (2009b) Direct interest submission for CPS 3003/1, TRIM Ref DOC82435

6. Glossary

Term Meaning

BCS Biodiversity Coordination Section of DEC

CALM Department of Conservation and Land Management (now BCS)

DAFWA Department of Agriculture and Food

DEC Department of Environment and Conservation Department of Environmental Protection (now DEC)
Department of Environment (now DEC) DEP

DoE DMP Department of Mines and Petroleum (ex DoIR)

DRF Declared Rare Flora

EPP Environmental Protection Policy GIS Geographical Information System ha Hectare (10,000 square metres) **TEC** Threatened Ecological Community WRC Water and Rivers Commission (now DEC)