

#### **CLEARING PERMIT**

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Purpose Permit number: CPS 3103/1

Permit Holder: SAS Global Forrestdale Pty Ltd

**Duration of Permit:** 21 June 2009 – 21 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 realigning an existing water main.

# 2. Land on which clearing is to be done

LOT 861 ON PLAN 29950 (FORRESTDALE 6112) LOT 873 ON PLAN 36227 (FORRESTDALE 6112)

#### 3. Area of Clearing

The Permit Holder may clear up to 0.25 hectares of native vegetation within the area hatched yellow on attached Plan 3103/1.

# 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. Avoid, minimise etc clearing

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

#### 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 in relation to the clearing of native vegetation authorised under this Permit:

- (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 Geocentric Datum Australia 1994 (GDA94), expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings;
- (c) the date that the area was cleared; and
- (d) the size of the area cleared (in hectares).

# 8. 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 7 of this Permit and activities done by the Permit Holder under this Permit between 1 January and 31 December of the preceding year.
- (b) Prior to 21 March 2014, the Permit Holder must provide to the CEO a written report of records required under condition 7 of this Permit where these records have not already been provided under condition 8(a) of this Permit.

Kelly Faulkner MANAGER

NATIVE VEGETATION CONSERVATION BRANCH

Officer delegated under Section 20 of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

21 May 2009

# Plan 3103/1

401963mE



# **Clearing Permit Decision Report**

# 1. Application details

Permit application details

Permit application No.:

3103/1

Permit type:

Purpose Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name:

SAS Global Forrestdale Pty Ltd

Property details

Property:

LOT 861 ON PLAN 29950 ( FORRESTDALE 6112)

LOT 873 ON PLAN 36227 ( FORRESTDALE 6112)

Local Government Area:

Colloquial name:

City Of Armadale

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)

No. Trees

Method of Clearing

For the purpose of:

0.236

Mechanical Removal

Water main realignment

# 2. Site Information

# **Existing environment and information**

# 2.1.1. Description of the native vegetation under application

# **Vegetation Description**

968 - Medium woodland; jarrah, marri and wandoo.

Heddle Vegetation Complex: Southern River Complex - open woodland of Corymbia calophylla - Eucalyptus marginata - Banksia species with fringing woodland of Eucalyptus rudis - Melaleuca raphiophylla along creek beds.

#### Clearing Description

Beard Vegetation Association: The proposal is to clear 0.236ha for the purposes of the realignment of an existing water main for the Forrestdale Business Park Development.

> The vegetation under application consists of Woolly Bush (Adenanthos cygnorum), Regelia sp., Dasypogon sp., Jacksonia furcellata, Stirlingia latifolia, Gompholobium sp., Acacia pulchella, Nuytsia floribunda, Banksia menziesii, Conostylis Lepidosperma Melaleuca sp., Xanthorrhoea preissii, Marri (Corymbia calophylla) and native sedges.

> The vegetation is overall in completely degraded condition with some isolated pockets of degraded vegetation. properties have aggressive weed invasion and historic clearing (DEC, 2009).

# Vegetation Condition

Completely Degraded: No longer intact; completely/almost completely without native species (Keighery 1994)

#### Comment

Vegetation condition confirmed during DEC site inspection undertaken on the 14th May 2009 (DEC,

# 3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

#### Comments

The vegetation under application is in completely degraded condition with some pockets of degraded vegetation (DEC, 2009). The vegetation within the area under application includes species of Woolly Bush (Adenanthos cygnorum), Regelia sp., Dasypogon sp., Jacksonia furcellata, Stirlingia latifolia, Gompholobium sp., Acacia pulchella, Nuytsia floribunda, Banksia menziesii, Conostylis sp., Lepidosperma sp., Melaleuca sp., Xanthorrhoea preissii, Marri (Corymbia calophylla) and native sedges however, the understorey dominated by weed species.

Due to the highly degraded condition, the vegetation present only minimally reflects the mapped vegetation complexes Beard Association 968 and the Southern River Heddle Vegetation Complex (DEC, 2009) therefore, the vegetation would not be deemed significant as a remnant of native vegetation nor is it considered to comprise a high level of biological diversity.

Fourteen threatened and priority fauna species have been recorded within the local area (10km radius) of the applied clearing area with the closest being the Numbat (Myrmecobius fasciatus) recorded within the Armadale Road verge directly adjacent to the applied clearing area. Although some indigenous fauna may utilise this land for movement across the landscape, the completely degraded to degraded condition of the vegetation means that the vegetation would not be considered significant habitat for fauna.

Approximately 29 of the rare and priority flora species recorded within the local area (10km radius) are known to occur within similar vegetation and soil types and topography to the location of the applied clearing area with 5 of these species being declared rare including Diuris purdiei (recorded the closest approximately 1.1km away), Drakaea elastica, Drakaea micrantha, Lepidosperma rostratum and Caladenia huegelii. Due to the highly degraded condition of the vegetation, the historical clearing and the high levels of weed invasion across the properties, it is highly unlikely that any of the rare and priority flora species still inhabit the applied clearing area.

The applied clearing area is a component of the Gibbs Road Swamp System (Environment Australia, 2001). The vegetation is also approximately 70m from the Armadale Road conservation category wetland which also incorporates the herb rich shrublands in claypans threatened ecological community (TEC). Despite the vegetation being mapped as part of the ANCA wetland the completely degraded to degraded condition the removal of this small amount of vegetation would not impact upon the wetland system and the condition and small scale of vegetation remaining means it is unlikely to impact upon the nearby conservation category wetland or be necessary for the maintenance of the TEC.

Given the small scale and degraded condition of the applied clearing area and the mapped salinity risk for this area being low, it is unlikely that the clearing as proposed would cause appreciable land degradation, a depreciation in surface and underground water resources or result in an increase in the intensity and incidence of flooding within the local area.

The western end of the applied clearing area lies within an Aboriginal Site of Significance. The applicant will be advised that they should contact the Department of Indigenous Affairs for advice prior to undertaking any works or clearing at this site.

#### Methodology

#### References:

- Commonwealth of Australia (2001)
- DEC (2009)
- Environment Australia (2001)
- EPA (2006)
- Heddle et al (1980)
- Shepherd (2007)

#### GIS Databases:

- SAC Bio datasets Accessed 11/05/2009 & 12/05/2009
- Topographic contours Statewide
- Soils, Statewide DA
- Heddle Vegetation Complexes
- Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation of Australia
- ANCA, Wetlands
- Geomorphic wetlands (Mgmt Categories), Swan Coastal Plain
- Salinity Risk LM 25m DOLA

#### 4. Assessor's comments

#### Comment

The application has been assessed against the clearing principles, planning instruments and other matters in accordance with s510 of the Environmental Protection Act 1986, and the proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to any of the clearing principles.

# 5. References

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

DEC (2009) Site Inspection Report for Clearing Permit Application CPS3103/1, Lot 861 on Plan 29950 and Lot 873 on Plan 36227 Armadale Road, Forrestdale. Site inspection undertaken 14/05/2009. Department of Environment and Conservation, Western Australia (TRIM ref DOC84823).

Environment Australia (2001). A Directory of Important Wetlands in Australia, Third Edition. Environment Australia, Canberra.

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.

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.

Western Australian Herbarium (1998). FloraBase - The Western Australian Flora. Department of Environment and Conservation. http://florabase.dec.wa.gov.au/ (Accessed 14/05/2009).

# 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
DEP Department of Environmental Protection (now DEC)

DoE Department of Environment

DoIR Department of Industry and Resources

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)