GOVERNMENT OF
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

PERMIT DETAILS
Area Permit Number: 3254/1
File Number: DEC1149
Duration of Permit: From 16 October 2009 to 16 October 2011

PERMIT HOLDER
City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder

LAND ON WHICH CLEARING IS TO BE DONE
Lot 251 on Plan 190202

AUTHORISED ACTIVITY
Clearing of up to 5.72 hectares of native vegetation within the area shaded yellow on attached Plan 3254/1.

CONDITIONS

1. Flora Management

(a) Prior to undertaking any clearing authorised under this Permit, the site shall be inspected in the months of October, November or December by a *flora specialist* for the presence of any *Eremophila praecox* taxa.

(b) Where *Eremophila praecox* taxa is identified in relation to condition 1(a) of this Permit, the Permit Holder shall ensure that:

(i) the locations of any of *Eremophila praecox* taxa are recorded using a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit set to Geocentric Datum Australia 1994 (GDA94), expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings, and are submitted to the CEO; and

(ii) no clearing occurs with 10 metres of identified *Eremophila praecox* taxa, unless approved by the CEO.

DEFINITIONS

The following meaning is given to terms used in this Permit:

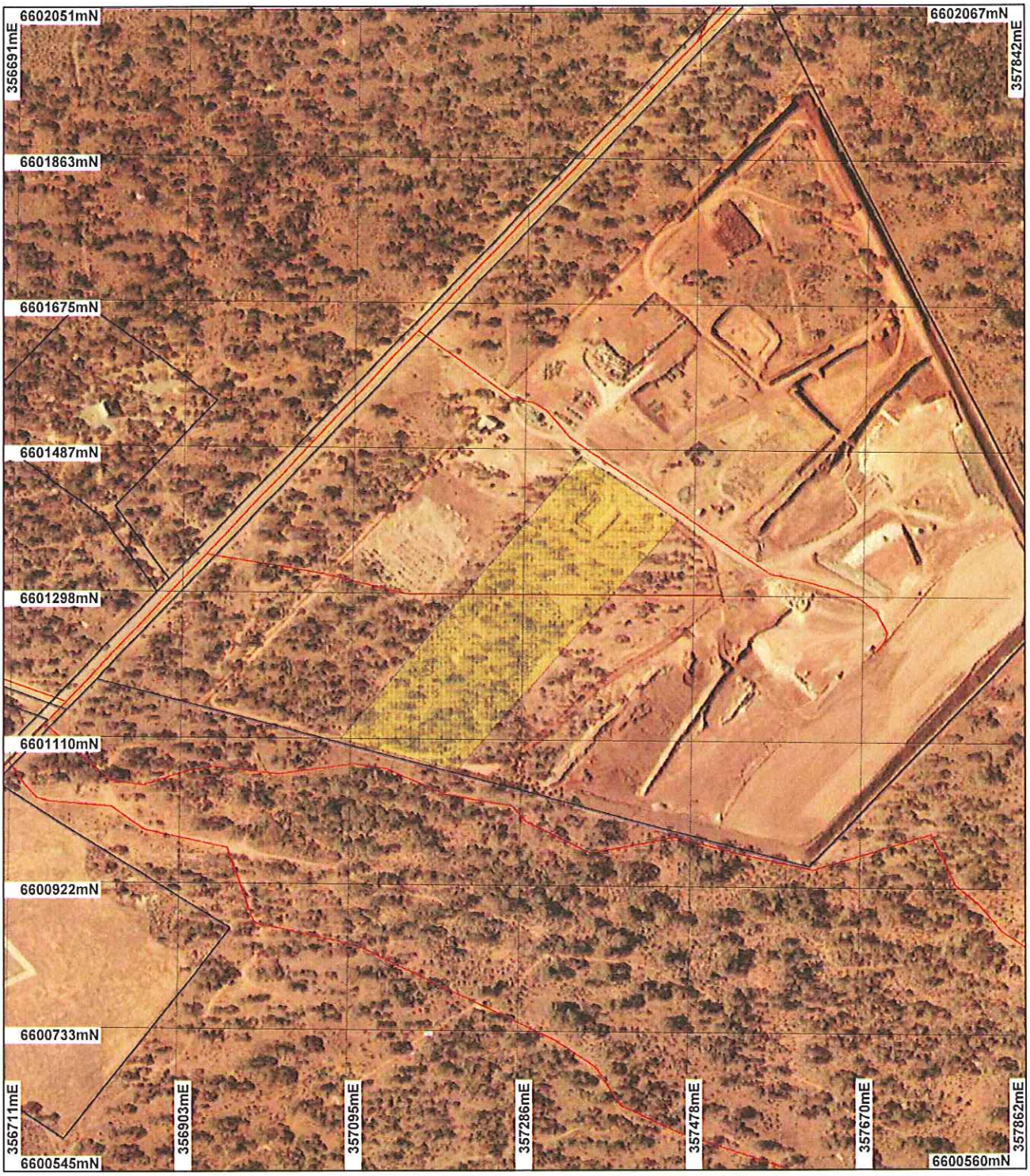
flora specialist means a person with specific training and/or experience in the ecology and taxonomy of Western Australian flora.

Kelly Faulkner
MANAGER
NATIVE VEGETATION CONSERVATION BRANCH

Officer delegated under Section 20
of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

16 September 2009

Plan 3254/1



LEGEND

Clearing Instruments

- Areas Subject to Conditions
- Areas Approved to Clear
- Road Centrelines

- Cadastre
- Kanowna 1.4m Orthomosaic - Landgate 2003

N

0 ~200 m

Scale 1:7000
(Approximate when reproduced at A4)

Geocentric Datum Australia 1994

Note: the data in this map have not been projected. This may result in geometric deviation or measurement inaccuracies.

..... Date .....
K Faulkner
Officer with delegated authority under Section 20 of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Information derived from this map should be confirmed with the data custodian acknowleged by the agency acronym in the legend.

Department of Environment and Conservation
Our environment, our future

* Project Data is denoted by asterisk. This data has not been quality assured. Please contact map author for details.

Department of Environment and Conservation

Clearing Permit Decision Report

1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 3254/1

Permit type: Area Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Grosvenor Lodge Pty Ltd

1.3. Property details

Property: LOT 251 ON PLAN 190202 (PARKESTON 6434)

Local Government Area:

Colloquial name:

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
5.72		Mechanical Removal	Stockpile

2. Site Information

2.1. Existing environment and information

2.1.1. Description of the native vegetation under application

Vegetation Description	Clearing Description	Vegetation Condition	Comment
Beard vegetation type: 468: Medium woodlands, salmon gums and Goldfields blackbutt. (SAC Bio Datasets 11/09/2009; Shepherd, 2007)	The area under application consists of 5.72 ha of native vegetation within the Yarri Road Refuse Facility. The proposed clearing is for a new refuse cell to extend the current land fill operations. The vegetation within the proposed area is described as woodlands of Eucalyptus salmonophloia over Maireana.	Degraded: Structure severely disturbed; regeneration to good condition requires intensive management (Keighery 1994)	The information on the vegetation description and condition was obtained from the Draft Environmental Plan for the Yarri Road Refuse Facility (City of Kalgoorlie Boulder 2006a).

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

(a) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises a high level of biological diversity.

Comments

Proposal may be at variance to this Principle

The area under application comprises 5.72 ha area of previously disturbed native vegetation within the Yarri Road Refuse Facility, immediately adjacent to current land fill operations. This site has been previously disturbed due to nearby land fill operations and water flows have been interrupted by the development of waste disposal cells and access ways; this has had an impact upon the remaining vegetation. The vegetation overall is considered to be in degraded condition (City of Kalgoorlie Boulder, 2006a).

The Yarri Road Refuse Facility consists of a range of diverse fauna; the most common fauna in this area are reptiles, of which approximately 93 species are known to inhabit the Goldfield Region; and birds are also common (City of Kalgoorlie Boulder, 2006a).

There are nine records of priority flora in the local area (20 km radius), of which only Eremophila praecox, a Priority 1 species, occurs within the same vegetation type and on the same soils as that of the area under application. Given this priority species has been recorded in the local area it is considered that this species may occur within the area under application (DEC, 2009).

Given that priority flora species and a range of native fauna may occur within the area under application, the area under application may comprise a high level of biological diversity.

To mitigate the potential impact to priority flora, a flora management condition will be placed on the permit.

Methodology

References:
- City of Kalgoorlie Boulder (2006a)

- DEC (2009)
GIS Databases:
- SAC Bio Datasets 19/08/2009
- Soils, Statewide

(b) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises the whole or a part of, or is necessary for the maintenance of, a significant habitat for fauna indigenous to Western Australia.

Comments

Proposal is not likely to be at variance to this Principle

The Yarri Road Refuse Facility consists of a range of diverse fauna; the most common fauna in this area are reptiles, of which approximately 93 species are known to inhabit the Goldfield Region; and birds are also common (City of Kalgoorlie Boulder, 2006a).

It is unlikely that the area applied to be cleared provides significant habit for fauna as the area is located immediately adjacent to current land fill operations. Disturbances associated with this location include extensive weed invasion and rubbish from the nearby landfill site. The site is fully enclosed by a 2.4 metre chainmesh and barbwire fence, with only one entrance and exit gate, preventing fauna movement (City of Kalgoorlie Boulder, 2006b). Additionally, the Yarri Rd Refuse Facility is surrounded by well vegetated Crown Reserve, which is considered to provide suitable habit for fauna. There was no significant fauna recorded during a fauna survey that was undertaken for the Yarri Road Refuse Facility Environmental Management Plan (City of Kalgoorlie Boulder 2006a).

Given the above, the area under application is not considered to comprise significant habitat for fauna indigenous to Western Australia; therefore, the proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to this Principle.

Methodology

References:
- City of Kalgoorlie Boulder (2006a)
- City of Kalgoorlie Boulder (2006b)

(c) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it includes, or is necessary for the continued existence of, rare flora.

Comments

Proposal is not likely to be at variance to this Principle

There are no known records of rare flora within the local area (20 km radius), the closest record is Gastrolobium graniticum, located 75 km south-west; on different soils and within a different vegetation type as those of the area under application.

Given the above, the proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to this Principle.

Methodology

GIS Database:
- SAC Bio Datasets 19/08/2009

(d) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises the whole or a part of, or is necessary for the maintenance of a threatened ecological community.

Comments

Proposal is not likely to be at variance to this Principle

There are no known records of Threatened Ecological Communities (TEC) within the local area (20 km radius), the closest record is Depot Springs stygofauna community, located 325 km north-west.

The vegetation within the proposed area is described as woodlands of Eucalyptus salmonophloia over Maireana (City of Kalgoorlie Boulder, 2006a), which is not representative of the TEC outlined above. Therefore, it is considered that the vegetation under application is not likely to comprise a TEC.

Methodology

Reference:
- City of Kalgoorlie Boulder (2006a)
GIS Database:
- SAC Bio Datasets 19/08/2009

(e) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it is significant as a remnant of native vegetation in an area that has been extensively cleared.

Comments

Proposal is not likely to be at variance to this Principle

The vegetation within the area under application is identified as a component of Beard vegetation type 468, of which there is 100% of Pre-European extent remaining within the Coolgardie Bioregion (Shepherd, 2007).

The Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) supports a 30% threshold level as recommended in the National Objectives Targets for Biodiversity Conservation; below which species loss appears to accelerate exponentially at an ecosystem level (EPA, 2000). The vegetation type retains more than this 30% threshold level.

Given the extent of vegetation remaining in the Shire (100%), the current representation level of the Beard type and

the degraded condition (City of Kalgoorlie Boulder, 2006a) of the vegetation under application, it is not considered likely that the vegetation is significant as a remnant in an area that has been extensively cleared.

	Pre-European (ha)	Current extent (ha)	Remaining (%)	In secure tenure (%)
IBRA Bioregion*				
Coolgardie (C)	12,912,204	12,707,619	98.4	
Shire of Kal-Boulder*	9,544,236	9,544,236	100.0	
Beard vegetation type*				
468 (within C Bioregion)	583,357	583,357	100.0	22.5

* (Shepherd, 2007)

Methodology

References:
- EPA (2000)
- Shepherd (2007)

GIS Databases:
- Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation of Australia
- SAC Bio Datasets 19/08/2009

(f) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it is growing in, or in association with, an environment associated with a watercourse or wetland.

Comments

Proposal is not likely to be at variance to this Principle

There are no wetlands or watercourse within the area under application, the closest watercourses are minor perennial watercourses located ~80m south and ~480m north-east of the area under application. The vegetation within the proposed area is described as woodlands of Eucalyptus salmonophloia over Maireana (City of Kalgoorlie Boulder, 2006a), which is not considered to be vegetation typically associated with watercourses.

Given the distance to the nearest watercourses and that the vegetation is not associated with watercourses; the proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to this Principle.

Methodology

Reference:
- City of Kalgoorlie Boulder (2006a)

GIS Databases:
- Hydrography, linear (hierarchy)
- Rivers

(g) Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause appreciable land degradation.

Comments

Proposal is not likely to be at variance to this Principle

The landscape of the area under application and surrounds can be described as gently undulating valley plains and pediments; some outcrop of basic rock (Northcote et al, 1960-68). The chief soils are alkaline red earths with limestone or limestone nodules at shallow depth (< 24 in.) on gently sloping slightly concave plains; associated are clay plains flanking ultrabasic rock outcrop (Northcote et al, 1960-68). These soils are not prone to wind erosion, but may be at risk of water erosion

Given the degraded condition (City of Kalgoorlie Boulder, 2006a) of the vegetation under application, it is considered that the removal of 5.72 ha of scattered native vegetation is unlikely to lead to appreciable land degradation on or off site. Therefore, the proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to this Principle.

Methodology

References:
- City of Kalgoorlie Boulder (2006a)
- Northcote et al (1960-68)

GIS Database:
- Soils, Statewide

(h) Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to have an impact on the environmental values of any adjacent or nearby conservation area.

Comments

Proposal is not likely to be at variance to this Principle

There are three DEC managed lands within the local area (20 km radius) being Kalgoorlie arboretum 6.5 km south-west, Lakeside timber reserve 12.5 km south-east and Kurrawang nature reserve 17 km south-west of

the area under application. Given the distance from these reserves and the degraded condition (City of Kalgoorlie Boulder, 2006a) of the vegetation under application, the proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to this Principle.

Methodology Reference:
- City of Kalgoorlie Boulder (2006a)

GIS database:
- DEC Managed Lands and Waters

(i) Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause deterioration in the quality of surface or underground water.

Comments

Proposal is not likely to be at variance to this Principle

There are no wetlands or watercourse within the area under application, the closest watercourses are minor perennial watercourses located ~80m south and ~480m north-east of the area under application.

The area under application is not located in a Public Drinking Water Source Area and there is no salinity risk.

The vegetation within the proposed area is described as woodlands of Eucalyptus salmonophloia over Maireana, which is considered to be in a degraded condition (City of Kalgoorlie Boulder, 2006a).

Given the distance to the nearest watercourses, the degraded condition and the nil salinity risk, it is not considered likely that the clearing of vegetation will reduce the quality of surface or underground water.

Methodology Reference:
- City of Kalgoorlie Boulder (2006a)

GIS Databases:
- Hydrography, linear (hierarchy)
- Public Drinking Water Source Areas (PDWSAs)
- Rivers
- Salinity Risk LM 25m - DOLA 00

(j) Native vegetation should not be cleared if clearing the vegetation is likely to cause, or exacerbate, the incidence or intensity of flooding.

Comments

Proposal is not likely to be at variance to this Principle

The area under application receives little rainfall (300 mm per annum) and has a high evaporation rate (2,800 mm per annum) and excess surface water flow would only be likely during high rainfall events. Therefore, it is not considered that the proposed clearing is likely to cause or increase flooding.

Methodology GIS Databases:
- Rainfall, Mean Annual
- Evaporation Isopleths

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

Comments

A Works Approval from DEC is not required for the construction of the new cell.

There are no other licences or works approvals are required under the Environmental Protection Act 1986.

There is a Native Title claim over area; however, the land use is consistent with the intended use of the land

Lot 251 or Crown Reserve 41888 is vested with the Kalgoorlie-Boulder for the land-use of rubbish disposal site and is zoned Public Purposes under the local Town Planning Scheme.

Methodology GIS databases:
- Cadastre
- Native Title
-Town Planning Scheme Zones

4. Assessor's comments

Comment

The assessable criteria have been addressed and the clearing as proposed is may be at variance to Principle (a) and is not likely to be at variance to the remaining clearing Principles.

5. References

City of Kalgoorlie Boulder (2006a) Extract from Draft Environmental Management Plan for Yarri Road Refuse Facility (Email). TRIM Ref DOC8968

City of Kalgoorlie Boulder (2006b) Information on fauna and rehabilitation of Yarri Road Refuse Facility (Email). TRIM Ref DOC13296

DEC (2009) DEC Native Vegetation Conservation Branch - Botanist advice on priority flora species within Yarri Road Refuse Facility. TRIM Ref DOC97729

EPA (2000) Environmental protection of native vegetation in Western Australia. Clearing of native vegetation, with particular reference to the agricultural area. Position Statement No. 2. December 2000. Environmental Protection Authority, 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.

Northcote, K. H. with Beckmann G G, Bettenay E., Churchward H. M., van Dijk D. C., Dimmock G. M., Hubble G. D., Isbell R. F., McArthur W. M., Murtha G. G., Nicolls K. D., Paton T. R., Thompson C. H., Webb A. A. and Wright M. J. (1960-68): 'Atlas of Australian Soils, Sheets 1 to 10, with explanatory data'. CSIRO and Melbourne University Press: Melbourne.

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.

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)