



## CLEARING PERMIT

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

<b>Purpose Permit number:</b>	CPS 3541/1
<b>Permit Holder:</b>	Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale
<b>Duration of Permit:</b>	26 March 2010 – 26 March 2015

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 removal of *hazardous trees* representing a risk to public safety.

**2. Land on which clearing is to be done**

Road Reserves vested in Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale.

**3. Area of Clearing**

The Permit holder must not clear more than 50 native trees annually within the boundaries of the Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale for the purpose of removal of *hazardous trees*.

**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. Type of clearing authorised**

This Permit authorises the Permit Holder to clear native vegetation for activities to the extent that the Permit Holder has the power to clear native vegetation for those activities under the *Local Government Act 1995* or any other written law.

**6. 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

**7. 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:

- avoid the clearing of native vegetation;
- minimise the amount of native vegetation to be cleared; and
- reduce the impact of clearing on any environmental value.

## 8. Dieback and weed control

When undertaking any clearing or other activity authorised under this Permit, the Permit Holder must take the following steps to minimise the risk of the introduction and spread of *weeds* and *dieback*:

- (a) clean earth-moving machinery of soil and vegetation prior to entering and leaving the area to be cleared;
- (b) shall only move soils in *dry conditions*;
- (c) ensure that no *dieback* or *weed*-affected soil, *mulch*, *fill* or other material is brought into the area to be cleared; and
- (d) restrict the movement of machines and other vehicles to the limits of the areas to be cleared.

## 9. Fauna Management

- (a) Prior to undertaking any clearing authorised under this Permit, the area(s) shall be inspected by a *fauna specialist* who shall identify *habitat tree(s)* suitable to be utilised by fauna species listed below:
  - (i) Baudin's black cockatoo *Calyptorhynchus baudinii*
  - (ii) Carnaby's black cockatoo *Calyptorhynchus latirostris*
  - (iii) Forest Red-tailed black cockatoo *Calyptorhynchus banksii naso*
  - (iv) Brush Tailed Phascogale *Phascogale tapoatafa*
- (b) Prior to clearing, any *habitat tree(s)* identified by condition 9(a) shall be inspected by a *fauna specialist* for the presence of fauna listed in condition 9(a).
- (c) Prior to clearing, the Permit Holder shall ensure that any fauna identified by condition 9(b) shall be removed and relocated by a *fauna clearing person*, in accordance with a licence issued by the Department.

## PART III - RECORD KEEPING AND REPORTING

### 10. 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 undertaken pursuant to the purpose of clearing:
  - (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 fauna management pursuant to condition 9 of this Permit:
  - (i) the location of each *habitat tree* identified 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 species name of fauna reasonably likely to utilise, or that have been observed utilising, the *habitat tree(s)*; and
  - (iii) the location and date where relocated fauna was released, recorded using a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit set to Geocentric Datum Australia 1994 (GDA94), expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings.

### 11. 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 10 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 24 December 2014, the Permit Holder must provide to the CEO a written report of records required under condition 10 of this Permit where these records have not already been provided under condition 11(a) of this Permit.

## **Definitions**

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

**dieback** means the effect of *Phytophthora* species on native vegetation;

**dry conditions** means when soils (not dust) do not freely adhere to rubber tyres, tracks, vehicle chassis or wheel arches;

**fauna clearing person** means a person who has obtained a licence from the Department, issued pursuant to the *Wildlife Conservation Regulations 1970* authorising them to take fauna;

**fauna specialist** means a person with training and specific work experience in fauna identification or faunal assemblage surveys of Western Australian fauna;

**fill** means material used to increase the ground level, or fill a hollow;

**habitat tree(s)** 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;

**hazardous tree** means trees that are likely to cause imminent danger to human life or health or irreversible damage to a significant portion of the environment;

**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; and

**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 *Agriculture and Related Resources Protection Act 1976*.



Kelly Faulkner  
MANAGER  
NATIVE VEGETATION CONSERVATION BRANCH

*Officer delegated under Section 20  
of the Environmental Protection Act 1986*

25 February 2010



## 1. Application details

### 1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 3541/1  
Permit type: Purpose Permit

### 1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Serpentine Jarrahdale Shire

### 1.3. Property details

Property: DOLA\_LAND\_DESCRIPTION  
Local Government Area: LGA  
Colloquial name: Road Reserves vested in Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale

### 1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
0	250	Mechanical Removal	Hazard reduction or fire control

## 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
<p>Beard Veg Association:</p> <p>3 - Medium forest; jarrah-marri</p> <p>4 - Medium woodland; marri &amp; wandoo</p> <p>128 - Bare areas; rock outcrops</p> <p>968 - Medium woodland; jarrah, marri &amp; wandoo</p> <p>1000 - Mosaic: Medium forest; jarrah-marri / Low woodland; banksia / Low forest; teatree (Melaleuca spp.)</p> <p>1001 - Medium very sparse woodland; jarrah, with low woodland; banksia &amp; casuarina (Shepherd, 2007)</p> <p>Hedde:</p> <p>darling scarp complex - low open woodland to lichens</p> <p>bassendean complex-central and south - woodland to low woodland and sedgelands</p> <p>cottesloe complex-central and south - woodland and open forest and closed heath</p> <p>southern river complex - open woodland</p> <p>forrestfield complex - open forest and fringing woodland</p> <p>murray complex in medium to high rainfall - open forest to fringing woodland</p> <p>dwellingup complex in medium to high rainfall - open forest</p> <p>guildford complex - open forest to tall open forest and woodland</p> <p>yarragil complex (maximum development swamps) in medium to high rainfall - open forest</p> <p>karrakatta complex-central and south - open forest and woodland</p>	<p>The proposed clearing is for up to 50 hazardous trees per annum, scattered throughout land owned by or vested with the Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale. The proposed clearing includes individual trees only and not remnant stands of vegetation.</p> <p>Hazardous tree means trees that are likely to cause imminent danger to human life or health or irreversible damage to a significant portion of the environment.</p>	<p>Completely Degraded: No longer intact; completely/almost completely without native species (Keighery 1994)</p>	<p>The condition of the vegetation is likely to vary throughout the Shire from Excellent to Completely Degraded. The overall condition of the vegetation of which the hazardous tree is a part, is unlikely to be compromised by the removal of individual trees. Remnant understorey will not be affected.</p>

beermullah complex - low open forest and open woodland  
 swamp complex - low open woodland to sedgelands  
 helena complex in medium to high rainfall - open forest to heath and herbland to lichens  
 cook complex - open forest to heath and herbland to lichens  
 dwellingup and hester complex in high rainfall-central and south - open forest  
 serpentine river complex - closed scrub and fringing woodland  
 yarragil complex (minimum development swamps) in medium to high rainfall - open forest  
 herdsman complex - sedgelands and fringing woodland  
 dardanup complex - mosaic of vegetation types from adjacent complexes  
 goonaping complex - low open woodland and forest  
 (Hedde, 1980)

### 3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

#### Comments

The proposed clearing is for up to 50 hazardous trees per annum, scattered throughout land owned by or vested with the Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale. The proposed clearing includes individual trees only and not remnant stands of vegetation. Hazardous trees are defined within the permit.

The proposed clearing is unlikely to impact on any rare or Priority flora as the clearing is for hazardous trees only, that are likely to be located in thoroughfares for humans and as such are easily accessible. As access to these trees is possible, no understorey is anticipated to be removed to undertake the clearing of the hazardous trees.

The local area is known to contain many fauna species which may be directly impacted by the clearing of hazardous trees. The Brush Tailed Phascogale (*Phascogale tapoatafa*), Forest Red-Tailed Cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus banksia naso*), Baudins Black Cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus baudinii*), Peregrine Falcon (*Falco peregrinus*) and the Numbat (*Myrmecobius fasciatus*) may all utilize the tree hollows of dead or dying trees. Due to this, it is recommended that selected trees be inspected for fauna prior to clearing and fauna management conditions will be a requirement of the permit.

Due to the proposed being for scattered trees throughout the Shire, it is considered unlikely that the proposed clearing will cause any land degradation concerns, increase the incidence of flooding or cause deterioration in the quality of surface or groundwater.

Clearing occurring within Environmental Sensitive Areas (ESAs) is for individual hazardous trees throughout the Shire and therefore the impacts on these areas will be insignificant.

It is considered unlikely that the proposed clearing will be at variance to any of the clearing principles, although due to the areas high rainfall and susceptibility to dieback, a dieback control condition should be imposed on the permit.

#### Methodology

Reference:

Keighery (1994)

GIS Database:

- Average Annual Rainfall Isohyets - WRC 29/09/98
- Annual Evaporation Contours (Isopleths) - WRC 29/09/98
- CALM Managed Lands and Waters - CALM 01/06/05
- Environmentally Sensitive Areas (ESA) - DEC 30/05/05
- Hydrography linear - DOW 13/7/06
- Hydrography linear (hierarchy) - DoW 13/7/06
- SAC Biodatasets - accessed 10 Feb 10
- Topographic contours statewide - DOLA and ARMY 12/09/02

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

#### Comments

No submissions from the public have been received.

The Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale has a draft Tree Assessment Protocol, which is in the process of being updated (DEC TRIM Ref: DOC119806).

No other EP Act licences or approvals are required.

There are Aboriginal Sites of Significance within the Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale. The DEC recommends consulting with local indigenous groups about the impact of the proposed clearing on these registered sites. Aboriginal Sites of Significance will need to be managed in accordance with requirements under the Aboriginal Heritage Act (1972) and with the Department of Indigenous Affairs.

**Methodology** GIS Database:

- Aboriginal Sites of Significance - DIA
- Native Title Claims - DLI 07/11/05

#### 4. Assessments recommendations

**Comment**

The 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 proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to the clearing Principles.

#### 5. References

- Heddlé, 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.

#### 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 (now DEC)
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)