



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

PERMIT DETAILS

Area Permit Number: 3644/1
File Number: DEC14735
Duration of Permit: From 22 May 2010 to 22 May 2012

PERMIT HOLDER

Shire of Busselton

LAND ON WHICH CLEARING IS TO BE DONE

Chapman Hill Road, Bovell (ROAD RESERVE)

AUTHORISED ACTIVITY

The Permit Holder shall not clear more than 1.06 hectares of native vegetation within the area cross hatched yellow on attached Plan 3644/1.

CONDITIONS

1. 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.

2. Fauna management

- (a) Prior to undertaking any clearing authorised under this Permit, the areas shall be inspected by a *fauna specialist* who shall identify *habitat tree(s)* suitable to be utilised as habitat by fauna listed in the *Wildlife Conservation (Specially Protected Fauna) Notice 2010*.
- (b) Prior to clearing, any *habitat tree(s)* identified by condition 2(a) shall be inspected by a *fauna specialist* for the presence of fauna listed in the *Wildlife Conservation (Specially Protected Fauna) Notice 2010*.
- (c) Prior to clearing, the Permit Holder shall engage a *fauna clearing person* to remove and relocate fauna identified under condition 2(b).

3. Records to 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 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 2 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.

4. 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 3 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 22 February 2012, the Permit Holder must provide to the CEO a written report of records required under condition 3 of this Permit where these records have not already been provided under condition 4(a) of this Permit.

Definitions

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

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;

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;



Kelly Faulkner
MANAGER
NATIVE VEGETATION CONSERVATION BRANCH

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

22 April 2010

Plan 3644/1



LEGEND

Clearing Instruments

- Areas Approved to Clear
- Road Centralines

Busselton 50cm Orthomosaic
Landgate 2007



0 625 m

Scale 1:22482

(Approximate when reproduced at A4)

Geocentric Datum Australia 1994

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

K Faulkner Date 22/6/10

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 acknowledged by the agency acronym in the legend.



Department of
Environment and Conservation

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1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 3644/1
Permit type: Area Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Shire of Busselton

1.3. Property details

Property: ROAD RESERVE (BOVELL 6280)
ROAD RESERVE (BOVELL 6280)

Local Government Area:

Colloquial name:

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
1.06		Mechanical Removal	Road construction or maintenance

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 Associations: 27 - Low woodland; paperbark (<i>Melaleuca</i> sp.) 949 - Low woodland; banksia 1000 - Mosaic: Medium forest; jarrah-marri / Low woodland; banksia / Low forest; teatree (<i>Melaleuca</i> spp.) 1136 - Medium woodland; marri with some jarrah, wandoo, river gum and casuarina Shepherd (2007)	The application is for the clearing of 0.4ha of roadside vegetation for the purpose of upgrading Chapman Hill Road. The vegetation under application is considered to be in a degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition.	Degraded: Structure severely disturbed; regeneration to good condition requires intensive management (Keighery 1994)	Condition of vegetation under application was assessed through aerial photography.
Mattiske Vegetation Association: Ad - Woodland of <i>Corymbia calophylla</i> - <i>Agonis flexuosa</i> - <i>Allocasuarina fraseriana</i> - <i>Nuytsia floribunda</i> on mild slopes in the humid zone. AF - Woodland of <i>Corymbia calophylla</i> - <i>Agonis flexuosa</i> and tall shrubland of <i>Myrtaceae</i> - <i>Proteaceae</i> spp. on terraces and valley floors in the humid zone. Aw - Mosaic of tall shrubland of <i>Melaleuca viminea</i> and woodland of <i>Eucalyptus rudis</i> - <i>Melaleuca raphiophylla</i> with occasional <i>Corymbia calophylla</i> on broad depr Lw - Open woodland of <i>Melaleuca raphiophylla</i> and sedgelands of			

Cyperaceae-Restionaceae
spp. on broad depressions
in the subhumid zone.
Mattiske (1998)

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

Comments

The proposal to clear 1.06ha of native vegetation is for the purpose of upgrading existing road infrastructure. There are a number of rare and priority flora species within the vicinity of the application area, however not likely to be located within Chapman Hill Road reserve (DEC, 2010a).

The vegetation under application is considered to be in a degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition. On both sides of the application area the vegetation contained within the road reserve has been classified as having a low to medium low conservation value (RCC, 2010).

No threatened ecological communities have been identified in the vicinity of the project (5km radius) and the vegetation to be cleared is well represented in the local area. There are a number of peppermint trees near Busselton golf course, with a recorded high level of Western Ringtail Possum activity (DEC, 2010). A fauna management condition will be placed on the permit to ensure WRP habitat trees are not removed.

All of the vegetation associations in which the application area falls within are underrepresented within the Jarrah Forest bioregion. Beard vegetation association 1136 has 6.73% remaining, Mattiske vegetation association AF has 11.29% and AW 5.26% remaining. As the vegetation under application is in degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition, it is not considered significant in an extensively cleared landscape.

The proposed clearing for road works may cause some short term water quality issues in terms of localised surface water sedimentation and flooding during works. However, these issues should be minimised as road works will include roadside infrastructure to prevent water quality issues and flooding associated with roads (ie table drains and culverts).

It is considered that the proposal may impact on habitat of fauna of conservation significance (Principle b) and is not likely to be at variance to any of the remaining principles.

Methodology

References:

DEC (2010a)
DEC (2010b)
Keighery (1994)
RCC (2010)

GIS Databases:

- CALM Managed Lands & Waters - CALM 01/06/05
- Clearing Regulations - Environmentally Sensitive Areas - 30 May 2005
- Groundwater Salinity, statewide - DoW 13/07/06
- Hydrogeographic Catchments, Catchments - DoW 01/06/07
- Hydrogeology, statewide - DOW 13/07/06
- Hydrography, linear DOW 13/7/06
- Mattiske Vegetation Complexes (01/03/1998)
- Pre-European vegetation - DA 01/01
- Mean Annual Rainfall Isohytes (1975 - 2003) - DEC 02/08/05
- SAC Biodatasets 13/04/10

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

Comments

No submissions from the public have been received.

Methodology

4. Assessor's comments

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 may be at variance to Principle (b) and is not likely to be at variance to the remaining clearing Principles.

5. References

DEC (2010a) South West Regional Advice. Department of Environment and Conservation. DEC Ref: A299117
DEC (2010b) South West Regional Advice ? Western Ringtail Possums. Department of Environment and Conservation. DEC

Ref: A299120

- Keighery, B.J. (1994) Bushland Plant Survey: A Guide to Plant Community Survey for the Community. Wildflower Society of WA (Inc). Nedlands, Western Australia.
- Mattiske, E.M. and Havel, J.J. (1998) Vegetation Complexes of the South-west Forest Region of Western Australia. Maps and report prepared as part of the Regional Forest Agreement, Western Australia for the Department of Conservation and Land Management and Environment Australia.
- RCC (2010). Road Conservation Committee Value Mapping, Shire of Busselton. Roadside Conservation Committee February 2009.
- 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.

6. Glossary

Term	Meaning
CALM	Department of Conservation and Land Management (now DEC)
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)
DoW	Department of Water
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)