



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

PERMIT DETAILS

Purpose Permit Number: 3679/1
File Number: DEC14919
Duration of Permit: 13 June 2010 to 13 June 2015

PERMIT HOLDER

Peel Harvey Catchment Council Inc.

LAND ON WHICH CLEARING IS TO BE DONE

Closed Road, Nirimba 6208
Lot 306 on Plan 255862

PURPOSE FOR WHICH THE CLEARING MAY BE DONE

Clearing for the purpose of drainage reconstruction.

CONDITIONS

1. The Permit Holder must not clear more than 0.2 hectares of native vegetation within the area cross hatched yellow on attached Plan 3679/1.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "K Faulkner", written over a horizontal line.

Kelly Faulkner
MANAGER
NATIVE VEGETATION CONSERVATION BRANCH

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

13 May 2010

CPS 3679/1 - Plan



LEGEND

- Cadastral
 - Road Centrelines
 - Clearing Instruments
 - Areas Approved to Clear
- Swyn Coastal Plain South 20cm
Orthorectified - Longitude 2009

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



0 75 m

Scale 1:3230
(Approximate when reproduced at A4)

Geocentric Datum Australia 1994

Note: the data in this map have not been projected, 2D only result in geometric distortions of measurement inaccuracies.

K. Faulkner
Date 13/5/10

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
Our environment, our future
WA Crown Copyright 2002



1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 3679/1
Permit type: Purpose Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Peel Harvey Catchment Council Incorporated

1.3. Property details

Property: CLOSED ROAD (NIRIMBA 6208)
LOT 306 ON PLAN 255862 (NIRIMBA 6208)

Local Government Area:
Colloquial name: DEC managed land

1.4. Application

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

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 Association: Pinjarra 968 - medium woodland; jarrah, marri and wandoo (Shepherd 2007).	Vegetation to be cleared is considered to be in a degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition consisting of scattered trees/shrubs (Eucalyptus rudis and Melaleuca spp.) over pasture, weeds (rudis) and samphire (DEC 2010a and DEC 2010b).	Degraded: Structure severely disturbed; regeneration to good condition requires intensive management (Keighery 1994)	Vegetation description was derived from aerial photography and DEC informal site visit (DEC 2010a and DEC 2010b).
Hedde Vegetation Complex: Cannington Complex; mosaic of vegetation from adjacent complexes of Bassendean, Karakatta, Southern River and Vasse.			

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

Comments

The proposal to clear up to 0.2 hectares of native vegetation for the purpose of drainage reconstruction is unlikely to have any significant environmental impacts. The vegetation has a Beard's classification of 'Pinjarra 968 - medium woodland; jarrah, marri and wandoo' (Shepherd 2007). However, the vegetation to be cleared is considered to be in a degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition consisting of scattered trees (Eucalyptus rudis and Melaleuca spp.) over pasture, weeds and samphire (DEC 2010a and DEC 2010b); some small sections under application are also devoid of vegetation (GIS dataset: Imagery-Swan Coastal Plain-South 20cm).

There are no rare flora or threatened fauna species in the immediate vicinity of the subject area; the subject area also has a differing soil type to that of the recorded rare flora within a 10km radius. The degraded vegetation is also unlikely to be suitable habitat to support any avian or mammalian fauna species in the short or long term (DEC 2010b).

The small amount of vegetation proposed to be cleared occurs in association with an existing drainage channel and hence may be at variance to Principle (f). However given the degraded (Keighery, 1994) and scattered condition of the vegetation, this factor is not considered environmentally significant, nor is the incidence or intensity of flooding likely to occur as a result of the clearing.

The area has a high to moderate salinity risk and exists within the Harvey Estuary-Harvey River hydrogeographic catchment. There are a number of terrestrial (nature reserves) and aquatic (RAMSAR) conservation zones within the local area (10km radius), however it is not considered that the small amount of clearing will impact these areas.

Methodology REFERENCES:

Keighery (1994)
Shepherd (2007)
DEC (2010a)
DEC (2010b)

GIS DATA SETS:

- Clearing Regulations - Environmentally Sensitive Areas
- Soils - Northcote et al. (1968)
- DEFL, WAHERB, Fauna, TEC accessed 12.04.10
- Imagery - Swan Coastal Plain; South 20cm
- Department of Water (2006)
- ANCA wetlands
- DEC Managed Lands and Waters
- EPP Lakes Policy Area
- EPP, Wetlands
- Hydrography linear
- EPP Lakes Policy Area
- Native Title Claims

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

Comments

Notification under the Native Title Act was made to Gnaala Karla Booja Native Title claimants. A response was received from the claimants in which they have requested that no clearing may commence until a site visit is undertaken to identify any heritage concerns (DEC REF A302989). This request has been relayed to the proponent in the Permit Granted correspondence.

Proposed drainage reconstruction (and associated clearing) is required to modify the nearby Mealup Main Drain, to re-direct some of the flow into Lake Mealup in order to assist neutralising the acid sulphate soils of the lake by returning water levels to historical levels. DEC supports this proposal given the anticipated benefits to water quality within Lake Mealup (DEC 2010c).

Water Corporation (WC) are part of the technical working group for this project (as are DEC) and have given in-principle agreement to the construction of a new drainage channel (DEC 2010a and Water Corporation 2010). This agreement is subject to submission of the following (relates to the construction of a weir across the drain):

1. Engineering drawings and Calculations certified by an engineer;
2. Operational Plan which includes the construction schedule, maintenance plan and list of relevant contact details of project coordinator; and
3. System in place, indemnifying the WC for any public liability at the time of construction and its presence in the WC drain.

However, WC are happy for DEC to grant a permit advising "...interposes no objection for DEC to grant permit to PHCC for the clearing of native vegetation application of the proposed drainage works." (Water Corporation 2010).

Methodology REFERENCES:

DEC (2010a)
DEC (2010c)
South West Aboriginal Land and Sea Council
Water Corporation (2010)

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 was found to be may be at variance to Principle (f), and not likely to be at variance to the Principles.

5. References

DEC (2010a) Site Inspection advice for Clearing Permit Application CPS 3679/1. Site inspection undertaken April 2010, File Note. Department of Environment and Conservation, Western Australia (DEC Ref. A299032).
DEC (2010b) Site Inspection email advice for Clearing Permit Application CPS 3679/1. Site inspection undertaken April 2010.

Department of Environment and Conservation, Western Australia (DEC Ref. A303169).
 DEC (2010c). Department of Environment and Conservation Swan Regional advice. Department of Environment and Conservation, Western Australia (TRIM DOC Ref. 125114).
 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.
 South West Aboriginal Land and Sea Council advice (DEC REF A302989).
 Water Corporation email advice (DEC REF: A303468).

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)