

CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Purpose Permit number:

CPS 3684/1

Permit Holder:

Shire of Koorda

Duration of Permit:

1 July 2010 - 1 July 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 road widening.

2. Land on which clearing is to be done

Cooper Road Reserve, Dukin (PIN 11710034) Green Road Reserve, Dukin (PIN 11710751)

3. Area of Clearing

The Permit Holder must not clear more than 0.32 hectares of native vegetation within the area hatched yellow on attached Plan 3684/1.

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. 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:

- (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.

8. Flora management

- (a) Prior to undertaking any clearing authorised under this Permit, the Permit Holder shall engage a botanist to inspect that area for the presence of *Eremophila resinosa* as listed in the *Wildlife Conservation (Rare Flora) Notice 2010.*
- (b) Where *Eremophila resinosa* are identified in relation to condition 8(a) of this Permit, the Permit Holder shall ensure that:
 - (i) all records of Eremophila resinosa are submitted to the CEO; and
 - (ii) no clearing occurs within 50 metres of identified *Eremophila resinosa*, unless approved by the CEO or a permit to take under the *Wildlife Conservation Act 1950* has been granted for the removal of the recorded *Eremophila resinosa*.

PART III - RECORD KEEPING AND REPORTING

9. Records must be kept

- (a) The Permit Holder must maintain the following records for activities done pursuant to 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 flora management pursuant to condition 8:
 - (i) the location of each rare flora 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 each rare flora identified; and
 - (iii) a copy of the botanist's flora survey report.

10. 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 9 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 27 March 2015, the Permit Holder must provide to the CEO a written report of records required under condition 9 of this Permit where these records have not already been provided under condition 10(a) of this Permit.

Definitions

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

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

Keith Claymore A/ DIRECTOR

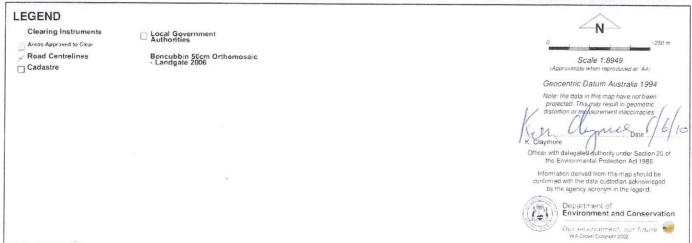
NATURE CONSERVATION DIVISION

Officer delegated under Section 20 of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

31 May 2010

Plan 3684/1







Clearing Permit Decision Report

1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.:

3684/1

Permit type:

Purpose Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name:

Shire of Koorda

1.3. Property details

Property:

ROAD RESERVE, DUKIN 6475 (PIN 11710034) ROAD RESERVE, DUKIN 6475 (PIN 11710751)

Local Government Area:

Shire of Koorda

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)

No. Trees

Method of Clearing

For the purpose of:

0.32

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

Beard Vegetation Association: 1024: Shrublands; mallee & casuarina thicket

141: Medium woodland; York gum, salmon gum & gimlet (Shepherd, 2007)

As above.

Clearing Description

Vegetation proposed to be cleared is 0.32 hectares of vegetation within road reserves. It is classified as being of high roadside conservation value (RCC, 2007) and is considered to be in very good to excellent (Keighery, 1994) condition.

As above.

Vegetation Condition

Very Good: Vegetation structure altered; obvious signs of disturbance (Keighery, 1994)

Excellent: Vegetation structure intact; disturbance affecting individual species, weeds non-aggressive (Keighery, 1994)

Comment

Vegetation condition was determined from aerial photography and Roadside Conservation Committee conservation value mapping (RCC, 2007).

As above.

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

Comments

The proposal is to clear 0.32 hectares of native vegetation within the road reserves of Cooper Road and Green Road, Dukin for the purpose of widening roads for safety. The vegetation has been assessed as being of high roadside conservation value (RCC, 2007).

A population of declared rare flora (DRF) *Eremophila resinosa* is present within the applied area (DEC, 2010). The majority of the population is located outside of the operational area, however the removal of five plants is required (DEC, 2010). Several other species of rare flora have been recorded within the local area (20km radius), however, as the area under application is within different soil and vegetation type to these records and no additional DRF were observed during a site inspection (DEC, 2010), it is considered unlikely to provide suitable habitat for these species.

There are several records of threatened fauna species within the local area (20km radius), with the closest being chuditch (*Dasyurus geoffroii*), western spiny-tailed skink (*Egemia stokesii badia*) and shield-backed trapdoor spider (*Idiosoma nigrum*), which were recorded 9.2km NW of the applied area. During a site inspection undertaken in February 2010, no observation or indication of threatened fauna was recorded within the applied area (DEC, 2010).

The majority of the applied area falls within the Karroun vegetation association (Beard 1024), of which less than 10% remains. The Shire of Koorda has approximately 13.57% of native vegetation remaining and the surrounding area is predominantly cleared and used for agriculture.

Given the above, the proposal is at variance to Principle (c) and may be at variance to Principle (e). It is considered unlikely to be at variance with the remaining clearing Principles.

Methodology

References:

DEC, 2010 RCC, 2007 GIS Databases:

- Bencubbin 50cm Orthomosaic Landgate 2006
- DEC Managed Lands & Waters DEC 28/10/09
- Evapotranspiration, Area Actual BOM 30/09/01
- 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
- Pre-European vegetation DA 01/01
- Rainfall, Mean Annual BOM 30/09/01
- SAC Biodatasets 27/04/10

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

Comments

The applied area is located within the area covered by EPA Position Statement No.2, however the proposed clearing is not for agricultural purposes.

The clearing under application is within an area (Avon River System) covered by the Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914 (RIWI).

An application to take declared rare flora has been received by the Department of Environment and Conservation's Species and Communities branch.

No submissions from the public have been received.

Methodology

GIS Databases:

- Aboriginal Sites of Significance DIA 02/10
- Cadastre Landgate 12/09
- Country Area Water Supply Act (Part IIA) Clearing Control Catchments DoW 29/06/06
- Environmental Impact Assessments EPA 08/03/05
- Native Title Claims LA 2/5/07
- Public Drinking Water Source Areas (PDWSAs) 07/02/06
- RIWI Act, Groundwater Areas DoW 13/07/06
- RIWI Act, Irrigation Districts DoW 13/07/06
- Town Planning Scheme Zones MFP 31/08/98

4. Assessment recommendations

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

5. References

DEC (2010) Wheatbelt Regional Advice. Department of Environment and Conservation DEC Ref: A300409
Keighery, B.J. (1994) Bushland Plant Survey: A Guide to Plant Community Survey for the Community. Wildflower Society of WA (Inc). Nedlands, Western Australia.

RCC (2007). Road Conservation Committee Value Mapping, Shire of Koorda. Roadside Conservation Committee 2007. 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)