



## **CLEARING PERMIT**

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

### **PERMIT DETAILS**

Area Permit Number: 3783/1

File Number: 2010/003946-1

Duration of Permit: From 29 August 2010 to 29 August 2012

### **PERMIT HOLDER**

Saji Davies

### **LAND ON WHICH CLEARING IS TO BE DONE**

LOT 43 ON DEPOSITED PLAN 30085 (BEELA ROAD, BEELA 6224)

### **AUTHORISED ACTIVITY**

The Permit Holder shall not clear more than 14 native trees, within the area hatched yellow on attached Plan 3783/1.

### **CONDITIONS**

Nil.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Matthew Warnock", written over a horizontal line.

MATTHEW WARNOCK  
ACTING MANAGER  
NATIVE VEGETATION CONSERVATION BRANCH

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

29 July 2010

# Plan 3783/1



## LEGEND

- Existing Infrastructure
- Areas Approved to Clear
- Road Control Lines
- Cadastre 1
- Bunbury 50cm Orth 2008
- Local Government



0 150 m

Scale 1:5500  
(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.

*M. Varnock*  
Date 29/7/20

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

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## 1. Application details

### 1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 3783/1  
Permit type: Area Permit

### 1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Saji Davis

### 1.3. Property details

Property: LOT 43 ON PLAN 30085 (BEELA 6224)  
Local Government Area: Shire of Harvey

### 1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
-	14	Mechanical Removal	Dam 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
<p>Mattiske Vegetation Complex: Darling Scarp -</p> <p>Mosaic of open forest of <i>Eucalyptus marginata</i> subsp. <i>marginata</i>-<i>Corymbia calophylla</i>, with some admixtures with <i>Eucalyptus laeliae</i> in the north (subhumid zone), with occasional <i>Eucalyptus marginata</i> subsp. <i>elegantella</i> (mainly in subhumid zone) and <i>Corymbia haematoxylon</i> in the south (humid zone) on deeper soils adjacent to outcrops, woodland of <i>Eucalyptus wandoo</i> (subhumid and semiarid zones), low woodland of <i>Allocasuarina huegeliana</i> on shallow soils over granite outcrops, closed heath of <i>Myrtaceae</i>-<i>Proteaceae</i> species and lithic complex on or near granite outcrops in all climate zones (Mattiske and Havel, 1998).</p>	<p>The vegetation under application consists of 14 native trees comprising <i>Eucalyptus marginata</i> (jarrah) and <i>Corymbia calophylla</i> (marri) along a minor, perennial watercourse.</p> <p>The vegetation is in a 'completely degraded' (Keighery, 1994) condition with understorey consisting of non-native pasture grasses and other areas where works for the dam have already commenced (DEC, 2010b).</p>	<p>Completely Degraded: No longer intact; completely/almost completely without native species (Keighery 1994)</p>	<p>The vegetation condition was confirmed during a site visit undertaken by a DEC officer on the 23 July 2010 (DEC, 2010b) and through aerial photography (Bunbury 50cm Orthomosaic - Landgate 2008).</p>
<p>Hedde Vegetation Complex: Darling Scarp Complex -</p> <p>Vegetation ranges from low open woodland to lichens according to depth of soils. Woodland components chiefly <i>Eucalyptus wandoo</i> (Wandoo) with <i>Eucalyptus laeliae</i> (Darling Range Ghost Gum) in the north, <i>Corymbia haematoxylon</i> (Mountain Marri) in the south, and <i>Corymbia calophylla</i> (Marri) throughout the region (Hedde et al, 1980).</p>	<p>As above.</p>	<p>Completely Degraded: No longer intact; completely/almost completely without native species (Keighery 1994)</p>	<p>As above.</p>
<p>Beard Vegetation Association: 4 - Medium woodland; marri and wandoo (Hopkins et al, 2001).</p>	<p>As above.</p>	<p>Completely Degraded: No longer intact; completely/almost completely without native species (Keighery 1994)</p>	<p>As above.</p>

## 3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

### Comments

The proposed clearing is for the purpose of dam construction which will result in the flooding and clearing of up to 14 native trees (*Eucalyptus marginata* (jarrah) and *Corymbia calophylla* (marri)) in a 'completely degraded' (Keighery, 1994) condition within both the riparian zone of and within the minor, perennial watercourse (DEC, 2010b).

There are no declared rare flora species or threatened ecological communities in the vicinity of the project and as the understorey comprises only non-native pasture grasses it is unlikely that any of the flora species of conservation significance recorded within the local area (10km radius) will inhabit the applied clearing area.

Eight threatened and priority fauna species have been recorded within the local area (10km radius) with the Chuditch (*Dasyurus geoffroi*, Vulnerable) approximately 3.3km from the applied clearing area. Although the vegetation may assist in fauna movement along the watercourse, given the scale and 'completely degraded' (Keighery, 1994) condition of the vegetation, the fact that there is larger areas of vegetation nearby in better condition and that the landowner is committed to revegetating areas around the dam and along the eastern boundary of the property, it is not likely that the vegetation under application comprises significant fauna habitat.

The trees have been mapped as being part of the Matiske vegetation complex (DS1) and the Beard vegetation association 4 of which there is 27.42% and 24.24% (within the Jarrah Forest IBRA region) of their pre-European extents remaining (Shepherd, 2007). The national objectives and targets for biodiversity conservation in Australia has a target to prevent clearance of ecological communities with an extent below 30 per cent of that present pre-1750, below which species loss appears to accelerate exponentially at an ecosystem level (Commonwealth of Australia, 2001). Although the trees do form part of these vegetation types, given the 'completely degraded' (Keighery, 1994) condition (DEC, 2010b) of the vegetation, the trees are not considered to be a good representation of the complexes and as such are not likely to be considered to be a remnant in a significantly cleared area.

The vegetation to be cleared is growing in a minor, perennial watercourse and is considered to be at variance to principle (f). The proposed clearing for dam construction may cause some short term water quality issues in the form of localised sedimentation during the clearing process however, the clearing itself is unlikely to alter the hydrology given the scale and 'completely degraded' (Keighery, 1994) condition (DEC, 2010b) of the vegetation.

The proposal is considered not likely to be at variance to the remaining clearing principles.

#### Methodology

##### References:

- Commonwealth of Australia (2010)
- DEC (2010b)
- Keighery (1994)
- Shepherd (2007)

##### GIS Databases:

- Bunbury 50cm Orthomosaic - Landgate 2008
- Hydrography, linear - DoW
- Hydrography, linear (hierarchy) - DoW
- Matiske Vegetation Complexes - CALM
- Pre-European Vegetation - DA
- SAC Biodatasets, DEC - Accessed 22 June 2010

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

##### Comments

The property is zoned 'General Farming' under the Town Planning Scheme zone and 'Rural' under the Greater Bunbury Region Scheme.

The Shire of Harvey has advised that in accordance with Clause 2.1.1 of the Shire of Harvey District Planning Scheme No. 1, planning approval from Council would be required prior to the construction of the dam (Shire of Harvey, 2010). The Shire has also advised that the property lies within "Area 2 - Darling Scarp" under Schedule 2 'Policies for Places of Landscape Value' of the Scheme" which outlines that "rivers and creeks should not be dammed or diverted unless it is necessary for public purposes" however, as the creek is a perennial watercourse flowing during significant rainfall and therefore may not adversely impact on the hydrology of the area this will need to have further consideration during the assessment of the development application (Shire of Harvey, 2010).

The property lies within the Collie RiWI Irrigation District managed under the Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914 administered by the Department of Water (DoW). The landowner has a permit to obstruct or interfere with the watercourse under Section 17 of the RiWI Act from DoW to construct the dam (DoW, 2010a). The Department of Water has advised that the dam is to be used for stock watering purposes only with impacts on water quality as a result of the land use expected to be minimal (DoW, 2010b). DoW does not object to the proposed clearing but recommends that the riparian zone be revegetated around the dam (DoW, 2010b). This is also a condition of the permit to obstruct or interfere and the landowner has advised that they intend to plant along the eastern boundary of their property and around the perimeter of the dam to mitigate the loss of the vegetation under application (DoW, 2010a & Davies, 2010).

#### Methodology

##### References:

- Davies (2010)
- DoW (2010a)
- DoW (2010b)
- Shire of Harvey (2010)

##### GIS Databases:

- Greater Bunbury Region Scheme - DPI
- Local Government Authorities - DOLA
- RiWI Act, Irrigation Districts - DoW
- Town Planning Scheme Zones - MFP

#### 4. References

- Davies, S. (2010) Email Correspondence: CPS 3783/1 - Lot 43 on Deposited Plan 30085, Beela - Application to Clear Native Vegetation - Request for revegetation advice. Davies, Perth, Western Australia. DEC ref A309930.
- DEC (2010a) Regional Advice for Application to Clear Native Vegetation, Lot 43 on Deposited Plan 30085 Beela Road, Beela. South West Region, Department of Environment and Conservation, Bunbury, Western Australia. DEC ref A321118.
- DEC (2010b) Photographs from Site Visit 23 July 2010 of Vegetation under Clearing Application CPS 3783/1 - South West Region, Department of Environment and Conservation. DEC ref A321377 & A321381.
- DoW (2010a) Issue of a Permit to Obstruct or Interfere (s17) - PMB170908 (1), Lot 43 Beela Road, Beela WA 6224. Department of Water, Bunbury, Western Australia. DEC ref A310146.
- DoW (2010b) Advice for application to clear native vegetation for dam construction at Lot 43 on Deposited Plan 30085 Beela Road, Beela. Department of Water, Bunbury, Western Australia. DEC ref A321117.
- Heddle, 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.
- Hopkins, A.J.M., Beeston, G.R. and Harvey J.M. (2001) A database on the vegetation of Western Australia. Stage 1. CALMScience after J. S. Beard, late 1960's to early 1980's Vegetation Survey of Western Australia, UWA Press.
- 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.
- 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.
- Shire of Harvey (2010) Proposed Clearing of Native Vegetation for Proposed Dam - Lot 43 Beela Road, Beela. Shire of Harvey, Harvey, Western Australia. DEC ref A315395.

#### 5. 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)
MFP	Ministry for Planning
TEC	Threatened Ecological Community
WRC	Water and Rivers Commission (now DoW)