



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

PERMIT DETAILS

Purpose Permit Number: 3868/1
File Number: DEC14704
Duration of Permit: 2 October 2010 to 2 October 2012

PERMIT HOLDER

The Shire of Capel

LAND ON WHICH CLEARING IS TO BE DONE

Elgin Road reserve (ELGIN 6237)

PURPOSE FOR WHICH THE CLEARING MAY BE DONE

Clearing for the purpose of road reconstruction

CONDITIONS

1. The Permit Holder must not clear more than 58 native trees and 0.05 hectares of native vegetation within the area cross hatched yellow on attached Plan 3868/1.

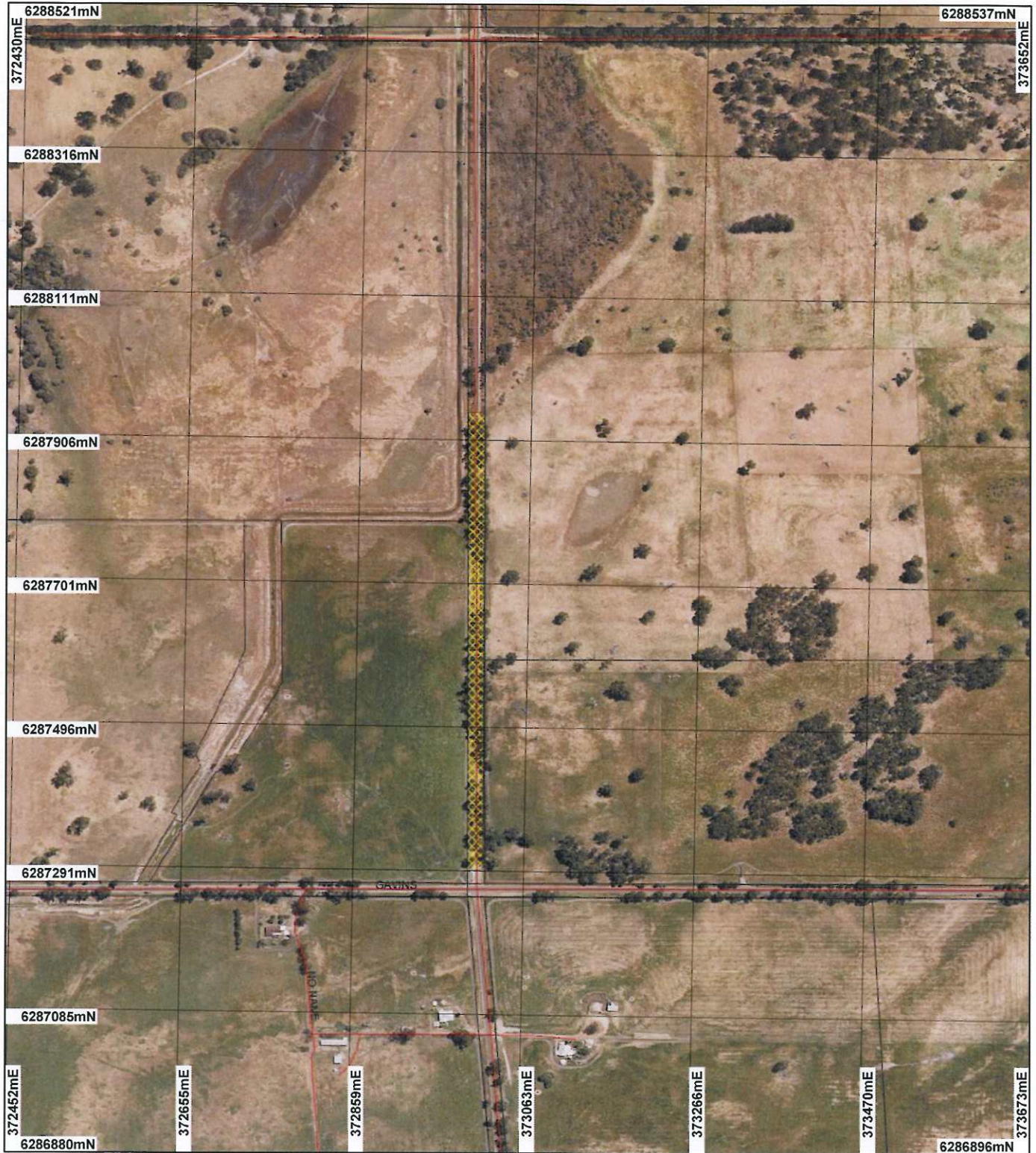
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "K Faulkner", written over a horizontal line.

Kelly Faulkner
MANAGER
NATIVE VEGETATION CONSERVATION BRANCH

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

2 September 2010

Plan 3868/1



LEGEND

- Clearing Instruments
- Areas Approved to Clear
 - Road Centrelines
 - Cadastral

Donnybrook 50cm
Orthomosaic - Landgate
2004



0 200 m

Scale 1:7232

(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.

Date 2/9/10

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.: 3868/1
Permit type: Purpose Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Shire of Capel

1.3. Property details

Property: ROAD RESERVE (ELGIN 6237)
Local Government Area: Shire of Capel
Colloquial name: Elgin Road

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
0.05	58	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
Shepherd (2009) describes vegetation association 1000 as Medium forest; jarrah-marri / Low woodland; banksia / Low forest; teatree (<i>Melaleuca</i> spp.)	The area under application comprises of 57 <i>Corymbia calophylla</i> (Marri), 1 <i>Eucalyptus marginata</i> (Jarrah) and 0.05 hectares of surrounding native vegetation. The surrounding native vegetation predominately comprises of <i>Xanthorrhoea brunonis</i> , <i>Kingia australis</i> and <i>Gastrolobium praemorsum</i> (DEC, 2010).	Degraded: Structure severely disturbed; regeneration to good condition requires intensive management (Keighery 1994)	The condition of the vegetation under application was determined via a site visit conducted by Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC, 2010) and photos provided by the applicant.
Association 1136 - Medium woodland; marri with some jarrah, wandoo, river gum and casuarina			

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

Comments

The proposal is to clear 57 *Corymbia calophylla* (Marri), 1 *Eucalyptus marginata* (Jarrah) and 0.05 hectares of surrounding native vegetation within Elgin Road reserve, for the purpose of road reconstruction. The area under application is in a degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition. The understorey of the area under application is not intact, it comprises of weeds with the occasional patch of the understorey species or isolated native plants (DEC, 2010).

The closest recorded flora species of conservation significance are *Verticordia densiflora* (DRF), *Synaphea petiolaris* (P2), *Verticordia attenuata* (P3) and *Acacia semitrullata* (P4). All of these species are located within the same vegetation complexes, however due to the degraded nature of the area under application it is not considered likely to support rare flora. In addition no flora species of conservation significance were observed during the site inspection (DEC, 2010).

A small number of the trees under application are of a mature size with a healthy canopy structure with little crown decline, and accordingly no hollows were observed during the site inspection (DEC, 2010). Given the lack of understorey connectivity and cover, the value of the roadside vegetation for ground-dwelling animals is considered to be diminished (DEC, 2010).

The area under application falls within vegetation associations 1000 and 1136. Within the Swan Coastal Plain bioregion vegetation association 1000 has approximately 27% of it pre-European extent remaining and 1136 has approximately 8% (Shepherd, 2009). The local area (10km radius) contains approximately 30% vegetation. Digital imagery suggests that this area is an extensively cleared landscape, however due to the degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition of the area under application it is not considered to be a significant remnant as it is not a true representation of vegetation complexes 1000 or 1136.

The assessment identified that the proposed clearing is not likely to significantly impact any biodiversity, land degradation, or environmental water values within the local or regional context.

Given the relatively small scale of the proposed clearing and consequently, limited habitat and biodiversity values of the vegetation, the proposed clearing is not considered likely to be at variance to any of clearing principles.

Methodology References:
DEC (2010)
Keighery (1994)
Shepherd (2009)

GIS Database:
- Donnybrook 50cm Orthomosaic - Landgate 2004
- Pre European Vegetation - DA 01/01
- SAC Biodatasets - accessed 18 August 2010

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

Comments

The area under application falls within an area (Capel River and Tributaries) covered by the Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914. The application was referred to the Department of Water. No comment has been received.

The applicant has advised that the existing road is extremely narrow, is in desperate need of repair and has been made a high priority for council this year in order to avoid a serious accident occurring.

Methodology GIS Database:
- Pre European Vegetation - DA 01/01
- SAC Biodatasets - accessed 18 August 2010.
- RIWI Act, Groundwater Areas - DoW 13/07/06

4. References

- Commonwealth of Australia (2001) National Objectives and Targets for Biodiversity Conservation 2001-2005, Canberra.
DEC (2010) Site Inspection Report for Clearing Permit Application CPS 3868/1, Elgin Road reserve, Elgin. Site inspection undertaken 20/08/2010. Department of Environment and Conservation, Western Australia (DEC Ref. A328617).
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. (2009) 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.

5. 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
DoIR	Department of Industry and Resources
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)