



GOVERNMENT OF
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

PERMIT DETAILS

Area Permit Number: 3887/1
File Number: 2010/005944-1
Duration of Permit: From 16 October 2010 to 16 October 2020

PERMIT HOLDER

Shire of Augusta – Margaret River

LAND ON WHICH CLEARING IS TO BE DONE

Lot 301 on Plan 44442 (REDGATE 6286)

AUTHORISED ACTIVITY

The Permit Holder shall not clear more than 0.62 hectares of native vegetation within the area cross-hatched yellow on attached Plan 3887/1.

CONDITIONS

1. Period in which clearing is authorized

The Permit Holder shall not clear any native vegetation after 16 October 2015.

2. Dieback and weed control

When undertaking any clearing or other activity authorised under this Permit, the Permit Holder must take the following steps to minimise the risk of the introduction and spread of *weeds* and *dieback*:

- (a) clean earth-moving machinery of soil and vegetation prior to entering and leaving the area to be cleared;
- (b) shall only move soils in *dry conditions*;
- (c) ensure that no *dieback* or *weed*-affected soil, *mulch*, *fill* or other material is brought into the area to be cleared; and
- (d) restrict the movement of machines and other vehicles to the limits of the areas to be cleared.

3. Retain vegetative material and topsoil, revegetation and rehabilitation

The Permit Holder shall:

- (a) retain the vegetative material and topsoil removed by clearing authorised under this Permit and stockpile the vegetative material and topsoil in an area that has already been cleared.
- (b) within 3 months following completion of extractive activities, *revegetate* and *rehabilitate* the area within the area cross-hatched yellow on attached Plan 3887/1 by:
 - (i) re-shaping the surface of the land so that it is consistent with the surrounding 5 metres of uncleared land; and
 - (ii) ripping the pit floor and contour batters within the extraction site; and
 - (iii) laying the vegetative material and topsoil retained under condition 3(a) on the cleared area(s)

- (c) within 24 months of laying the vegetative material and topsoil on the cleared area in accordance with condition 3(b) of this Permit:
 - (i) engage an *environmental specialist* to determine the species composition, structure and density of the area *revegetated* and *rehabilitated*; and
 - (ii) where, in the opinion of an *environmental specialist*, the composition structure and density determined under condition 3(c)(i) of this Permit will not result in a similar species composition, structure and density to that of pre-clearing vegetation types in that area, *revegetate* the area by deliberately *planting* and/or *direct seeding* native vegetation that will result in a similar species composition, structure and density of native vegetation to pre-clearing vegetation types in that area and ensuring only *local provenance* seeds and propagating material are used.

4. Records must be kept

In relation to the *revegetation* and *rehabilitation* of areas pursuant to condition 3 of this Permit:

- (a) the location of any areas *revegetated* and *rehabilitated*, recorded using a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit set to Geocentric Datum Australia 1994 (GDA94), expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings;
- (b) a description of the *revegetation* and *rehabilitation* activities undertaken;
- (c) the size of the area *revegetated* and *rehabilitated* (in hectares); and
- (d) the species composition, structure and density of *revegetation* and *rehabilitation*.

5. Reporting

- (a) The Permit Holder must provide to the CEO on or before 30 June of each year, a written report:
 - (i) of records required under condition 4 of this Permit; and
 - (ii) concerning activities done by the Permit Holder under this Permit between 1 January and 31 December of the preceding year.
- (b) Prior to 16 July 2020 the Permit Holder must provide to the CEO a written report of records required under condition 4 of this Permit where these records have not already been provided under condition 5(a) of this Permit.

Definitions

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

dieback means the effect of *Phytophthora* species on native vegetation;

direct seeding means a method of re-establishing vegetation through the establishment of a seed bed and the introduction of seeds of the desired plant species;

dry conditions means when soils (not dust) do not freely adhere to rubber tyres, tracks, vehicle chassis or wheel arches;

fill means material used to increase the ground level, or fill a hollow;

local provenance means native vegetation seeds and propagating material from natural sources within 20 kilometres of the area cleared.

mulch means the use of organic matter, wood chips or rocks to slow the movement of water across the soil surface and to reduce evaporation;

planting means the re-establishment of vegetation by creating favourable soil conditions and planting seedlings of the desired species;

rehabilitate/ed/ion means actively managing an area containing native vegetation in order to improve the ecological function of that area;

revegetate/ed/ion means the re-establishment of a cover of *local provenance* native vegetation in an area using methods such as natural *regeneration*, *direct seeding* and/or *planting*, so that the species composition, structure and density is similar to pre-clearing vegetation types in that area.

weed/s means a species listed in Appendix 3 of the "Environmental Weed Strategy" published by the Department of Conservation and Land Management (1999), and plants declared under section 37 of the *Agriculture and Related Resources Protection Act 1976*.

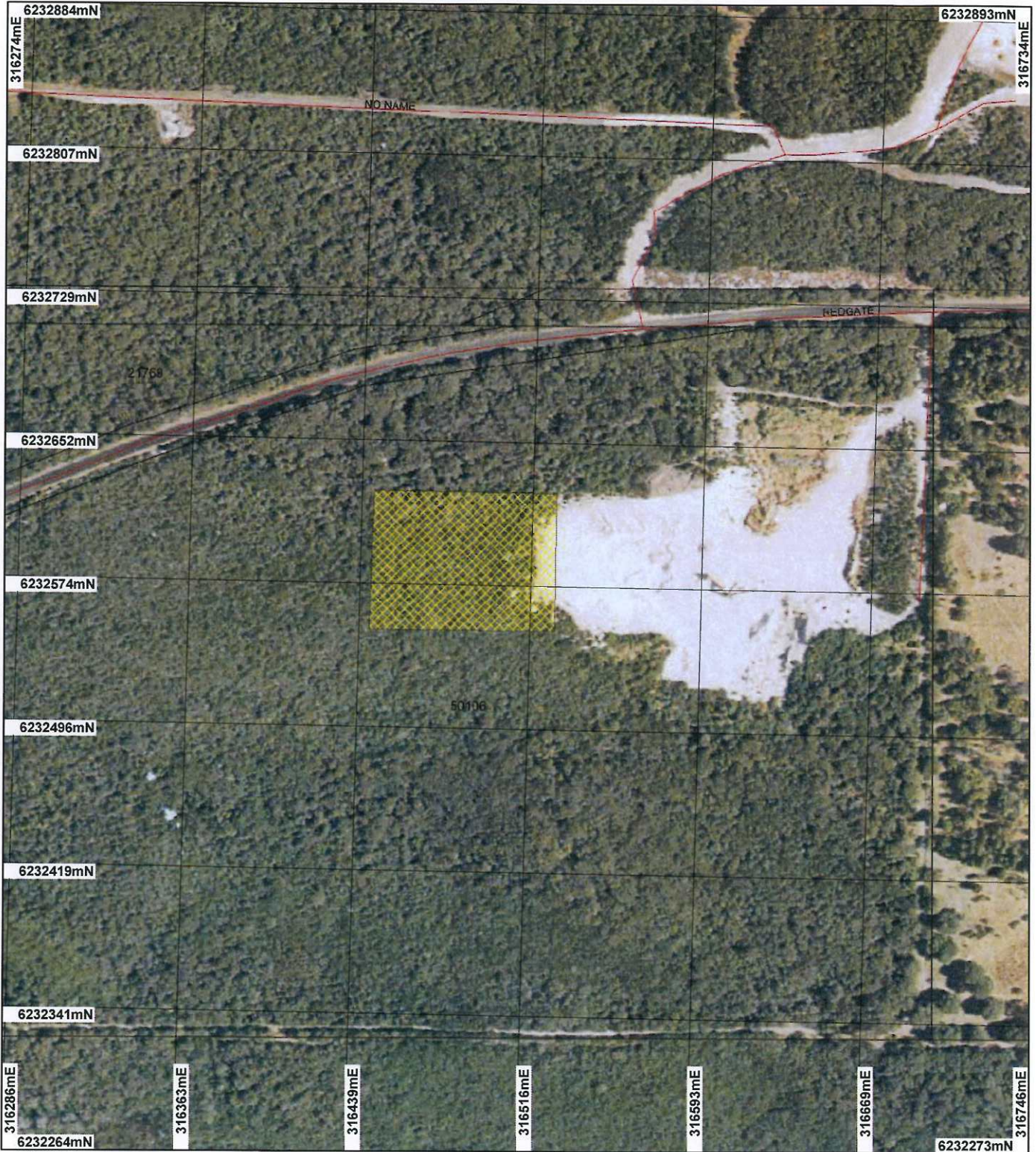


Kelly Faulkner
MANAGER
NATIVE VEGETATION CONSERVATION BRANCH

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

16 September 2010

Plan 3887/1



LEGEND

Clearing Instruments

-  Areas Approved to Clear
 -  Road Centrelines
 -  Cadastre
- Leeuwin 50cm Orthomosaic - Landgate 2004




0  75 m

Scale 1:2730

(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 16/9/10

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.: 3887/1
Permit type: Area Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Shire of Augusta - Margaret River

1.3. Property details

Property: LOT 301 ON PLAN 44442 (Lot No. 301 REDGATE 6286)
Local Government Area: Shire of Augusta – Margaret River
Colloquial name:

1.4. Application

| Clearing Area (ha) | No. Trees | Method of Clearing | For the purpose of: |
|--------------------|-----------|--------------------|---------------------|
| 0.62 | | Mechanical Removal | Extractive Industry |

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 |
|--|---|--|---|
| Mapped Beard vegetation association 1108 is described as shrublands; <i>Acacia decipiens</i> (Shepherd, 2009). | The area under application contains very dense vegetation, consisting predominantly of <i>Agonis flexuosa</i> (Peppermint tree), <i>Melaleuca huegelii</i> , <i>Diplolaena dampieri</i> , <i>Olearia axillaris</i> , <i>Acrotriche cordata</i> , <i>Leucopogon parviflorus</i> , <i>Acacia littorea</i> , <i>Desmocladius flexuosus</i> , <i>Spyridium globulosum</i> , <i>Hibbertia cuneiformis</i> , <i>Templetonia retusa</i> , <i>Conostylis aculeata</i> , <i>Thomasia triphylla</i> , with <i>Banksia sessilis</i> var <i>cordata</i> (Priority 4) also identified. | Pristine: No obvious signs of disturbance (Keighery 1994) | The condition of the vegetation under application was determined by site visit conducted by Department of Environment and Conservation (2010) and via digital imagery (Leeuwin 50cm Orthomosaic - Landgate 2004). |
| As above | Isolated weeds were observed in the northern section of the area under application (DEC, 2010). | Excellent: Vegetation structure intact; disturbance affecting individual species, weeds non-aggressive (Keighery 1994) | As above |

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

(a) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises a high level of biological diversity.

Comments

The proposal is to clear 0.62 hectares of native vegetation within Lot 301 on Plan 44442 (Reserve 50106), Redgate, for the purpose of extracting limestone.

The vegetation under application is in an excellent to pristine (Keighery, 1994) condition. The only sign of disturbance was isolated weeds along the northern edge (DEC, 2010). Leeuwin Naturaliste National Park surrounds the application area on three sides. As the area under application is surrounded by a large intact remnant there is a large number of conservation significant flora and fauna recorded.

The closest recorded flora species of conservation significance mapped on the same vegetation and soil types were *Banksia sessilis* (P4), *Eucalyptus marginata* (P4) and *Caladenia excelsa* (DRF). *Banksia sessilis* was the only species of conservation significance observed within the application area during the site visit (DEC, 2010). The proposed clearing will see the removal of a small number of *Banksia sessilis* however, it is not likely that the conservation status of this species will be significantly impacted as a result of the clearing.

Diggings from what appeared to be small mammals were observed within the application area (DEC, 2010). Kangaroo scats were also observed. Diggings and scats are indicative that the application area is providing fauna habitat however, given the extent of the native vegetation adjacent to the project area the clearing of 0.62 hectares is not likely to significantly impact on the conservation status of the fauna in the local area (DEC, 2010).

The area under application falls within vegetation associations 1008. Within the Warren bioregion vegetation association 1008 has approximately 61.78% of its pre-European extent remaining, of which 65% is within conservation reserves. Considering these figures the area under application is not deemed to be a significant remnant in an extensively cleared landscape.

The project area is mapped as Leeuwin - Naturaliste Ridge which is an area listed on the Register of National Estate. This area comprises 27 000 hectares and was nominated for listing due to its fragile coastline system, caves, diverse endemic eucalyptus species and historic importance due to use by early settlers (DEWHA, 2010).

Given the application area's proximity to Leeuwin Naturaliste National Park a weed and dieback condition has been added to the permit.

Given the relatively small scale of the proposed clearing which is located within a large intact remnant the proposed clearing may be at variance to principle (a) but is not likely to be at variance to any of the remaining clearing principles.

Methodology References:
DEC (2010)
DEWHA (2010)
Keighery (1994)

GIS Database:
- DEC Tenure
- Pre European Vegetation - DA 01/01
- Register of National Estate
- SAC Biodatasets - accessed 18 August 2010

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

Comments

The area under application is within an area (Blackwood) covered by the Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914. Department of Water (2010) have advised that they have no objection to the clearing.

Reserve 50106 is under a management order which states that the purpose of the land is for a 'Lime Quarry' to allow access to lime resources for the construction, maintenance and repair of local public works.

The purpose of clearing is for the extraction of lime and is therefore considered a temporary land use. A revegetation condition has been placed on the permit requiring the Shire to reinstate vegetation on completion of extraction.

Methodology DoW (2010)

GIS Database:
- SAC Biodatasets - accessed 18 August 2010.
- RIWI Act, Groundwater Areas - DoW 13/07/06

4. References

- DEC (2010) Site Inspection Report for Clearing Permit Application CPS 3887/1, Lot 301 on Plan 44442, Redgate. Site inspection undertaken 25/08/2010. Department of Environment and Conservation, Western Australia (DEC Ref. A331808).
- DEWHA (2010) Australian Heritage Database, Leeuwin - Naturaliste Ridge Area. Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts, Western Australia
- DoW (2010) Advice in relation to the Rights in Water and Irrigation Act. Department of Water, Western Australia (DEC Ref. A331040).
- 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) |