



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Purpose Permit number: CPS 3953/1
Permit Holder: Bruce Russell and Keren Patricia McCullagh
Duration of Permit: 30 October 2010 – 30 October 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 connecting electricity to the homestead

2. Land on which clearing is to be done

Lot 4437 on Plan 172328, Kaloorup
Lot 4405 on Plan 209926, Treeton
Lot 4238 on Plan 168127, Treeton
Harvie Road Reserve, Treeton (PIN 11474085)

3. Area of Clearing

The Permit Holder must not clear more than 1 hectare of native vegetation within the area hatched yellow on attached Plan 3953/1.

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.

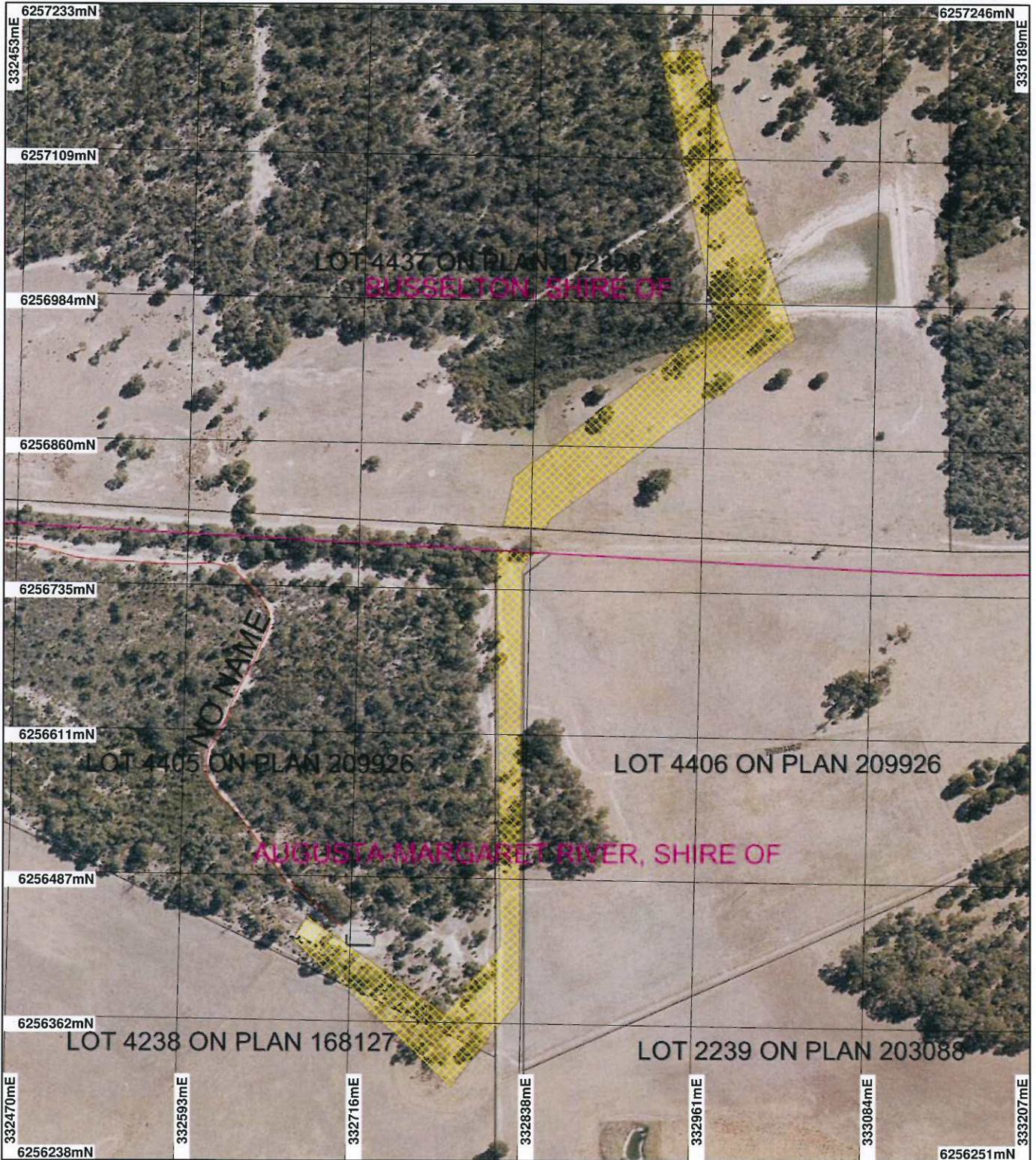
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "K Faulkner", written over a horizontal line.

Kelly Faulkner
MANAGER
NATIVE VEGETATION CONSERVATION BRANCH

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

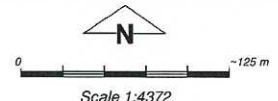
30 September 2010

Plan 3953/1



LEGEND

- Cadastre
- Local Government Authorities
- Road Centrelines
- Areas Approved to Clear
- Busselton 50cm Orthomosaic - Landgate 2007



Geocentric Datum Australia 1994

Note: the data in this map have not been projected. This may result in geometric distortion or measurement inaccuracies.

Date 30/9/10

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.



1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 3953/1
Permit type: Purpose Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Bruce Russell and Keren Patricia McCullagh

1.3. Property details

Property: LOT 4238 ON PLAN 168127 (House No. 289 HARVIE TREETON 6284)
ROAD RESERVE (TREETON 6284)
LOT 4437 ON PLAN 172328 (Lot No. 4437 JINDONG-TREETON KALOORUP 6280)
LOT 4405 ON PLAN 209926 (House No. 198 BOUNDARY TREETON 6284)

Local Government Area:

Colloquial name:

1.4. Application

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

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: 3: Medium forest; jarrah-marri (Shepherd, 2009)	Up to 1 hectare (ha) of native vegetation is proposed to be cleared from the Jarrah Forest bioregion of the Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation for Australia (IBRA), in the Shires of Busselton and Augusta-Margaret River.	Degraded: Structure severely disturbed; regeneration to good condition requires intensive management (Keighery, 1994)	Vegetation condition was determined from aerial imagery.
Mattiske Vegetation Complex: Treeton: Woodland of Eucalyptus marginata subsp. marginata-Corymbia calophylla with some Allocasuarina fraseriana on mild slopes in the perhumid zone (Mattiske and Havel, 1998)	The application area has been largely parkland cleared for agriculture, with remaining vegetation consisting mainly of paddock trees in small stands. The vegetation under application is likely to be in degraded to completely degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition with little or no native understorey or midstorey species due to previous clearing and ongoing stock grazing.	To Completely Degraded: No longer intact; completely/almost completely without native species (Keighery, 1994)	
	Aerial imagery indicates that adjacent tracts of remnant vegetation may be in good to very good (Keighery, 1994) condition.		

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

Comments

The proposal is to clear up to 1 hectare (ha) of native vegetation for the purpose of connecting electricity to the property at Lot 4437 on Plan 172328, Kaloorup by the installation of transmission lines from a power source on a nearby property. Seven power poles will be installed over a distance spanning approximately 1km, with the alignment influenced by the location of existing poles.

The application area is predominantly cleared for agriculture, with vegetation in degraded to completely degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition. There are significant areas of good quality vegetation nearby, with the Blackwood State Forest located 1.9km to the east and a large tract of unallocated crown land 600m west.

It is possible that some of the large trees may have characteristics of potential habitat trees for Black Cockatoo species. However, considering the relatively small size (1ha), linearity and disturbed condition of the application area along with proximity to large areas of good quality vegetation, it is unlikely that the vegetation under application is significant as habitat for native flora and fauna. Nor is it likely to hold significant biodiversity values for the local area (10km radius) or region.

There are numerous records of threatened and priority ecological communities within the local area, however, the majority of these are mapped in the Swan Coastal Plain IBRA bioregion to the north of the application area. The application area is sparsely vegetated with little to no native understorey species present and it is, therefore, unlikely to comprise a threatened or priority ecological community. The proposed clearing is unlikely to impact on any threatened or priority ecological communities in the local area as it is beyond the buffers to these areas, with the closest buffer approximately 1km from the application area.

A minor perennial watercourse intersects the northern portion of the application area, draining into a nearby dam. The watercourse abuts a significant tract of remnant vegetation to the north and cleared agricultural land in all other directions. The watercourse and associated vegetation is likely to be in disturbed condition due to the largely cleared surrounding area and stock usage. A power pole is to be installed in a cleared area approximately 15m to the south of this watercourse and the applicant has advised that no removal of native vegetation will be conducted in the vicinity of the creek.

Considering the application area is relatively small (1ha), linear and comprised of largely cleared and highly disturbed vegetation, the proposed clearing is unlikely to result in exacerbated land degradation, waterlogging, flooding or water quality impacts.

Given the above, the proposed clearing is unlikely to cause significant environmental impacts and is not likely to be at variance to the clearing Principles.

Methodology

References:

Keighery, 1994

GIS Databases:

- Acid Sulfate Soils Risk Map - DEC 02/07/10
- ANCA, Wetlands - 26/03/99
- Busselton 50cm Orthomosaic - Landgate 2007
- 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
- Rainfall, Mean Annual - BOM 30/09/01
- Pre-European vegetation - DA 01/01
- RAMSAR, Wetlands - 15/10/09
- SAC Biodatasets - 14/10/10
- Soils, Statewide - 30/11/99
- Topographic Contours, Statewide - DOLA 12/09/02

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

Comments

The applicant has obtained written authorisation from all landowners to access the land and conduct clearing activities.

Aerial imagery indicates one of the trees under application to be located in a road reserve on the boundary of the Shires of Busselton and Augusta-Margaret River, however, the applicant advised that the trunk is wholly within his property.

The proposed clearing is within the Busselton-Capel Groundwater area proclaimed under the *Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914*.

No submissions have been received.

There are no known Aboriginal Sites of Significance within the application area.

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, Areas - DoW 05/04/02
- 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. References

- 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. (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)