



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Purpose Permit number:	CPS 3979/1
Permit Holder:	City of Albany
Duration of Permit:	28 November 2010 – 28 November 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**
Down Road reserve, Drome (PIN: 1274153)
- 3. Area of Clearing**
The Permit Holder must not clear more than 0.15 hectares of native vegetation within the area shaded yellow on attached Plan 3979/1.
- 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. Dieback and weed control

- (a) 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*:
- (i) clean earth-moving machinery of soil and vegetation prior to entering and leaving the area to be cleared;
 - (ii) shall only move soils in *dry conditions*;
 - (iii) ensure that no *dieback* or *weed*-affected soil, *mulch*, *fill* or other material is brought into the area to be cleared; and
 - (iv) restrict the movement of machines and other vehicles to the limits of the areas to be cleared.
- (b) At least once in each 12 month period for the term of this Permit, the Permit Holder must remove or kill any *weeds* growing within areas cleared under this Permit.

PART III - RECORD KEEPING AND REPORTING

9. Records must be kept

The Permit Holder must maintain the following records in relation to the clearing of native vegetation authorised under this Permit:

- (a) the species composition, structure and density of the cleared area;
- (b) 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;
- (c) the date that the area was cleared; and
- (d) the size of the area cleared (in hectares).

10. 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 9 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 28 August 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:

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

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;

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;

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*.

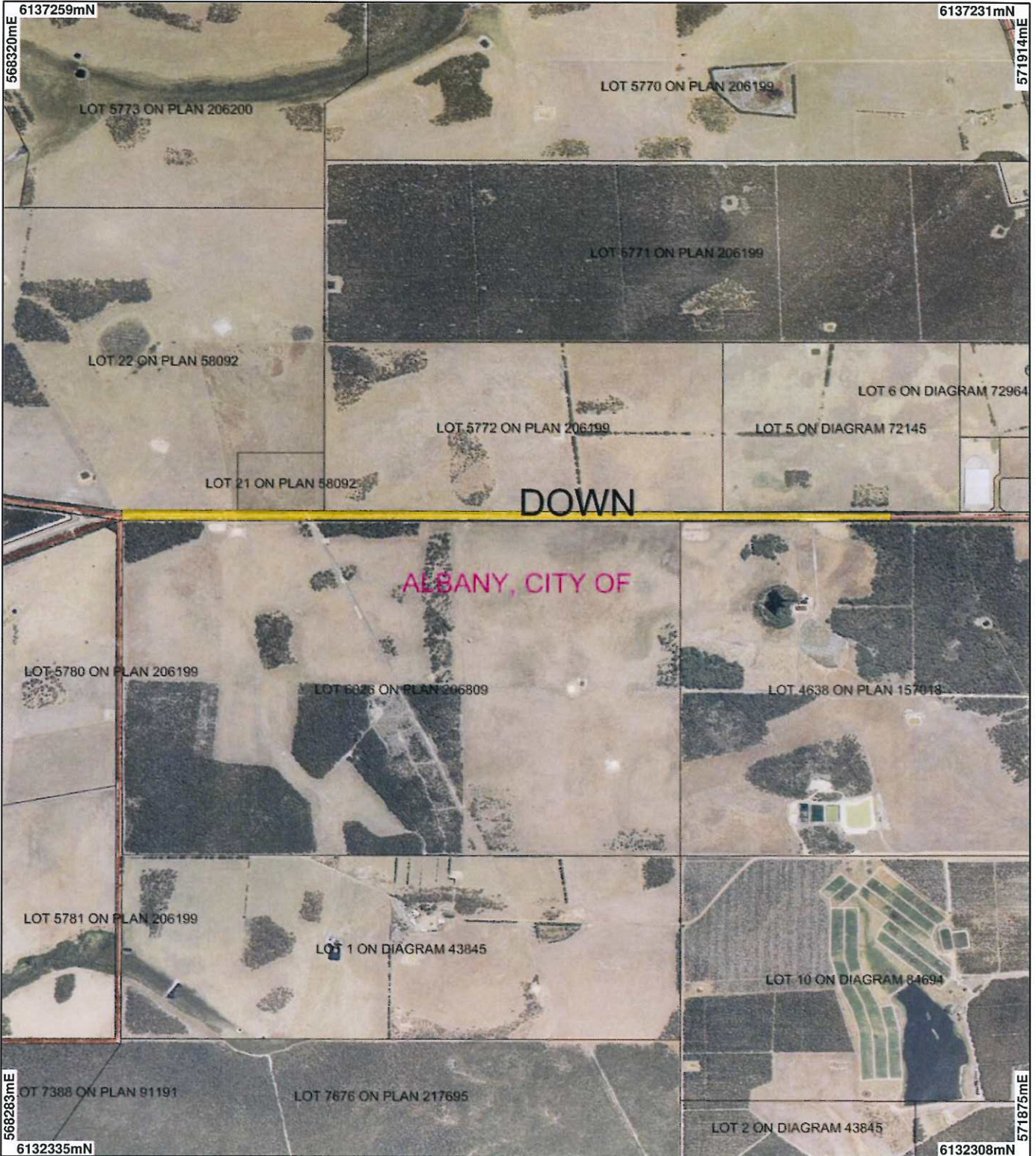


Kelly Faulkner
MANAGER
NATIVE VEGETATION CONSERVATION BRANCH

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

28 October 2010

Plan 3979/1



LEGEND

- Cadastre
- Road Centrelines
- Clearing Instruments
- Areas Approved to Clear
- Local Government Authorities

Mount Barker 50cm
Orthomosaic - Landgate
2007



0 625 m

Scale 1:21519
(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 22/10/16
K. Faulkner

Officer with delegated authority under Section 20 of the Environmental Protection Act 1985

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.: 3979/1
Permit type: Area Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: City of Albany

1.3. Property details

Property: ROAD RESERVE (DROME 6330)
Local Government Area: City of Albany
Colloquial name: Down Road

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
0.15		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
<p>Beard Vegetation Association: Albany 978: Low forest; jarrah, Eucalyptus staeri & Allocasuarina fraseriana (Shepherd, 2009)</p>	<p>The City of Albany proposes to widen Down Road, Drome, to bring it in line with the standards for the amount and type of traffic that utilises this road, being largely road train traffic. Along the majority of the road, widening will be achieved by altering the profile of the existing drains and no clearing of native vegetation is required. In some areas, however, approximately 1m of vegetation is required to be removed beyond the cleared extent of the drains. In some locations this clearing is to be conducted on one side of the road surface, while other sections will be cleared on both sides of the road (City of Albany, 2010).</p> <p>Down Road is already quite major, with a 3m shoulder before roughly 15m of road reserve vegetation. Some sections of the road reserve are cleared of native vegetation and the neighbouring properties on both sides of the road are cleared for agriculture, with several small remnants of native vegetation adjoining roadside vegetation. These small remnants are held on private property.</p> <p>The application area consists of vegetation of Jarrah/marri/sheoak laterite forest, Jarrah/Sheoak/Eucalyptus staeri woodland, Hakae spp shrubland/woodland complex and Melalueca pressiana low woodland (Hickman, 2010). The roadside vegetation is considered to be in very good (Keighery, 1994) condition, however it is likely to be disturbed due to edge effects and previous clearing activities for the construction of the existing road.</p>	<p>Very Good: Vegetation structure altered; obvious signs of disturbance (Keighery, 1994)</p>	<p>Vegetation condition was determined from aerial imagery and photographs of the application area supplied by the applicant (City of Albany, 2010).</p>

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

Comments

The proposal is to clear up to 0.15 hectares of native vegetation from the Down Road reserve, Drome, for the purpose of road widening. Down Road is already quite major, with a 3m shoulder before approximately 15m of road reserve vegetation. Several sections of the road reserve are cleared of native vegetation and the neighbouring properties on both sides of the road are cleared for agriculture, with few small remnants of native vegetation adjoining the roadside vegetation under application. The roadside vegetation of Down Road connects these small remnants that are held on private property.

The Down Road roadside vegetation is quite diverse, with close to 100 native flora species identified in a flora survey conducted in September 2010 (Hickman, 2010). Vegetation in the Down Road reserve is considered to

be in very good (Keighery, 1994) condition. Weed and dieback management conditions will minimise the risk of introduction or spread of pathogens and invasive species into the remaining roadside vegetation.

Aerial imagery indicates there is approximately 10% native vegetation cover remaining in the local area (10km radius). The vegetation under application is mapped as Beard Vegetation Association 978, of which 39% of the pre-European extent remains in both the Jarrah Forest IBRA region (20,625ha remaining) and the City of Albany (20,559ha remaining) (Shepherd, 2009). 24% of this vegetation association is held in secure land tenure (Shepherd, 2009).

The vegetation under application is considered to support an ecological linkage for fauna and flora in a highly cleared landscape and may assist in maintaining the viability of the small patches of remnant vegetation adjoining it. The application area is also likely to provide suitable habitat for a range of indigenous fauna. Although the proposed clearing is narrow, linear and of a small extent (0.15ha), the incremental loss of roadside vegetation is likely to reduce the integrity of the remaining vegetation in the road reserve, impacting on its value as fauna habitat and an ecological linkage.

The roadside vegetation along Down Road was surveyed in September 2010 (Hickman, 2010) and found to contain a high diversity of flora species and two Priority flora. Numerous records of both of these priority species were found in the vicinity of the intended clearing. *Andersonia jamesii* (P4) is known from 9 populations including two separate populations in conservation estate, with known numbers in excess of 2000 individuals. *Chordifex isomorphus* (P4) is known from more than 2000 plants, with populations in the Blackwood district and around the Albany area. The Albany regional survey recorded many additional populations of both these taxa, in significant numbers. The proposed clearing is unlikely to have a significant impact on the conservation of *Andersonia jamesii* or *Chordifex isomorphus*.

There are numerous records of the rare flora *Banksia brownii* in the local area, with an historic record 500m south of the vegetation under application, within the same mapped vegetation and soil type as the application area. This species was not identified in a recent flora survey (Hickman, 2010) that targeted rare and priority flora species. *Banksia brownii* is a distinctive species and it is unlikely to have been overlooked during the recent targeted rare and priority flora survey of Down Road.

Given that the proposed works are located approximately 3km from Marbellup Brook, and there are no minor waterways that will be directly impacted by the works, it is not expected that there should be a significant impact on water quality in the catchment (DoW, 2010).

The proposed clearing is unlikely to cause appreciable land degradation or exacerbate the incidence or severity of flooding.

Considering the above, the proposed clearing may be at variance with Principles (a) and (b) and is not likely to be at variance with the remaining clearing Principles.

Methodology

References:

DoW, 2010
Hickman, 2010
Keighery, 1994
Shepherd, 2009

GIS Databases:

- ANCA, Wetlands - 26/03/99
- 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
- Mattiske Vegetation Complexes - CALM 01/03/98
- Mount Barker 50cm Orthomosaic -Landgate 2007
- Rainfall, Mean Annual - BOM 30/09/01
- Pre-European vegetation - DA 01/01
- RAMSAR, Wetlands - 15/10/09
- SAC Biodatasets -07/10/10
- Soils, Statewide - 30/11/99
- Topographic Contours, Statewide - DOLA 12/09/02

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

Comments

The application area falls within the boundaries of EPA Position Statement No. 2 'Environmental Protection of Native Vegetation in Western Australia - Clearing of Native Vegetation, with particular reference to the agricultural area'. Clearing for the purposes of agriculture is not supported in this area (EPA 2000), however the proposed clearing is for the purpose of road widening.

The proposed clearing is partially located within a Priority 2 area of the Marbellup Brook Catchment Area, proclaimed under the Country Areas Water Supply Act 1947 (CAWS Act) as a Public Drinking Water Source Area (PDWSA) (DoW, 2010). The Department of Water (DoW) advised it will not object to the clearing of vegetation and road construction in a Priority 2 PDWSA area provided the road will not cause an increased risk to water resource values (DoW, 2010). The DoW (2010) recommends that all activities are undertaken in accordance with DoW guidelines, Water quality protection note #44 - Roads near sensitive water resources. These guidelines can be found at www.water.wa.gov.au or by contacting the DoW (DoW, 2010).

The Roadside Conservation Committee (RCC) has no objection to the proposal, providing the City of Albany doesn't want to clear the full length of this road reserve for the widening of Down Road and that they are at all times consistent with the clearing Code of Practice (RCC, 2010). The RCC has advised it is available to the City of Albany for assistance in training and advice on all matters pertaining to roadside vegetation management (RCC, 2010). The applicant will be made aware of this offer.

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

Methodology References:
 DoW, 2010
 EPA, 2000
 RCC, 2010

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

- City of Albany (2010) Clearing permit application - supporting information. City of Albany. DEC Ref: A333616, A335323, A341408
- DoW (2010) Country Areas Water Supply Area Advice - Marbellup Brook Catchment Area. Department of Water South Coast Region. DEC Ref: A338615
- EPA (2000) Environmental protection of native vegetation in Western Australia. Clearing of native vegetation, with particular reference to the agricultural area. Position Statement No. 2. December 2000. Environmental Protection Authority, Western Australia.
- Hickman, E.J. (2010) Down Road - Flora Survey. Report prepared for the City of Albany, September 2010. DEC Ref: A337695
- 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 (2010) Roadside Conservation Value Advice. Roadside Conservation Committee. DEC Ref: A338835
- 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)