

CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

PERMIT DETAILS

Purpose Permit Number: 4143/1

File Number:

2011/000024-1

Duration of Permit:

From 17 January 2011 to 17 January 2013

PERMIT HOLDER

Department of Agriculture and Food WA

LAND ON WHICH CLEARING IS TO BE DONE

Lot 415 on Plan 220782 (House No. 415 NORTH WEST COASTAL INGGARDA 6701) Lot 332 on Plan 213799 (House No. 96 LAWSON SOUTH PLANTATIONS 6701) Lot 459 on Plan 190785 (INGGARDA 6701) Road Reserve (SOUTH PLANTATIONS 6701) PIN 11739231

PURPOSE FOR WHICH THE CLEARING MAY BE DONE

Clearing for the purposes of establishing borrow pits for replacement soil required for the Carnarvon flood recovery response.

CONDITIONS

1. The Permit Holder must not clear more than 5 hectares of native vegetation within the area cross hatched yellow on attached Plan 4143/1.

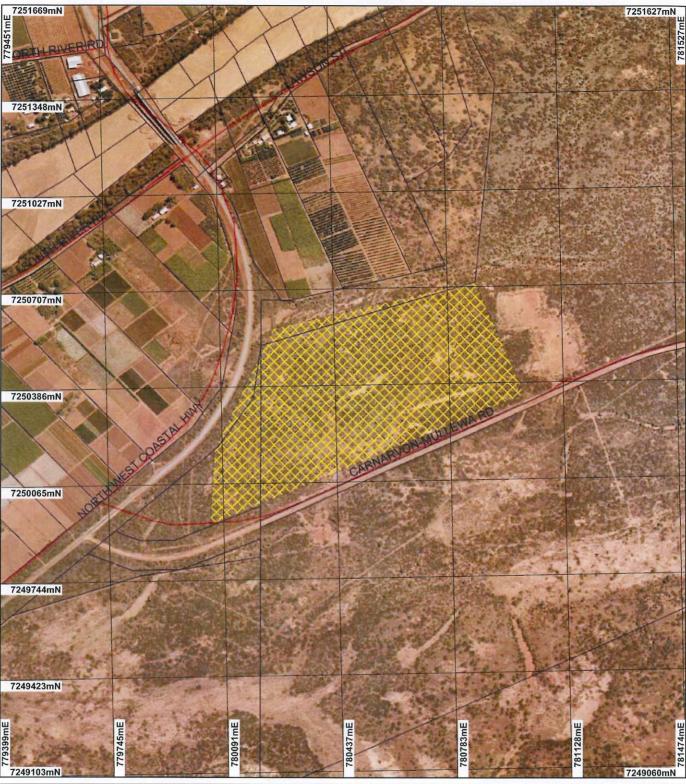
Kelly Faulkner MANAGER

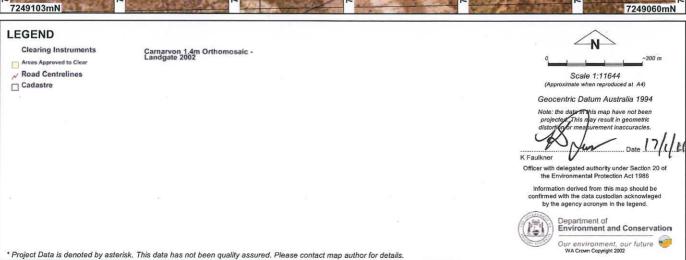
NATIVE VEGETATION CONSERVATION BRANCH

Officer delegated under Section 20 of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

17 January 2011

Plan 4143/1







Clearing Permit Decision Report

1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.:

4143/1

Permit type:

Purpose Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name:

Department of Agriculture and Food WA (DAFWA)

1.3. Property details

Property:

LOT 415 ON PLAN 220782 (House No. 415 NORTH WEST COASTAL INGGARDA 6701) LOT 415 ON PLAN 220782 (House No. 415 NORTH WEST COASTAL INGGARDA 6701)

Local Government Area: Colloquial name:

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)

No. Trees

Method of Clearing

Mechanical Removal

For the purpose of:

Borrow pits for soil replacement required for the

Carnarvon flood recovery response

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application:

Grant

Decision Date:

17 January 2011

2. Site Information

2.1. Existing environment and information

2.1.1. Description of the native vegetation under application

Vegetation Description

The vegetation under application is mapped as being composed of Beard vegetation association 308 - Mosaic: Shrublands; Acacia sclerosperma sparse scrub / Succulent steppe; saltbush & bluebush (Shepherd, 2009).

Clearing Description

The vegetation appears to range in condition from completely degraded to very good (Keighery, 1994), with small parts of the application area having no vegetation cover present. The surrounding area is utilized for intensive horticulture which stretches along the Gascoyne River for some 15km, from the river mouth inland (to the east) and the applied area is adjacent to an already cleared area. The majority of the vegetation proposed to be clearing is considered to be in very good (Keighery, 1994) condition

Vegetation Condition

Very Good: Vegetation structure altered; obvious signs of disturbance (Keighery 1994)

Comment

The condition and description of the vegetation under application was determined via the use of aerial imagery and GIS data

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

Comments

Proposal is not likely to be at variance to this Principle

The proposed clearing of 5 hectares is required to establish a borrow pit for replacement soil as part of the Carnarvon flood recovery programme.

The vegetation appears to range in condition from completely degraded to very good (Keighery, 1994), with small parts of the application area having no vegetation cover present. The surrounding area is utilized for intensive horticulture which stretches along the Gascoyne River for some 15km, from the river mouth inland (to the east) and the applied area is adjacent to an already cleared area. The majority of the vegetation to be clearing is considered to be in very good (Keighery, 1994) condition.

There are no declared rare or threatened ecological communities within the vicinity of the application area. The closest recorded priority flora species is located 360 metres east of the applied area.

Given the clearing consists of 5ha of vegetation in a highly vegetated area (approx 75 -80% remaining in 50km radius), it is unlikely the vegetation under application represents significant fauna habitat; will impact on the environmental values of conservation areas; or cause or exacerbate land degradation, water quality or flooding.

It is considered that the clearing as proposed is not likely to be at variance with any of the clearing principles.

Methodology

Keighery (1994)

GIS database:

- Carnarvon 1.4m Orthomosaic Landgate 2002
- Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation of Australia EA 18/10/00
- DEC Tenure
- SAC Biodatasets (accessed Sept 2010)
- Soils, Statewide DA 11/99
- Pre European Vegetation (DA 2001)
- Clearing Regulations, Environmentally Sensitive Areas (2009)
- Current Extent of Native Vegetation (NLWRA 2001)
- NLWRA, Current Extent of Native Vegetation 20 Jan 2001
- Hydrography linear (hierarchy) DoW 13/7/06

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

Comments

The proposal area lies within the Carnaryon irrigation district surface water area and the Carnaryon groundwater area (RIWI act areas). The applied area is also located within the Carnaryon Water Reserve (Priority 1 assigned).

The Gnulli native title claimants and the Yamatji Marlpa Aboriginal Corporation have been notified of the proposed clearing.

The Department of Regional Development and Lands (DRDL) have advised that the Shire of Carnarvon has no objections to the proposed clearing and that based on discussions between the Commissioner for Soil and Land Conservation and pastoral lessees, no objection to the proposed clearing is anticipated. DRDL have commenced discussions with both the Yamatji Marlpa Aboriginal Corporation (YMAC) and the Gnulli native title claimants. DRDL have advised that it is appropriate for clearing to commence and that liaisons will continue with the applicant regarding native title matters (DEC Ref: A361978).

Methodology

GIS database:

- Cadastre Landgate Dec 07
- Native Title Claims LA 2/5/07
- RIWI Act, Groundwater Areas DoW 13/07/06
- RIWI Act, Irrigation Districts DoW 13/07/06
- Town Planning Scheme Zones MFP 31/08/98
- Aboriginal Sites of Significance 26 April 2007

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.

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.

Glossary

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Biodiversity Coordination Section of DEC BCS

Department of Conservation and Land Management (now BCS) CALM

DAFWA Department of Agriculture and Food

Department of Environment and Conservation DEC Department of Environmental Protection (now DEC) DEP

DoE Department of Environment

Department of Industry and Resources DolR

DRF Declared Rare Flora

EPP Environmental Protection Policy Geographical Information System GIS Hectare (10,000 square metres) ha TEC Threatened Ecological Community

WRC Water and Rivers Commission (now DEC)