

CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

PERMIT DETAILS

Area Permit Number: 4202 / 1

File Number:

2011/00650-1

Duration of Permit: From 28 April 2011 to 28 April 2013

PERMIT HOLDER

Kurra at Newman Pty Ltd

LAND ON WHICH CLEARING IS TO BE DONE

LOT 510 ON PLAN 66718 (NEWMAN 6753)

AUTHORISED ACTIVITY

Clearing of up to 8.45 hectares of native vegetation within the area cross-hatched yellow on attached Plan 4202/1.

CONDITIONS

Nil.

Kelly Faulkner **MANAGER**

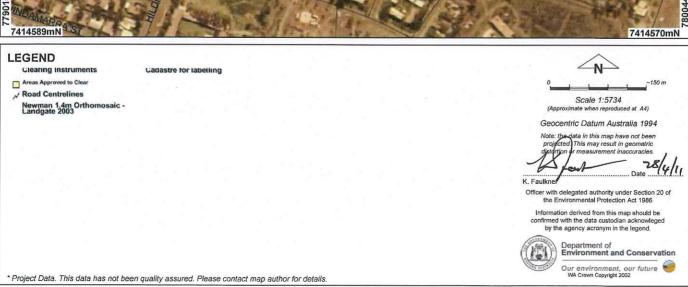
NATIVE VEGETATION CONSERVATION BRANCH

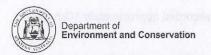
Officer delegated under Section 20 of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

28 April 2011

Plan 4202/1







Clearing Permit Decision Report

1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.:

4202/1

Permit type:

Area Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name:

Kurra at Newman Pty Ltd

1.3. Property details

Property:

8.45

LOT 510 ON PLAN 66718 (NEWMAN 6753)

Local Government Area:

Colloquial name:

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)

No. Trees

Method of Clearing

For the purpose of:

Mechanical Removal

Building or Structure

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application:

Grant

Decision Date:

21 April 2011

2. Site Information

2.1. Existing environment and information

2.1.1. Description of the native vegetation under application

Vegetation Description

Transitional zone between Beard Vegetation Association 82 - hummock grasslands, low tree steppe; Eucalyptus gomophylla over Triodia wiseana and Vegetation Association 18 being low woodland; Acacia aneura (Shepherd, 2009; Parsons Brinckerhoff, 2006)

Clearing Description

The proposal is to clear 8.45ha of vegetation in good to degraded (Keighery) condition for a group dwelling development. The area under application is located on the outer fringes of Newman Townsite and has had historical human disturbances ranging from rubbishing dumping, track creation, weed invasion and other activities that have severely impacted the native vegetation. A large proportion of the area is void of any vegetation (Parsons Brinckerhoff, 2006; Aerial imagery supplied with clearing application - DEC Ref: A366028).

Vegetation Condition

Good: Structure significantly altered by multiple disturbance; retains basic structure/ability to regenerate (Keighery 1994)

Comment

Vegetation condition determined from flora survey and aerial imagery (Parsons Brinckherhoff, 2006; Aerial imagery supplied with clearing application - DEC Ref: A366028).

Degraded: Structure severely disturbed; regeneration to good condition requires intensive management (Keighery 1994) As above.

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

Comments

The proposal to clear up to 8.45 hectares for the purpose of constructing a group dwelling complex is unlikely to have any short or long term environmental impacts. There are no threatened flora, fauna or ecological communities in the area under application. The vegetation to be cleared is in a good to degarded (Keighery, 1994) condition, and is well represented in the local area.

One threatened flora species and several priority flora species have been recorded approximately 10km west of the area under application occurring in a different vegetation type.

Habitat preferences for the flora speies does give some indication of the possible location of these species within the area under application. However, human disturbances in and around the Newman Townsite has lead to the degradation of the remaining vegetation communities, which considerably reduces the likelihood of these species occurring in the remaining habitat within the application area. (Parsons Brinckerhoff, 2006)

Similarly, fauna species observed were generally transient species (kangaroo and birds) which have the ability to relocate. Given the level of human disturbance in and around the townsite and within the area under application, the risk of loosing fauna habitat and biodiversity is considered low (Parsons Brinckerhoff, 2006).

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

Methodology

References:

- Keighery, 1994
- Parsons Brinckerhoff, 2006

GIS data:

- SAC Biodata sets (accessed March 2011)

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

Comments

Planning approval has been granted under the Shire of East Pilbara Town Planning Scheme No. 4.

It was noted during assessment the area under application also included unallocated Crown land Lot 300 on Deposited Plan 64862. This Lot is part of the original Department of Regional Development and Lands approval. That part of the Lot is to be excised back to the Crown as part of the Less Tutt Drive road reserve once landownership is finalised.

Methodology

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.

Parsons Brinckerhoff, 2006, Newman Development Site Flora Survey, prepared for Clifton Coney Group Pty LTD. 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)