



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

PERMIT DETAILS

Area Permit Number: 4236/1
File Number: 2011/001173-1
Duration of Permit: 9 May 2011 to 9 May 2013

PERMIT HOLDER

Jamie Peter Burton and Victoria Jane Burton

LAND ON WHICH CLEARING IS TO BE DONE

Lot 263 on Plan 194605 (Waterbank 6725)

AUTHORISED ACTIVITY

The Permit Holder shall not clear more than 493.13 hectares of native vegetation within the area hatched yellow on attached Plan 4236/1.

CONDITIONS

1. 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*:
 - (i) clean earth-moving machinery of soil and vegetation prior to entering and leaving the area to be cleared;
 - (ii) ensure that no *weed*-affected soil, *mulch*, *fill* or other material is brought into the area to be cleared; and
 - (iii) 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* or species permitted for planting under a Pastoral Diversification Permit which are growing within 300m of the area hatched yellow on attached Plan 4236/1.

DEFINITIONS

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;

weeds, for the purpose of this permit, 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*.



Matt Warnock
ACTING MANAGER
NATIVE VEGETATION CONSERVATION BRANCH

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

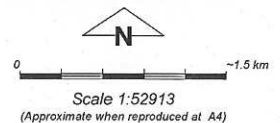
14 April 2011

Plan 4236/1



LEGEND

- Road Centrelines
- Clearing Instruments
- Areas Approved to Clear
- Cadastre for labelling



Geocentric Datum Australia 1994

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

M. Warnock Date: *11/10/11*

M. Warnock

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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* Project Data. This data has not been quality assured. Please contact map author for details.



1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 4236/1
Permit type: Area Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Jamie Peter and Victoria Jane Burton

1.3. Property details

Property: LOT 263 ON PLAN 194605 (WATERBANK 6725)

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
493.13		Mechanical Removal	Pastoral Diversification

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Grant
Decision Date: 14 April 2011

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 750 - Shrublands, pindan; Acacia tumida shrubland with grey box & cabbage gum medium woodland over ribbon grass & curly spinifex	It is proposed to clear upto 493ha for dry land cropping using minimum tillage strategy. The Department of Agriculture and Food classify the land system upon which clearing is proposed as Wanganut. The area consists of grassy woodlands with patchy Acacia shrub layer an Plectrachne pungens-Chrysopogon ssp. ground cover, with E. dichromophilia, E. tectifera and E. microtheca alliances. Other areas contain ribbon grass grasslands with patches of Plectrachne pungens and fringing paperbark and bloodwood and Melaleuca sp. alliances. The area proposed to be cleared is currently used for grazing.	Good: Structure significantly altered by multiple disturbance; retains basic structure/ability to regenerate (Keighery 1994)	Vegetation description obtained from applicants pastoral diversification application submitted to Department of Regional Development and Lands (DEC Ref: A382968).

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

Comments **Proposal is not likely to be at variance to this Principle**

The proposal to clear up to 493.13 hectares of native vegetation for the purpose of dry land cropping is not likely to have any environmental impacts. The area under application has been previously, and is currently used for grazing purposes. The vegetation type of the area under application is well represented in the local area (20-40km).

Four species of priority listed flora occur approximately 13km south of the area under application, on the same

soil and vegetation types. It is possible these species may have once persisted, or may be present onsite, however grazing pressure is likely to have impacted the species long term survival within the area under application.

Land degradation in the form of soil erosion and salinity is unlikely given the sandy soil type present onsite (Department of Agriculture and Food 2011).

The proposed clearing could cause some short term water quality issues in terms of flooding and water quality to the nearby watercourse during peak rainfall seasons. However, the proponent has advised that "The land type does not shed runoff as it is (a) relatively sandy surface." (Department of Regional Development and Lands 2011). In addition, the retention of crop stubble will assist in preventing soil erosion.

As the vegetation to be cleared is well represented in the local area, it is not considered significant habitat for native fauna and would not have a detrimental impact on fauna (Shepherd 2009).

Therefore, the clearing as proposed is unlikely to be at variance to the clearing principles.

Methodology

References:

- Department of Agriculture and Food, 2011
- Department of Regional Development and Lands, 2011
- Keighery, 1994
- Shepherd, 2009

GIS Databases:

- Accessed April 2011

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

Comments

The area of proposed clearing falls within a proclaimed area under the Rights in Water Irrigation Act 1914. Crops to be grown are maize and sorgham under a minimum tillage production system which will not involve diverting surface water or extracting ground water, no licences are required from the Department of Water.

The granting of a diversification permit, issued by Department of Regional Development and Lands, is pending the decision of this clearing application.

The pastoral crop species to be grown, maize and sorgham, are permitted species for use in the rangelands as listed on the "Non indigenous plant species lists for Western Australian rangelands" (Department of Agriculture and Food, 2010))

No native title claims have been made over the area under application.

Methodology

4. References

- Department of Agriculture and Food (2010) Non indigenous plant species lists for Western Australian rangelands.
Department of Agriculture and Food (2011), land degradation advice (DEC Ref: A386543).
Department of Regional Development and Lands (2011), referral of pastoral diversification application, (DEC Ref: A382968).
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.