



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

PERMIT DETAILS

Area Permit Number: 4272/1
File Number: 2011/002058-1
Duration of Permit: 4 July 2011 to 4 July 2013

PERMIT HOLDER

Kurt Elezovich

LAND ON WHICH CLEARING IS TO BE DONE

Lot 449 on Plan 34199 (Broome 6725)

AUTHORISED ACTIVITY

The Permit Holder shall not clear more than 232.2 hectares of native vegetation within the area hatched yellow on attached Plan 4272/1.

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 500m of the area hatched yellow on attached Plan 4272/1.

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/s, 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 197*, including those species permitted for planting under a Pastoral Diversification Permit, issued by the Department of Regional Development and Lands.

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

Kelly Faulkner
MANAGER
NATIVE VEGETATION CONSERVATION BRANCH

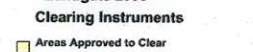
*Officer delegated under Section 20
of the Environmental Protection Act 1986*

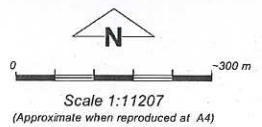
9 June 2011

Plan 4272/1



LEGEND

- 
 Cadastre 1:100000
 - Landgate 2005
 Clearing Instruments
- 
 Areas Approved to Clear



Geocentric Datum Australia 1994

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

 Date 9/4/11
 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.



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.: 4272/1
Permit type: Area Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Kurt Elezovich

1.3. Property details

Property: LOT 449 ON PLAN 34199 (Lot No. 449 BROOME-CAPE LEVEQUE WATERBANK 6725)
Local Government Area: Shire of Broome
Colloquial name:

1.4. Application

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

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Grant
Decision Date: 9 June 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 No. 750 - Shrublands, pindan; Acacia tumida shrubland with grey box & cabbage gum medium woodland over ribbon grass & curly spinifex	The upper storey is sparse and consists mainly of Bloodwood (<i>Corymbia dichromophylla</i>) and Darwin Box (<i>Eucalyptus tectifica</i>) with scattered Beefwood (<i>Grevillea striata</i>) and Kurrajong (<i>Brachychiton diversifolia</i>). The upper storey is stunted with most trees less than 6m high and a density of less than 20 trees per hectare. The midstorey consists mainly of Broome wattle (<i>Acacia eriopoda</i>) and Kimberley heather (<i>Calytrix exstipulata</i>). Perennial grasses are typical of the region and consist of Ribbon grass (<i>Chrysopogon fallax</i>) and Annual sorgham (<i>Sorghum stipoideum</i>) (CSLC, 2011). The vegetation is in a good to degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition as it has been previously (20 years ago) cleared, burnt and impacted by a high level of grazing pressure.	Good: Structure significantly altered by multiple disturbance; retains basic structure/ability to regenerate (Keighery 1994)	Vegetation condition determined from aerial photography, applicant's verbal advice and Commissioner of Soil and Land Conservation advice (2011).
As above.	As above.	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 232.2 hectares of disturbed native vegetation for the purpose of dry land cropping is not likely to have any environmental impacts. The vegetation under application has been disturbed by previous clearing, burning and grazing and used as 'cattle holding paddocks' and thus is no longer truly representative of Beard Vegetation Association 750. This vegetation association is, however, sufficiently represented in the local area (40km) (Shepherd, 2009).

Nine species of priority listed flora occur within 28km of the area under application, either on the same soil or vegetation types. It is possible these species may have once persisted, or may be present onsite, however the previous land management practises 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 porous nature of the sandy soil present and low relief of the gentle undulating land (Commissioner of Soil and Land Conservation, 2011).

The proposed clearing could cause some short term surface water quality issues in terms of flooding as a result of heavy rainfall. However, the nature of the porous, sandy soil and the retention of crop stubble will assist in preventing soil erosion (Commissioner of Soil and Land Conservation, 2011).

As the remaining disturbed vegetation to be cleared is well represented in the local area, it is not considered significant habitat for native fauna and the loss of such would not have a detrimental impact on local fauna.

Therefore, the clearing as proposed is not, or is not likely to be at variance to the clearing principles.

Methodology References:

- Commissioner of Soil and Land Conservation, 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 groundwater area under the Rights in Water Irrigation Act 1914.

Crops selected in consultation with Department of Agriculture and Food WA, and as listed on the "Non indigenous plant species lists for Western Australian rangelands" include one Green listed species [Forage sorgham (*Sorghum bicolor*)] and 3 Amber listed crop species (namely a selection of perennial grasses) and will be grown under a minimum tillage production and dry-land cropping system. This will not involve diverting surface water or extracting ground water, so no licences are required from the Department of Water.

Likelihood of the amber listed pastoral species chosen for cropping becoming a weed problem is low and can be managed via permit conditions on a pastoral diversification permit.

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

An objection to the clearing proposal was received from the Djabera-Djabera Native Title claimants on the grounds the future act will interfere with their native title rights and interests.

Methodology GIS Database: - Accessed April 2011

4. References

- Commissioner of Soil and Land Conservation (2011); Land Degradation Advice and Assessment Report for clearing permit application CPS 4272/1 received 20/04/2011; Department of Agriculture and Food Western Australia (DEC Ref. A389651).
- Department of Agriculture and Food, et al (2010), Non indigenous plant species lists for Western Australian rangelands.
- 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.

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)

