



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

PERMIT DETAILS

Purpose Permit Number: 4407/1
File Number: 2011/005153-1
Duration of Permit: From 18 July 2011 to 18 July 2013

PERMIT HOLDER

Gascoyne Water Co-operative Ltd

LAND ON WHICH CLEARING IS TO BE DONE

McGlade Road (North Plantations 6701)
North River Road (North Plantations 6701)
Bibbawarra Road (North Plantations 6701)
Margaret Row (Kingsford 6701)
Drummoyne Road (Kingsford 6701)
Robinson Street (Kingsford 6701)
Boundary Road (East Carnarvon 6701)
North West Coastal Highway (South Plantations 6701)
Lot 484 on Plan 192591 (Kingsford 6701)
Lot 526 on Plan 194633 (North Plantations 6701)
Lot 5041 on Plan 41863, Crown Reserve 19144 (North Plantations 6701)
Lot 5525 on Plan 41863, Crown Reserve 19145 (Kingsford 6701)

PURPOSE FOR WHICH THE CLEARING MAY BE DONE

Clearing for the purposes of installing irrigation pipelines.

CONDITIONS

1. Type of clearing authorised

The Permit Holder shall not clear more than 15 hectares of native vegetation within the area shaded yellow on attached Plan 4407/1.

2. 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.

3. Type of clearing authorised

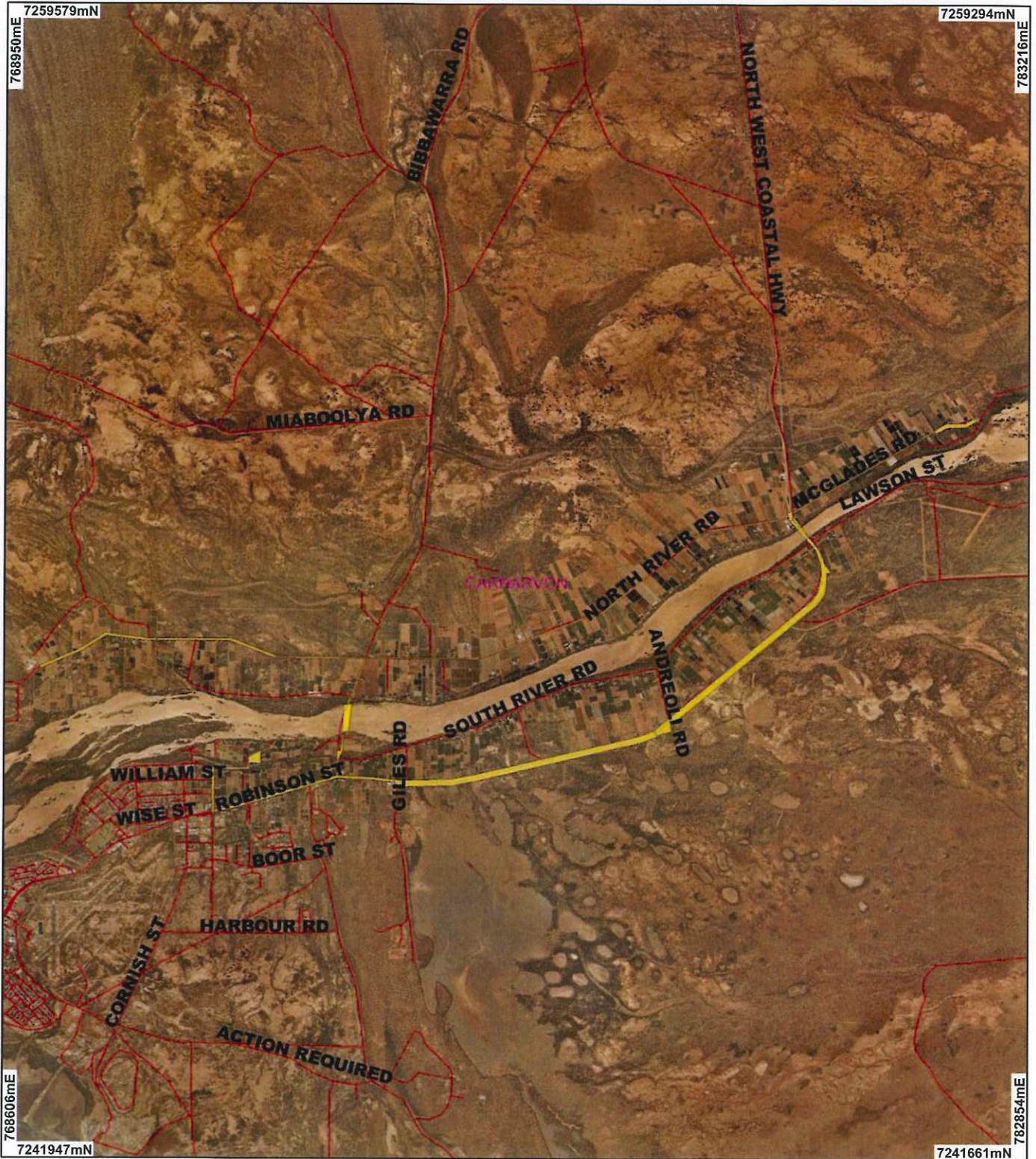
This Permit authorises the Permit Holder to clear native vegetation for activities to the extent that the Permit Holder has the power to clear native vegetation for those activities under the *Land Administration Act 1997* or any other written law.

Kelly Faulkner
MANAGER
NATIVE VEGETATION CONSERVATION BRANCH

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

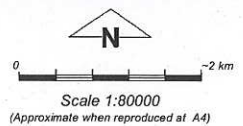
23 June 2011

Plan 4407/1



LEGEND

- Road Centrelines
- Clearing Instruments
- Carnarvon 1.4m Orthomosaic - Landgate 2002
- Areas Approved to Clear
- Local Government Authorities



Geocentric Datum Australia 1994

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

Date 23/1/11
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

Our environment, our future
WA Crown Copyright 2002

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



1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 4407/1
Permit type: Purpose Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Gascoyne Water Co-operative Pty Ltd

1.3. Property details

Property: ROAD RESERVE (NORTH PLANTATIONS 6701)
ROAD RESERVE (NORTH PLANTATIONS 6701)
LOT 5041 ON PLAN 41863 (NORTH PLANTATIONS 6701)
ROAD RESERVE (NORTH PLANTATIONS 6701)
LOT 5525 ON PLAN 41863 (KINGSFORD 6701)
LOT 484 ON PLAN 192591 (KINGSFORD 6701)
ROAD RESERVE (SOUTH PLANTATIONS 6701)
ROAD RESERVE (KINGSFORD 6701)
ROAD RESERVE (EAST CARNARVON 6701)
ROAD RESERVE (KINGSFORD 6701)
ROAD RESERVE (KINGSFORD 6701)
LOT 526 ON PLAN 194633 (NORTH PLANTATIONS 6701)

Local Government Area: Carnarvon

Colloquial name: McGlade Road (North Plantations 6701) North River Road (North Plantations 6701) Bibbawarra Road (North Plantations 6701) Margaret Row (Kingsford 6701) Drummoyne Road (Kingsford 6701) Robinson Street (Kingsford 6701) Boundary Road (East Carnarvon 6701) North West Coastal Highway (South Plantations 6701)

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
15		Mechanical Removal	Water/gas/cable pipeline installation

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Grant
Decision Date: 23 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
The project area is mapped as the following Beard vegetation types: 129: Bare areas, drift sand	The proposal is to clear up to 15 hectares of native vegetation within an expansive project area across road reserves within the Shire of Carnarvon for the purpose of installing irrigation pipelines.	Degraded: Structure severely disturbed; regeneration to good condition requires intensive management (Keighery 1994)	The condition and description of the vegetation under application was determined via the use of aerial imagery (Carnarvon 1.4m Orthomosaic - Landgate 2002) and GIS databases.
205: Shrublands; Acacia sclerosperma & bowgada scrub	The project area is predominantly associated with Beard vegetation association 308 (Mosaic: Shrublands; Acacia sclerosperma sparse scrub / Succulent steppe; saltbush and bluebush).	to	
308: Mosaic: Shrublands; Acacia sclerosperma sparse scrub / Succulent steppe; saltbush and bluebush.	The vegetation appears to range in condition from degraded to very good (Keighery, 1994) and is likely to have been impacted from disturbances such as existing road infrastructure and adjacent to cleared agricultural areas.	Very Good: Vegetation structure altered; obvious signs of disturbance (Keighery 1994)	
1271: Bare areas, claypans (Hopkins et al 2001; Shepherd 2009)			

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

Comments

The proposal is to clear up to 15 hectares of native vegetation within a project area that covers eight road reserves and Crown land within the Shire of Carnarvon for the purpose of installing irrigation pipelines. The proposed clearing for the irrigation pipelines will be up to 30 km long.

The vegetation within the project area is predominantly associated with Beard vegetation association 308 (Mosaic: Shrublands; Acacia sclerosperma sparse scrub / Succulent steppe; saltbush and bluebush). This vegetation appears to range in condition from degraded to very good (Keighery, 1994) and is likely to have been impacted from disturbances such as existing road infrastructure and adjacent to cleared agricultural areas.

The project area is located within the Shire of Carnarvon and within the Carnarvon Bioregion, of which there is 99% (Shepherd 2009) of pre-1750 extent remaining in the Shire and Bioregion and Beard vegetation type has 99.9% (Shepherd 2009) of pre-1750 extent remaining within the state. The vegetation types proposed to be cleared are well represented and there are no known records of rare flora or threatened ecological communities within the local area (50 km radius); however there is a priority 1 species that has been recorded 12 km south of the project area at the closest point. In addition, the closest conservation area to the project area is Chinamans Pool Nature Reserve, which is located approximately 800 m west at the closest point.

Given the large amount of similar habitat in the local area, the vegetation under application is not considered to comprise significant habitat for fauna or flora, and is not likely to contribute significantly to biodiversity (including priority flora) or conservation values on the local or regional scale. Further, the proposed clearing of a long and relatively narrow strip of vegetation is not expected to result in appreciable land degradation or water quality issues, nor increase the risk, frequency, or intensity of flooding.

The Gascoyne River is located parallel to the project area, except for where it intersects with the project area at Nine Mile Bridge. At the closest point, the project area (at North West Coastal Highway) is located approximately 80 meters to the north of the McNeill Claypan System, which is an ANCA wetland. The McNeill Claypan System ANCA wetland and the 50 meter buffer outside the wetland boundary is an Environmentally Sensitive Area (ESA). The application area is outside of the ESA boundary.

Due to the proximity of the nearest wetland and watercourse, the vegetation under application is considered likely to be growing in, or in association with, an environment associated with a watercourse or wetland. Therefore the proposal is considered to be at variance to Principle (f).

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

Methodology

References:

- Keighery (1994)
- Shepherd (2009)

GIS Databases:

- ANCA, Wetlands
- Carnarvon 1.4m Orthomosaic - Landgate 2002
- DEC Tenure
- Hydrography, linear
- Pre-European vegetation
- Rivers
- SAC Bio datasets - 20/06/11

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

Comments

This clearing proposal is for the Gascoyne Water Corporation (GWC) pipeline replacement project that is valued over \$15M and is jointly funded by state and commonwealth governments and GWC.

The applicant (Greenfields Technical Services 2011) has provided a copy of:

- the permit from Department of Water, to obstruct or interfere by works to the banks north and south for the Gascoyne River at Nine Mile Bridge.
- the Main Roads WA approval obtained, to work within the Northwest Coastal Hwy and Carnarvon Road (known locally as Robinson Road) road reserves.
- the Shire of Carnarvon approval obtained, for the installation of the new water pipeline with Council road reserve.

Lots 484, 526, 5041 and 5525 are owned by the Department of Regional Development and Lands, and authority to access and clear native vegetation within these lots is required.

Methodology There are no Aboriginal Sites of significance within the area under application.
Reference:
- Greenfields Technical Services (2011)
GIS Databases:
- Aboriginal Sites of Significance
- Cadastre

4. References

Greenfields Technical Services (2011) Application for Cleaing Permit 4407/1 and Supporting Information. Greenfields Technical Services on behalf of Gascoyne Water Co-operative. DEC Ref A403112

Hopkins, A.J.M., Beeston, G.R. and Harvey J.M. (2001) A database on the vegetation of Western Australia. Stage 1. CALMScience after J. S. Beard, late 1960's to early 1980's Vegetation Survey of Western Australia, UWA Press.

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)