



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Purpose permit number:	CPS 4479/1
Permit holder:	Shire of Quairading
Duration of permit:	29 August 2011 – 29 August 2016

The Permit Holder is authorised to clear native vegetation subject to the following conditions of this Permit.

PART I – CLEARING AUTHORISED

1. Purpose for which clearing may be done

Clearing for *unplanned events*

2. Area of clearing

Clearing of up to 2 hectares of native vegetation per *unplanned event* within the Shire of Quairading.

3. Type of clearing authorised

In accordance with this Permit, the Permit Holder may clear native vegetation for *unplanned events* including:

- removal of *storm* or *flood* damaged native vegetation
- removal of fallen native vegetation as a result of a *Level 3 bushfire*,
- temporary bypass roads in *ESAs* as a result of a flood event where no other alternate routes are available.

4. 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.

5. 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 *Local Government Act 1995* or any other *written law*.

6. Compliance with Assessment Sequence and Management Procedures

Prior to clearing any native vegetation under conditions 1, 2 and 3 of this Permit, the Permit Holder must comply with the Assessment Sequence and the Management Procedures set out in Part II of this Permit.

PART II – ASSESSMENT SEQUENCE AND MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES

7. Avoid, minimise etc clearing

The Permit Holder must have regard to the following principles, set out in order of preference:

- avoid the clearing of native vegetation;
- minimise the amount of native vegetation to be cleared; and
- reduce the impact of clearing on any environmental value.

8. Dieback, and weed control

- (a) When undertaking any clearing, or other activity pursuant to this Permit, the Permit Holder must take the following steps to minimise the risk of introduction and spread of *dieback*:
 - (i) clean earth-moving machinery of soil and vegetation prior to entering and leaving the area to be cleared;
 - (ii) avoid the movement of soil in wet conditions;
 - (iii) ensure that no *dieback*-affected *road building materials, mulches* or *fill* are brought into an area that is not affected by *dieback*; and
 - (iv) restrict the movement of machines and other vehicles to the limits of the areas to be cleared.
- (b) When undertaking any clearing pursuant to 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 *road building materials, 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.

PART III – RECORD KEEPING AND REPORTING

9. Records of clearing

The Permit Holder must maintain the following records for activities done pursuant to this Permit, in relation to the clearing of native vegetation:

- (a) the location where the clearing occurred, recorded using a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit set to Geocentric Datum Australia 1994 (GDA94), expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings;
- (b) photographs of area(s) to be cleared prior to clearing and post clearing for each road section or area cleared;
- (c) the date that the area was cleared; and
- (d) the size of the area cleared (in hectares) and/or number of trees.

10. Reporting

- (a) The Permit Holder must provide to the CEO a written report within 12 months of an *unplanned event* of records required under condition 9 of this Permit; and
- (b) Prior to 29 May 2016, the Permit Holder must provide to the CEO a written report of records required under condition 9 of this Permit where these records have not already been provided under condition 10 of this Permit.

DEFINITIONS

The following meanings are given to terms used in this Permit:

dieback means the effect of *Phytophthora* species on native vegetation;

ESA means an environmentally sensitive area, as declared by a notice under section 51B of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*;

fill means material used to increase the ground level, or fill a hollow;

flood has the meaning described as “minor flood” on the Bureau of Meteorology website (bom.gov.au) as “minor flooding”: Causes inconvenience. Low lying areas next to watercourses are inundated which may require the removal of stock and equipment. Minor roads may be closed and low-bridges submerged.

Level 3 bushfire has the meaning as described in the Australian Inter-service Incident Management System, Third Edition, Version 1 (3 April 2004) being a bushfire where there may be significant threat or impact to the community at a local, Regional or State level.

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;


road building materials means rock, gravel, soil, stone, timber, boulders and water;

storm has the meaning as described on the Bureau of Meteorology website (bom.gov.au) as requiring a severe thunderstorm warning or severe weather warning. These warnings are issued whenever any of the following phenomena occur: tornadoes; wind gusts of at least 90 km/h; widespread winds over land averaging 63km/h (gale force); very heavy rain conducive to flash flooding; large hail with diameter of at least 2 cm; blizzards; abnormally high tides caused by winds; and surf wave heights of at least 5m.

unplanned event/s means arising from the following natural disasters: *Level 3 bushfire, flood, or storm;*

weed/s 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;*

written law has the same meaning as it is given in section 5 of the *Interpretation Act 1984.*



M Warnock
A/MANAGER
NATIVE VEGETATION CONSERVATION BRANCH

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

4 August 2011



1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 4479/1
Permit type: Purpose Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Shire of Quairading

1.3. Property details

Property: Shire of Quairading (various road reserves and public lands)
Local Government Area: Shire of Quairading
Colloquial name:

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
2		Mechanical Removal	Hazard reduction or fire control

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Grant
Decision Date: 4 August 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
		Completely Degraded: No longer intact; completely/almost completely without native species (Keighery 1994)	

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

Comments

This application is to allow within various road reserves and public lands in the Shire of Quairading, up to 2 hectares of native vegetation to be cleared in emergency circumstances following an unplanned event (arising from a category 3 and above bushfire, major flood, or storm).

Methodology

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

Comments

The Department of Environment and Conservation recommends that up to 2 hectares of native vegetation be cleared per natural disaster.

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.

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