

# **CLEARING PERMIT**

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

PERMIT DETAILS

Area Permit Number:

4588 / 1

File Number:

2011/008156-1

Duration of Permit:

From 31 October 2011 to 31 October 2016

PERMIT HOLDER

Gregory John Starkie Janice Patricia Starkie

### LAND ON WHICH CLEARING IS TO BE DONE

LOT 9 ON PLAN 13868 (House No. 807 MIDDLESEX ROAD 6258)

### **AUTHORISED ACTIVITY**

Clearing of up to 0.9 hectares of native vegetation within the area cross hatched in yellow on attached Plan 4588/1.

#### CONDITIONS

#### 1 Dieback and weed control

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 and dieback:

- (a) clean earth-moving machinery of soil and vegetation prior to entering and leaving the area to be cleared;
- (b) shall only move soils in dry conditions;
- (c) ensure that no *dieback* or *weed*-affected soil, *mulch*, *fill* or other material is brought into the area to be cleared; and
- (d) restrict the movement of machines and other vehicles to the limits of the areas to be cleared.

# 2. Retain vegetative material and topsoil, revegetation and rehabilitation

The Permit Holder shall:

- (a) retain the vegetative material and topsoil removed by clearing authorised under this Permit and stockpile the vegetative material and topsoil in an area that has already been cleared.
- (b) within 3 months following completion of extractive activities, *revegetate* and *rehabilitate* the area(s) the areas that are no longer required for the purpose for which they were cleared under this Permit by:
  - (i) reshaping the surface of the land so that it is consistent with the surrounding 20 metres of uncleared land; and
  - (ii) ripping the pit floor and contour batters within the extraction site; and
  - (iii) laying the vegetative material and topsoil retained under condition 2(a) on the cleared area(s); and
  - (iv) deliberately *planting* and/or *direct seeding* native vegetation that will result in a similar species composition, structure and density of native vegetation to pre-clearing vegetation types in that area; and
  - (v) ensuring only *local provenance* seeds and propagating material are used to *revegetate* and *rehabilitate* the area.
- (c) within 24 months of undertaking *revegetation* and *rehabilitation* in accordance with condition 2(b) of this Permit:
  - (i) engage an *environmental specialist* to determine the species composition, structure and density of the area *revegetated* and *rehabilitated*; and
  - (ii) where, in the opinion of an *environmental specialist*, the composition structure and density determined under condition 2(c)(i) of this Permit will not result in a similar species composition, structure and density to that of pre-clearing vegetation types in that area, the Permit Holder must undertake additional *planting* or *direct seeding* of native vegetation in accordance with the requirements of condition 2(b)(iv) and (v) of this Permit.

- (d) Where additional *planting* or *direct seeding* of native vegetation is undertaken in accordance with condition 2(c)(ii) of this permit, the Permit Holder shall repeat condition 2(c)(i) and 2(c)(ii) within 24 months of undertaking the additional *planting* or *direct seeding* of native vegetation.
- (e) Where a determination by an *environmental specialist* that the composition, structure and density within areas *revegetated* and *rehabilitated* will result in a similar species composition, structure and density to that of pre-clearing vegetation types in that area, as determined in condition 2(c)(i) and (ii) of this permit, that determination shall be submitted for the CEO's consideration. If the CEO does not agree with the determination made under condition 2(c)(ii), the CEO may require the Permit Holder to undertake additional *planting* and *direct seeding* in accordance with the requirements under condition 2(c)(ii).

#### 3. Records

- (a) In relation to the revegetation and rehabilitation of areas pursuant to condition 2 of this Permit:
  - (i) the location of any areas *revegetated* and *rehabilitated*, recorded using a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit set to Geocentric Datum Australia 1994 (GDA94), expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings;
  - (ii) a description of the revegetation and rehabilitation activities undertaken;
  - (iii) the size of the area revegetated and rehabilitated (in hectares); and
  - (iv) the species composition, structure and density of revegetation and rehabilitation.

#### 4. Reporting

- (a) The Permit Holder must provide to the CEO on or before 30 June of each year, a written report:
  - (i) of records required under condition 3 of this Permit; and
  - (ii) concerning activities done by the Permit Holder under this Permit between 1 January and 31 December of the preceding year.
- (b) Prior to 31 July 2016, the Permit Holder must provide to the CEO a written report of records required under condition 3 of this Permit where these records have not already been provided under condition 4(a) 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;

direct seeding means a method of re-establishing vegetation through the establishment of a seed bed and the introduction of seeds of the desired plant species;

dry conditions means when soils (not dust) do not freely adhere to rubber tyres, tracks, vehicle chassis or wheel arches;

environmental specialist means a person who is engaged by the Permit Holder for the purpose of providing environmental advice, who holds a tertiary qualification in environmental science or equivalent, and has experience relevant to the type of environmental advice that an environmental specialist is required to provide under this Permit;

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

*local provenance* means native vegetation seeds and propagating material from natural sources within 20 kilometres of the area cleared;

*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;

*planting* means the re-establishment of vegetation by creating favourable soil conditions and planting seedlings of the desired species;

rehabilitate/ed/ion means actively managing an area containing native vegetation in order to improve the ecological function of that area;

revegetate/ed/ion means the re-establishment of a cover of local provenance native vegetation in an area using methods such as natural regeneration, direct seeding and/or planting, so that the species composition, structure and density is similar to pre-clearing vegetation types in that area; and

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.

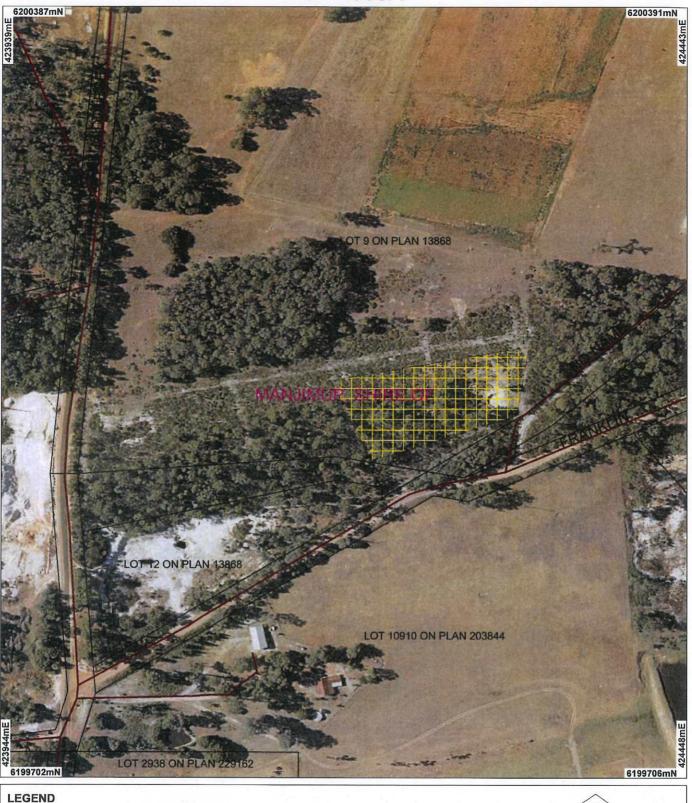
Kelly Faulkner MANAGER

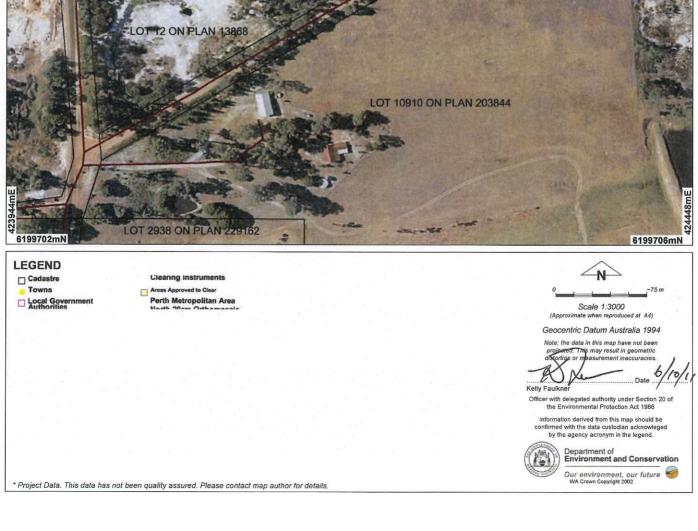
NATIVE VEGETATION CONSERVATION BRANCH

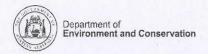
Officer delegated under Section 20 of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

6 October 2011

# Plan 4588/1







# **Clearing Permit Decision Report**

## 1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.:

4588/1

Permit type:

Area Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name:

Gregory John and Janice Patricia Starkie

1.3. Property details

Property:

0.9

LOT 9 ON PLAN 13868 (House No. 807 MIDDLESEX ROAD 6258)

Local Government Area:

Shire of Manjimup

Colloquial name:

Lot 9 on Plan 13868, Middlesex Road Manjimup

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)

No. Trees

Method of Clearing

For the purpose of:

Mechanical Removal

Extractive Industry

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application:

**Decision Date:** 

GRANT

6 October 2011

## 2. Site Information

# 2.1. Existing environment and information

2.1.1. Description of the native vegetation under application

Vegetation Description

Beard 3: Medium forest; jarrah-marri (Shepherd, 2009) Clearing Description
Closed jarrah forest.

Ground cover comprises of emu plum (*Podocarpus drouyniana*). Middle storey is dominated by tea tree

(Angonis parviceps) and Xanthorrhoea presisii. Most of the trees are young jarrah (DEC 2011).

**Vegetation Condition** 

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

1994)

Comment

Vegetation condition assessed by Department of Environment and Conservation's Warren Region (DEC 2011).

# 3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

# Comments

# Proposal is not likely to be at variance to this Principle

The proposal is to clear 0.9ha of native vegetation within the Shire of Manjimup for the purpose of quartz extraction.

The overall condition of the vegetation is considered to be good (Keighery 1994). The area applied to be cleared is mapped as Beard Vegetation Association 3, of which approximately 69% of its pre-European extent remains (Shepherd 2009).

The application area does not comprise a high level of biodiversity, is not significant fauna habitat, is not significant as a remnant and does not impact on conservation areas. The proposal is not likely to cause or exacerbate land degradation, water quality or flooding. Therefore the proposed clearing is not at variance to the clearing principles.

The project area is located within 50m of Tone State Forrest. The disturbance caused by the proposed clearing will increase the likelihood of weeds and die back spreading into the adjacent reserves. Weed and dieback management practices will assist in mitigating this risk of weeds spreading in the adjacent reserve.

Considering the above this application may be at variance to principle (h) and is not likely to be at variance to the remaining clearing principles.

## Methodology

References Keighery (1994) Shepherd (2009)

GIS database:

- Edjudina 20cm Orthomosaic

- SAC Biodatasets accessed 5 September 2011
- Pre European Vegetation
- Hydrography linear (hierarchy)
- Soils, Statewide

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

#### Comments

Proposed area is within the Maniimup Ceremonial Ground (Historic). It is the applicant's responsibility to comply with the Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972 and to ensure that no sites of Aboriginal significance are damaged through the clearing process.

The Shire of Manjimup would like Mr Greg Starkie to consult with them regarding the Town Planning Scheme, local laws and legislation relating to the movement of heavy vehicles (Shire of Manjimup 2011).

The proposed clearing falls within the Country Areas Water Supply Act 1947 gazetted Warren River Water Reserve. The lot is in a moderate salinity risk part of the catchment, where DOW policy requires at least 10% retention of native vegetation. DOW has determined that after the applied area has been cleared, 11.8% of the 36.3ha holding would be covered with native vegetation. Consequently, DOW has no objection to this proposal (DOW 2011).

#### Methodology

References

Shire of Manijimup (2011)

DOW (2011)

#### GIS DataSets:

- EPP. Areas
- Aboriginal sites of significants

## 4. References

DoW (2011) Advice for clearing permit application CPS 4588/1. Department of Water, Western Australia. DEC Ref: A434476 Shire of Maniimup (2011) Advice for clearing permit application CPS 4588/1 - Lot 9 Middlesex Road, Maniimup, DEC Ref; A431265

DEC (2011) Site Inspection Report for Clearing Permit Application CPS 4588/1, Lot 9 on Plan 13868, Manjimup. Site inspection undertaken 15 September 2011. Department of Environment and Conservation, Western Australia (DEC Ref: A432744).

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 Department of Environmental Protection (now DEC) DEP

DoE Department of Environment

DoIR Department of Industry and Resources

DRF Declared Rare Flora

**EPP Environmental Protection Policy GIS** Geographical Information System Hectare (10,000 square metres) ha TEC Threatened Ecological Community WRC

Water and Rivers Commission (now DEC)