



## CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

<b>Purpose Permit number:</b>	CPS 4627/1
<b>Permit Holder:</b>	Shire of Brookton
<b>Duration of Permit:</b>	5 December 2011 – 5 December 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 the purpose of road realignments.
- 2. Land on which clearing is to be done**  
Brookton-Kweda Road reserve, Brookton 6306  
Yeo Road reserve, Brookton 6306  
Lot 28511 on Deposited Plan 181574 Brookton-Kweda Road, Brookton 6306  
Lot 28524 on Deposited Plan 181574 Brookton-Kweda Road, Brookton 6306  
Lot 21284 on Deposited Plan 248730, Brookton 6306  
Lot 2398 on Deposited Plan 256094 Yeo Road, Brookton 6306  
Lot 1633 on Deposited Plan 248811, Brookton 6306
- 3. Area of Clearing**  
The Permit Holder must not clear more than 0.6 hectares of native vegetation within the area hatched yellow on attached Plan 4627/1.
- 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**  
In determining the amount of native vegetation to be cleared authorised under this Permit, the Permit Holder must have regard to the following principles, set out in order of preference:
  - (a) avoid the clearing of native vegetation;
  - (b) minimise the amount of native vegetation to be cleared; and
  - (c) reduce the impact of clearing on any environmental value.

## 8. 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*:

- (a) clean earth-moving machinery of soil and vegetation prior to entering and leaving the area to be cleared;
- (b) ensure that no *weed*-affected soil, *mulch*, *fill* or other material is brought into the area to be cleared; and
- (c) 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 must be kept

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

- (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) the date that the area was cleared; and
- (c) the size of the area cleared (in hectares).

### 10. 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 10 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 5 September 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(a) of this Permit.

## DEFINITIONS

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

*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;

*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*.



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Kelly Faulkner  
MANAGER  
NATIVE VEGETATION CONSERVATION BRANCH

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

10 November 2011



# Plan 4627/1



## LEGEND

### Clearing Restrictions

- Areas Approved to Clear
- Road Centrelines
- Local Government Authorities
- Towns

- A
- B
- C

Brookton 80cm Orthomosaic - Landgate 2005



0 60 m

Scale 1:2500

(Approximate when reproduced at A4)

Geocentric Datum Australia 1994

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

Date 9/1/11

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.



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Environment and Conservation  
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## 1. Application details

### 1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 4627/1  
Permit type: Purpose Permit

### 1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Shire of Brookton

### 1.3. Property details

Property:  
ROAD RESERVE (YEO ROAD, BROOKTON 6306)  
ROAD RESERVE (BROOKTON-KWEDA ROAD, BROOKTON 6306)  
LOT 28511 ON PLAN 181574 (BROOKTON-KWEDA ROAD, BROOKTON 6306)  
LOT 28524 ON PLAN 181574 (BROOKTON-KWEDA ROAD, BROOKTON 6306)  
LOT 21284 ON PLAN 248730 (BROOKTON 6306)  
LOT 2398 ON PLAN 256094 (YEO ROAD, BROOKTON 6306)  
LOT 1633 ON PLAN 248811 (BROOKTON 6306)

Local Government Area: Shire of Brookton

### 1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
0.6	Mechanical Removal	Road construction or maintenance

### 1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: GRANT  
Decision Date: 10 November 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: 352 - medium woodland; York Gum (Hopkins et al, 2001).	The vegetation under application comprises 0.6ha of native vegetation which is proposed to be cleared for the realignments of Yeo and Brookton-Kweda Roads, Brookton.  The vegetation appears to range from 'completely degraded' (Keighery, 1994) condition in areas previously cleared for paddocks on private property to 'degraded' (Keighery, 1994) condition within the Crown reserve (Lots 28511 and 28524 on Plan 181574, Brookton).  The area under application has high levels of weed invasion and therefore very little native understorey remains and other areas have been impacted through historic clearing.	Completely Degraded: No longer intact; completely/almost completely without native species (Keighery 1994)	Vegetation condition was confirmed through photographs supplied with the clearing application (DEC ref A433489), through aerial imagery (Brookton Orthomosaic - Landgate) and DEC advice (DEC ref A442856).
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 vegetation under application comprises 0.6ha of native vegetation within a 1.1ha area in 'completely degraded' to 'degraded' (Keighery, 1994) condition. The vegetation comprises predominantly *Acacia acuminata* and sheoak over an understorey of non-native weed species.

No priority or threatened ecological communities have been recorded within a 10km radius of the applied clearing area. Five rare and nine priority flora species have been recorded within the local area (10km radius) of the proposed clearing area. Although a number of these species occur in similar mapped vegetation and soil

types to the area under application, due to the high level of weed invasion and 'completely degraded' to 'degraded' (Keighery, 1994) condition of the site, it is unlikely that any flora of conservation significance will inhabit the proposed clearing area.

The proposed clearing will result in clearing of a portion of a significant remnant in an extensively cleared landscape with less than 20 percent of native vegetation remaining within the local area. The vegetation under application is also mapped as vegetation type 352 (medium woodland; York Gum) and lies within the Shire of Brookton which have approximately 20 and 21 percent of their pre-European extents remaining respectively (Shepherd, 2009). Ten threatened fauna species have been recorded within the local area (DEC, 2007-) and the remnant may provide habitat for Red tailed Phascogale (*Phascogale calura*) classed as Endangered under the EPBC Act 1999. Given the lack of vegetation remaining in the local area, this remnant may be significant habitat for indigenous fauna.

One minor, non-perennial watercourse appears to run through the northern portion of the applied area. The watercourse has been highly impacted through historic clearing and appears to have been impacted through salinisation. The groundwater salinity in the area is mapped as greater than 3500mg/L total dissolved solids with the salinity risk mapped as ranging from low to high. Therefore there is a possible risk of salinity being exacerbated as a result of cumulative clearing of deep rooted native vegetation in this local area.

The Shire have advised that they will be revegetating the un-used portion of Yeo Road reserve once the realignment has occurred which will be a minimum of 0.5ha to mitigate the clearing of the 0.6ha of vegetation in 'completely degraded' to 'degraded' (Keighery, 1994) condition (Shire of Brookton, 2011). This will help to reduce both the risk of increased salinity in the local area and catchment and help mitigate the loss of native vegetation in an extensively cleared area.

Given the above, the proposed clearing is considered at variance to principles (e) and (f), may be at variance to principles (b) and (g) and not likely to be at variance to the other clearing principles.

#### Methodology

##### References:

- (DEC, 2007-)
  - Keighery (1994)
  - Shepherd (2009)
  - Shire of Brookton (2011)
- ##### GIS Databases:
- Brookton 80cm Orthomosaic - Landgate 2005
  - Groundwater Salinity, Statewide - DoW
  - Hydrography, linear - DoW
  - Hydrography, linear (hierarchy) - DoW
  - NatureMap (2007 -) - Accessed 5 October 2011
  - NLWRA, Current Extent of Native Vegetation - DAFWA & DEC
  - SAC Biodatasets - Accessed 5 October 2011
  - Salinity Risk LM 25m - DOLA 00

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

#### Comments

The vegetation under application comprises 0.6ha of native vegetation within a 1.1ha area and is proposed to be cleared for the realignment of Yeo and Brookton-Kweda Roads to account for increased grain freight traffic in this area due to the proposed Tier 3 rail closures (Shire of Brookton, 2011).

The properties within the applied clearing area are zoned 'Farming' under the Town Planning Scheme for the freehold land and Crown Reserve. The remainder of the area falls within the cadastral boundaries of the Yeo and Brookton-Kweda Road reserves. Lots 28511 and 28524 on Plan 181574 are both Crown Reserve, allocated for the purpose of 'Government Requirements.'

The applied clearing area lies within the Avon River Catchment area and surface water area proclaimed under the Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914 administered and managed by the Department of Water (DoW). DoW (2011) advised that the section of waterway in the proposed clearing area appears to be significantly degraded through previous clearing and as such the Department has no objection to the proposed realignment. DoW also advised that a permit to interfere will be required, given the area falls within a proclaimed surface water area, if the realignment involves the modification to the beds or banks of the watercourse (DoW, 2011).

The applied clearing area encroaches on a heritage site - Brookton Reserve 289 and therefore, advice regarding the heritage site may be required from the Department of Indigenous Affairs prior to the commencement of clearing or works.

#### Methodology

##### References:

- DIA (2011)
- DoW (2011)
- Shire of Brookton (2011)

GIS Databases:

- RiWI Act, Areas - DoW
- RiWI Act, Surface Water Areas and Irrigation Districts - DoW
- Aboriginal Sites of Significance - DIA
- Cadastre - DOLA
- Town Planning Scheme Zones - DPI

#### 4. References

- DEC (2007 - ) NatureMap: Mapping Western Australia's Biodiversity. Department of Environment and Conservation. URL: <http://naturemap.dec.wa.gov.au/>. Accessed 5/10/2011.
- DIA (2011) Aboriginal Heritage Inquiry System, Aboriginal Sites Database Search for Clearing Application CPS 4627/1, Brookton-Kweda and Yeo Road realignments, Brookton. Department of Indigenous Affairs, Western Australia. Accessed 7 October 2011. DEC ref A440228.
- DoW (2011) Advice for clearing application CPS 4627/1 - Road realignments for Yeo and Brookton-Kweda Roads, Brookton. Department of Water, Northam, Western Australia. DEC ref A445340.
- 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.
- Shire of Brookton (2011) Application for a clearing permit (purpose permit) for realignment of Brookton-Kweda and Yeo Roads, Brookton. Shire of Brookton, Brookton, Western Australia. DEC ref A433489.

#### 5. Glossary

Term	Meaning
CALM	Department of Conservation and Land Management (now DEC)
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 DoW)