



## CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

<b>Purpose Permit number:</b>	CPS 4647/1
<b>Permit Holder:</b>	Bevelin Holdings Pty Ltd
<b>Duration of Permit:</b>	2 January 2012 – 2 January 2017

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 drainage installation

**2. Land on which clearing is to be done**

Farmers Road reserve (PIN 11642724)

**3. Area of Clearing**

The Permit Holder must not clear more than 0.04 hectares of native vegetation within the area shaded yellow on attached Plan 4647/1.

**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:

- 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 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*:
- (i) clean earth-moving machinery of soil and vegetation prior to entering and leaving the area to be cleared;
  - (ii) shall only move soils in *dry conditions*;
  - (iii) ensure that no *dieback* or *weed*-affected soil, *mulch*, *fill* or other material is brought into the area to be cleared; and
  - (iv) 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* growing within areas cleared under this Permit.

## DEFINITIONS

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

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

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

*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; 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*.



M. Warnock  
A/MANAGER  
NATIVE VEGETATION CONSERVATION BRANCH

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

8 December 2011

# Plan 4647/1



## LEGEND

-  Road Centrelines
-  Cadastre
-  Areas Approved to Clear
-  Local Government Authorities
- Oldfield 50cm Orthomosaic - Landgate 2007



0  25 m

Scale 1:1000  
(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.

*M. Warnock* Date 8/12/11

M. Warnock

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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## 1. Application details

### 1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 4647/1  
Permit type: Purpose Permit

### 1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Bevelin Holdings Pty Ltd

### 1.3. Property details

Property: ROAD RESERVE (EAST MUNGLINUP 6450)  
Local Government Area: Shire of Esperance  
Colloquial name: Farmers Road reserve

### 1.4. Application

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

### 1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: GRANT  
Decision Date: 8 December 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: 47 - Shrublands; tallerack mallee-heath (Shepherd, 2009)	The application is to clear a strip of native vegetation east to west across Farmer's Road reserve, East Munglinup.  The clearing under application is 0.04 hectares in size and will facilitate the drainage of Lot 872 in the east, into Lot 864 in the west.  The vegetation under application is likely to be impacted by edge effects associated with the existing road and the neighbouring cleared agricultural land. It is also considered that waterlogging has had a detrimental effect on some of the vegetation within the road reserve.	Good: Structure significantly altered by multiple disturbance; retains basic structure/ability to regenerate (Keighery, 1994)  To  Degraded: Structure severely disturbed; regeneration to good condition requires intensive management (Keighery, 1994)	Vegetation condition was determined through aerial imagery and photographs provided with the application (Bevelin Holdings Pty Ltd, 2011).

## 3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

### Comments

The application is to clear up to 0.04 hectares of native vegetation across Farmer's Road reserve for the purpose of installing a deep drain from Lot 872 in the east to Lot 864 in the west. The drain will take water that accumulates after rain on Lot 872 and the road reserve and discharge it onto Lot 864, where existing drains from the road reserve discharge into a low lying drainage area on the property.

There is approximately 15 per cent native vegetation remaining in the local area (10 kilometre radius), which is extensively cleared for agriculture. Approximately 76 hectares (1 per cent) of the vegetation remaining in the local area is held in the conservation reserve system. The vegetation under application is considered to be in good to degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition and is within a relatively well vegetated road reserve that is adjacent to cleared agricultural land on both sides. The vegetation within the road reserve is considered to be valuable as a fauna corridor and ecological linkage through the landscape and has been assessed as being of high roadside conservation value (RCC, 2003).

The removal of native vegetation and soil disturbance associated with the proposed clearing may increase the risk of weeds and dieback spreading into the adjacent high value remnant vegetation in the road reserve. Weed and dieback management practices would assist in mitigating this risk.

The application area appears to experience waterlogging and periods of inundation and there are numerous

areas subject to inundation both east and west of Farmer's Road reserve, in close proximity of the application area. The vegetation under application is considered to be growing in an area associated with wetlands and contains wetland vegetation. The proposed clearing is therefore considered to be at variance to Principle (f).

The removal of native vegetation may result in increased sedimentation of surface water, which has the potential to adversely impact wetland areas on and off-site. The landscape has a gentle gradient to the southwest, towards low lying areas on private property. The proposed clearing may result in a temporary increase in sedimentation of drainage lines, however it is considered unlikely to cause appreciable deterioration in water quality.

Considering the small (0.04 hectare) scale and linearity of the proposed clearing, it is unlikely to impact upon the conservation of flora, fauna or ecological communities of conservation significance, nor is it likely to result in appreciable land degradation or increase the risk of flooding.

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

#### Methodology

##### References:

Keighery, 1994

RCC, 2003

##### GIS Databases:

- Existing DEC Managed Lands and Waters - DEC 06/11
- Hydrography, Linear - DoW 02/04
- NLWRA, Current Extent of Native Vegetation - DEC 09/11
- Oldfield 50cm Orthomosaic - Landgate 2007
- SAC Biodatasets - DEC 10/11
- Topographic Contours, Statewide - DOLA 09/02

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

#### Comments

The proposed clearing is to facilitate the installation of a deep drain across Farmer's Road reserve from Lot 872 in the east to Lot 864 in the west in order to reclaim the use of an area of farmland that is becoming increasingly inundated. The type of drain to be constructed has not yet been decided, however the proponent's preference is for an open drain 1.8 metres deep and 2.4 metres wide at the top. The drain will take water from Lot 872 and the road reserve and discharge it into an existing low lying drainage area on Lot 864. There are existing drains on Lot 864 which take water from the road reserve into this area and the proposed drain will join up with these.

Farmer's Road reserve is vested with the Shire of Esperance, which has granted in principle approval to apply for a clearing permit and create the proposed drainage (Shire of Esperance, 2011). The Shire has advised it will liaise with the proponent as to the design and construction of the required drainage works (Shire of Esperance, 2011).

The vegetation within the road reserve is considered to be valuable as a fauna corridor and ecological linkage through the extensively cleared landscape and is of high roadside conservation value (RCC, 2003). The proposed construction of an open drain 2.4 metres in width will create a permanent barrier to fauna utilising the corridors on both sides of the road and may cause disruption and reduction in function and value of the corridor. The construction of a closed drain, such as a pipeline under the road, and rehabilitation of temporarily cleared areas will minimise this impact.

The Commissioner of Soil and Land Conservation has assessed a Notice of Intent to Drain for this proposal and has advised that a letter of no objection has been issued (CSLC, 2011).

There are no known Aboriginal Sites of Significance within the application area.

#### Methodology

##### References:

CSLC, 2011

RCC, 2003

Shire of Esperance, 2011

##### GIS Databases:

- Aboriginal Sites of Significance - DIA 02/10
- Hydrography, Linear - DoW 02/04

## 4. References

- Bevelin Holdings Pty Ltd (2011) Application to Clear Native Vegetation CPS 4647/1 Farmer's Road reserve East Munglinup. DEC Ref: A436672
- CSLC (2011) Notice of Intent to Drain Advice, Received 30/11/11. Commissioner of Soil and Land Conservation, Western Australia. DEC Ref: A453924
- Keighery, B.J. (1994) Bushland Plant Survey: A Guide to Plant Community Survey for the Community. Wildflower Society of WA (Inc). Nedlands, Western Australia.
- RCC (2003) Road Conservation Committee Value Mapping, Shire of Esperance. Roadside Conservation Committee, January 2003. DEC Ref: A445111
- 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 Esperance (2011) Conditional Support for Clearing Permit Application CPS 4647/1. 7/10/2011. Shire of Esperance. DEC Ref: A438851

## 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)