GOVERNMENT OF
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Purpose Permit number:	CPS 4672/1
Permit Holder:	Western Australian Land Authority TA Landcorp
Duration of Permit:	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 road construction and maintenance.

2. **Land on which clearing is to be done**
   State Forest 4
   Coalfields Road reserve, pin location 11522513 and 11522512
   Shotts Road reserve, pin location 11522579 and 11522521
   Railway reserve, pin location 547400

3. **Area of Clearing**
   The Permit Holder must not clear more than 0.9 hectares of native vegetation within the areas shaded yellow on attached Plan 4672/1.

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. 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.

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;

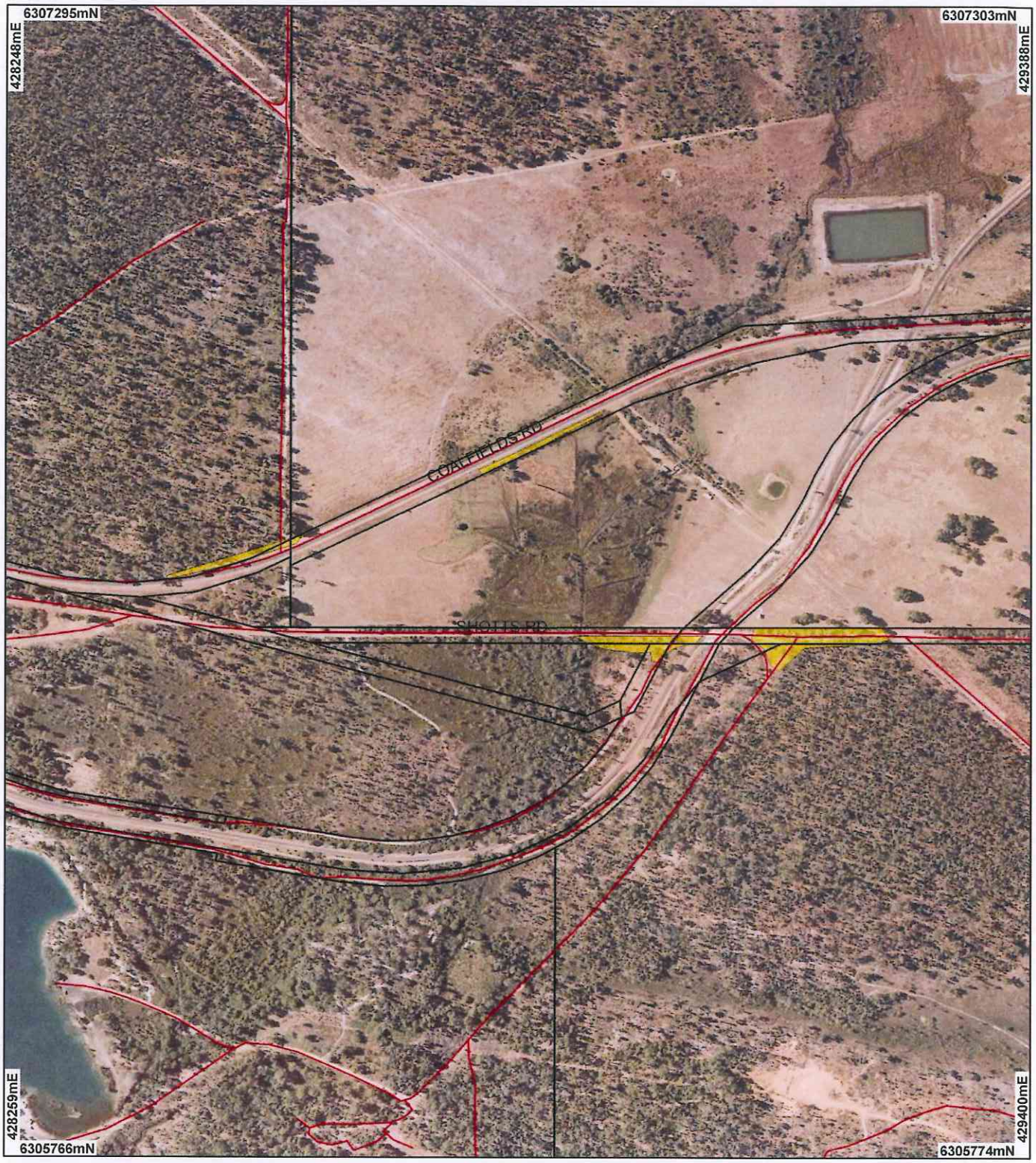
weed/s means a species listed in Appendix 3 of the "Environmental Weed Strategy" published by the Department of Conservation and Land Management (1999), and plants declared under section 37 of the *Agriculture and Related Resources Protection Act 1976*.

M Warnock
A/MANAGER
NATIVE VEGETATION CONSERVATION BRANCH

Officer delegated under Section 20
of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

8 December 2011

Plan 4672/1



LEGEND

Clearing Instruments
- Areas Approved to Clear
- Road Centrelines
- Cadastre
- Towns

Collie 50cm Orthomosaic - Landgate 2006

N

0 ~200 m

Scale 1:6744
(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

Information derived from this map should be confirmed with the data custodian acknowleged by the agency acronym in the legend.

Department of Environment and Conservation

Our environment, our future

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

Department of Environment and Conservation

Clearing Permit Decision Report

1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 4672/1

Permit type: Purpose Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Western Australian Land Authority TA Landcorp

1.3. Property details

Property:
LOT 335 ON PLAN 64212 (House No. 6430 POWERHOUSE CARDIFF 6225)
ROAD RESERVE (SHOTTS 6225)
STATE FOREST 4 (House No. 6430 POWERHOUSE CARDIFF 6225)
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LOT 335 ON PLAN 64212 (House No. 6430 POWERHOUSE CARDIFF 6225)

Local Government Area: Shire of Collie

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
0.9		Mechanical Removal	Road construction or maintenance

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 Type 3 : Medium forest; jarrah-marri (Shepherd, 2009) Heddle Vegetation Cardiff Complex : Open woodland of Allocasuarina fraseriana-Banksia spp.-Xylomelum occidentale-Nuytsia floribunda on sandy soils on valley slopes in the subhumid zone (Heddle et al, 1980).	The application is to clear 0.9 hectares of native vegetation within four separate areas for the purpose of road construction and maintenance. The south west section (site 1) of the application comprises of two different vegetation communities. The western section comprises of wetland vegetation made up of Eucalyptus rudis, Melaleuca preissiana, low open forest with the emergent of other Melaleuca species, Astartea fascicularis closed heath, over sedges (DEC, 2011).The eastern section on site 1 comprised of upland vegetation made up of Eucalyptus marginata and Corymbia calophylla, an understorey predominantly of Kunzea glabrescens and the	Degraded: Structure severely disturbed; regeneration to good condition requires intensive management (Keighery 1994) To Very Good: Vegetation structure altered; obvious signs of disturbance (Keighery 1994)	The condition and the description of the vegetation under application has been established through a site visit conducted by Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC) officers on the 16 November 2011 (DEC, 2011).

groundcover was native sedge species and herbs (DEC, 2011) The vegetation within site 1 ranges from a very good to good (Keighery, 1994) condition (DEC, 2011), with the total proposed clearing in this section of the application being approximately 0.24ha.

The vegetation in the south east section (site 2) of the application composed of Eucalyptus marginata and Corymbia calophylla with some Allocasuarina fraseriana. The understorey is sparse and dominated by Xanthorrhoea preiseii with little ground cover. The vegetation within site 2 ranges from a degraded to good (Keighery, 1994) condition (DEC, 2011), with the total proposed clearing in this section of the application being approximately 0.43ha.

The vegetation in the north east section (site 3) of the application composed of Eucalyptus rudis with a dense understory of Taxandria linearifolia, Astartea fascicularis and Melaleuca preissiana. There is a drain running through this section of the clearing with a dense covering of kikuyu grass along its edges. The vegetation within site 3 ranges from a degraded to good (Keighery, 1994) condition (DEC, 2011), with the total proposed clearing in this section of the application being approximately 0.1ha.

The vegetation in the north west section (site 4) of the application was predominately Eucalyptus marginata, Corymbia calophylla, Nuytsia floribunda open forest, over Xanthorrhoea preissii, Macrozamia reidlei, Melaleuca trichophylla open low heath, over Phlebocarya ciliata, Dasypogon bromeliifolius herbs and Lyginia barbata, Hypolaena exsulca sedges. The vegetation within site 4 is considered to be in a very good (Keighery, 1994) condition (DEC, 2011), with the total proposed clearing in this section of the application being approximately 0.13ha.

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

Comments

The application is to clear 0.9 hectares of native vegetation within the Collie State Forest, a Railway reserve, Coalfields and Shotts Road reserves for the purpose of road construction and maintenance. The vegetation under application is considered to range from a degraded to very good (Keighery, 1994) condition (DEC, 2011).

Sedge species Stenotalis ramosissima was identified within the subsoil saturated fringes of site 1 (DEC, 2011). The identified species was within a small unnamed wetland that encompasses the western section of site 1. This is the first recording of this species from the Coal Basin land form and an extension to the species known range from its currently recorded northern-most herbarium lodged collection near Capel (Western Australian Herbarium, 2008). The record of this species in this area qualifies as significant flora as per the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) Guidance Statements (EPA, 2006). Given that the vegetation within site 1 is considered to be in a good to very good (Keighery, 1994) condition (DEC, 2011), contains riparian vegetation and contains a significant record of Stenotalis ramosissima , this area may contain a high level of biodiversity, therefore the application may be at variance to principle (a)

There are no known threatened ecological communities (TEC's) or declared rare flora within a 10km radius of the application area. Several priority flora species have been mapped within a 10km radius of the application areas. The closest species was Pultenaea skinneri (p4) being mapped approximately 2.6km west of the area under application. Given the distance of the mapped priority flora species to the application area and the small amount of vegetation proposed to be cleared, it is unlikely priority flora mapped in the area will be impacted upon by the proposed clearing.

Several fauna of conservation significance are known to exist within a 10km radius of the application area. However, the vegetation under application is not considered significant for known conservation fauna is the local area and given the small amount of proposed clearing it is unlikely it will impact upon known recorded conservation fauna.

The application areas referred to as Site 1, 2 and 4 are within the Collie State forest. Given the large area the state forest encompasses in relation to the small amount of the vegetation proposed to be cleared, it is unlikely the application will impact environmental values of the state forest. The disturbance caused by the proposed clearing will increase the likelihood of weeds and dieback spreading into Collie State Forest. Weed and dieback management practices will assist in mitigating this risk.

A recent site inspection conducted by DEC indentified an unnamed wetland occurring within the western section of site 1 of the application (DEC, 2011). The total proposed clearing within site 1 is approximately 0.24 hectares, approximately half of this area comprises of wetland dependant vegetation. The vegetation within the unnamed wetland is considered to be in very good to good (Keighery, 1994) condition (DEC, 2011).

Given that the application proposes to clear riparian vegetation within the western section of site 1 the application is at variance to principle (f).

The application has been assessed against the clearing principles and is at variance to principle (f), may be at variance to principle (a) and not likely to be at variance to the remaining clearing principles.

Methodology

DEC (2011)
DEC (2007-)
EPA (2004)
EPA (2006)
Keighery (1994)
Western Australian Herbarium (1998-)

GIS Database:
DEC Tenure

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

Comments

The application is within a Country Areas Water Supply Act 1947 (CAWS Act) referred to as the Wellington Dam Catchment. This application area is within Zone D of the catchment, a low salinity risk part of the catchment. The Department of Water (DoW) policy and guidelines for the granting of licences to clear indigenous vegetation provide for the grant of a licence subject to the retention of native vegetation on at least 10 per cent of the holding area. DoW (2011) acknowledges that the holding area will retain the required 10 per cent of indigenous vegetation, consequently DoW has no objection to the proposal.

Methodology

References
DoW (2011)

4. References

DEC (2007 -) NatureMap: Mapping Western Australia's Biodiversity. Department of Environment and Conservation. URL: http://naturemap.dec.wa.gov.au/. Accessed 7/11/2011

DEC (2011) Site Inspection Report for Clearing Permit Application CPS 4672/1, State Forest 4, Coalfields and Shotts roads reserves and railway reserve. Site inspection undertaken 16/11/2011. Department of Environment and Conservation, Western Australia (TRIM Ref. DOCA454771).

DoW (2011) Assessment Advice for Clearing Permit Application CPS 4672/1, State Forest 4, Coalfields, Shotts road reserve and railway reserve. Letter dated 15 November 2011. Department of Water, Western Australia (Ref. A450342).

EPA (2006) Guidance for the Assessment of Environmental Factors - Level of Assessment for Proposals Affecting Natural Areas Within the System 6 Region and Swan Coastal Plain Portion of the System 1 Region. Guidance Statement No 10. Environmental Protection Authority, Western Australia.

Heddle, E. M., Loneragan, O. W., and Havel, J. J. (1980) Vegetation Complexes of the Darling System, Western Australia. In Department of Conservation and Environment, Atlas of Natural Resources, Darling System, Western Australia.

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)