



GOVERNMENT OF  
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

## **CLEARING PERMIT**

*Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986*

### **PERMIT DETAILS**

Area Permit Number: 4751/1

File Number: 2011/011307-1

Duration of Permit: From 27 February 2012 to 27 February 2014

### **PERMIT HOLDER**

The Department of Regional Development and Lands

### **LAND ON WHICH CLEARING IS TO BE DONE**

Lot 330 on Deposited Plan 71514, South Hedland

### **AUTHORISED ACTIVITY**

The Permit Holder shall not clear more than 25 hectares of native vegetation within the area hatched yellow on attached Plan 4751/1.

### **CONDITIONS**

Nil.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Kelly Faulkner', written over a horizontal line.

Kelly Faulkner  
MANAGER  
NATIVE VEGETATION CONSERVATION BRANCH

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

2 February 2012

# Plan 4751/1



## LEGEND

-  Road Constraints
  -  Clearing Instruments
  -  Areas Approved to Clear
  -  Contours for Subdividing
- Plant Material 30cm  
 Chionochloa - Linedyale  
 2008



Scale 1:10040  
 (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: .....

K Faulkner  
 Officer with delegated authority under Section 20 of  
 the Environmental Protection Act 1985

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



Department of  
 Environment and Conservation

Our environment. Our future.  
 WA Green Copyright 2002



## 1. Application details

### 1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 4751/1  
Permit type: Area Permit

### 1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: State Lands

### 1.3. Property details

Property: LOT 330 ON PLAN 71514 (Lot No. 330 HAMILTON SOUTH HEDLAND 6722)  
Local Government Area: Town of Port Hedland  
Colloquial name:

### 1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
25		Mechanical Removal	Building or Structure

### 1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Grant  
Decision Date: 2 February 2012

## 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
Mapped Beard vegetation association 647 is described as Hummock grasslands, dwarf-shrub steppe; <i>Acacia translucens</i> over soft spinifex. (Shepherd 2009)	The application proposes to clear 25 ha of native vegetation within Lot 330 on Deposited Plan 71514. Lot 330 is adjacent to Port Hedland Townsite therefore it is likely to have been impacted by various developments occurring nearby.	Very Good; Vegetation structure altered; obvious signs of disturbance (Keighery 1994)	The condition of the vegetation was assessed using aerial imagery (Port Hedland 50 cm Orthomosaic - Landgate 2004) and a native vegetation clearing permit report conducted by Aurora Environmental (2011)
	A vegetation survey conducted by Aurora Environmental (2011) determined the vegetation condition ranged from Poor-Very Poor to Very Good-Excellent. However the majority of the site was Very Good-Excellent with vegetation structure intact and a low weed occurrence.		

## 3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

### Comments

The application proposes to clear 25 ha of native vegetation within Lot 330 on Deposited Plan 71514, South Hedland, for the purpose of undertaking bulk earthworks for the construction of a residential development.

The area under application is located within the Pilbara Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation of Australia (IBRA) bioregion. This IBRA bioregion has approximately 100 per cent of its Pre European vegetation extent remaining. Digital Imagery (Port Hedland 50 cm Orthomosaic - Landgate 2004) indicates the local area (20 km radius) surrounding the area under application retains approximately 80 per cent vegetation cover. Given the above it is unlikely the proposed clearing area is considered as significant remnant vegetation in an extensively cleared area.

A level one fauna risk assessment was undertaken within the application area, no conservation significant fauna were identified in the application area. 11 fauna species of conservation significance were identified as

potentially occurring within the site due to the presence of suitable habitat. However the fauna habitats found within the application area are well represented within the local and regional area, therefore the clearing as proposed is not likely to be necessary for the maintenance of significant habitat for fauna indigenous to Western Australia.

No rare flora were recorded during a flora survey conducted within Lot 330. Two priority flora recorded within the application area *Tephrosia bidwillii* (P3) and *Eragrostis crateriformis* (P3). Given the close proximity to the South Hedland Townsite the area under application is unlikely to represent an area of higher biodiversity values when compared to vegetation represented in a local and regional context.

No wetlands or natural watercourses are located within the application area. However, two drainage channels have been constructed within the proposed clearing area and as a result some native vegetation has been re-established along these drains. The applicant has advised where practicable the vegetation along the drains will be maintained to minimise water erosion risk (Aurora Environmental 2011)

The assessment determined that the proposed clearing is not likely to significantly impact any biodiversity or environmental values; nor will it cause any appreciable land degradation within the local or regional context. Therefore, the proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to any of the clearing principles.

**Methodology** Reference:  
- Aurora Environmental (2011)  
-Keighery (1994)  
-Shepherd (2009)

GIS Databases:  
- IBRA Australia  
- Pre-European vegetation  
- SAC Biodatasets - accessed 25 Janua 2012

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

##### **Comments**

The Town of Port Hedland (2012) ha approved the application submitted by RDL to undertake Bulk Earthworks on Lot No. 330 Hamilton Road South Hedland.

Application area falls within Pilbara Groundwater Area under the Rights in Water Irrigation Act 1914.

Application area falls within the Pilbara Surface Water Area under the Rights in Water Irrigation Act 1914.

**Methodology** Reference:  
- Town of Port Hedland (2012)

GIS Databases:  
- RIWI Act, Groundwater Areas  
- RIWI Act, Surfacewater Areas, Irrigation Districts

#### **4. References**

- Aurora Environmental (2011) Native Vegetation Clearing Permit Report - Lot 330 Hamilton Road, South Hedland. Western Australia. (DEC Ref: A455123)
- 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.
- Town of Port Hedland (2012) Application No: 2011/608 for application for bulk earthworks on Lot No.: L330 Hamilton Road South Hedland 6721. Western Australia. (DEC Ref: A469718)

#### **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)