

# CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Purpose Permit number:

CPS 4760/1

Permit Holder:

Mr James Ligman

**Duration of Permit:** 

27 February 2012 to 27 February 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 apiary site maintenance.

# 2. Land on which clearing is to be done

Apiary site No.	Local Government Authority	DEC District	Longitude	Latitude	Land Tenure
4472	Bridgetown- Greenbushes	Donnelly	115,999	-34.050	State Forest 34
2891	Busselton	Blackwood	115.615	-33.716	STATE FOREST 33 - within Whicher Scarp Area - Renew For 1 Year Only.
2847	Busselton	Blackwood	115.456	-33.615	Tuart Forest National Park
3163	Busselton	Blackwood	115.479	-33.611	Tuart Forest National Park
3162	Capel	Blackwood	115.566	-33.478	Tuart Forest National Park
2932	Collie	Wellington	116.229	-33.216	Lane Poole Reserve - 39821 - 5(1)(G) - Conservation And The Agreement Defined In S.2 Of The Alumina Refinery Agreement Act 1961
2933	Collie	Wellington	116.246	-33.190	Lane Poole Reserve - 39821 - 5(1)(G) - Conservation And The Agreement Defined In S.2 Of The Alumina Refinery Agreement Act 1961

Apiary site No.	Local Government Authority	DEC District	Longitude	Latitude	Land Tenure
2546	Collie	Wellington	116.259	-33.163	Lane Poole Reserve - 39821 - 5(1)(G) - Conservation And The Agreement Defined In S.2 Of The Alumina Refinery Agreement Act 1961 -
2291	Collie	Wellington	116.225	-33,156	Lane Poole Reserve - 39821 - 5(1)(G) - Conservation And The Agreement Defined In S.2 Of The Alumina Refinery Agreement Act 1961 -
5476	Coolgardie	Kalgoorlie	121.507	-31.311	Land Administration Act - Unallocated Crown Land
5439	Coolgardie	Kalgoorlie	121.534	-31.219	Land Administration Act - Unallocated Crown Land
5779	Coolgardie	Kalgoorlie	121.064	-31.207	Land Administration Act - Unallocated Crown Land
5780	Coolgardie	Kalgoorlie	121.083	-31.182	Land Administration Act - Unallocated Crown Land
5781	Coolgardie	Kalgoorlie	121.142	-31.106	Land Administration Act - Calooli Pastoral Lease - Pastoral Lands Board
5782	Coolgardie	Kalgoorlie	121.154	-31.076	Land Administration Act - Calooli Pastoral Lease - Pastoral Lands Board
750	Coolgardie	Kalgoorlie	121.188	-31,061	Land Administration Act - Unallocated Crown Land
3159	Coorow	Moora	115.460	-30.063	Alexander Morrison National Park
3156	Coorow	Moora	115.675	-30.051	Alexander Morrison National Park
2622	Dandaragan	Moora	115,510	-30,867	Land Administration Act - Unallocated Crown Land
2623	Dandaragan	Moora	115.545	-30.867	Local Government Reserve - Shire Of Dandaragan - Reserve 31223 - Recreation
3104	Dandaragan	Moora	115.550	-30.830	Land Administration Act - Unallocated Crown Land
3262	Dandaragan	Moora	115.496	-30.697	Local Government Reserve - Shire Of Dandaragan - Reserve 27216 - Recreation, Camping And Conservation Of Flora
3142	Irwin	Moora	115.253	-29.585	Land Administration Act - Unallocated Crown Land
3107	Irwin	Moora	115.007	-29.411	Beekeepers Nature Reserve - 24496 - Protection Of Flora -

Apiary site No.	Local Government Authority	DEC District	Longitude	Latitude	Land Tenure
3106	Irwin	Moora	114.994	-29.370	Beekeepers Nature Reserve 24496 - Protection Of Flora -
6119	Manjimup	Donnelly	116.134	-34.349	State Forest 36
5928	Manjimup	Donnelly	115.978	-34.297	State Forest 36
2846	Manjimup	Donnelly	116.045	-34.259	State Forest 36
3204	Manjimup	Frankland	116.627	-34.938	Mt Frankland National Park Walpole Wilderness Area
3201	Manjimup	Frankland	116.581	-34.922	Mt Frankland National Park Walpole Wilderness Area
5767	Manjimup	Frankland	116.642	-34.917	Mt Frankland National Park Walpole Wilderness Area
5952	Manjimup	Frankland	116.609	-34.912	Mt Frankland National Park Walpole Wilderness Area
5080	Manjimup	Frankland	116.442	-34.874	D'Entrecasteaux National Park
5081	Manjimup	Frankland	116.409	-34.858	D'Entrecasteaux National Park
3202	Manjimup	Frankland	116.663	-34.845	Mt Frankland National Park Walpole Wilderness Area -
46	Murray	Perth Hills	116.191	-32.537	State Forest 14 -
3446	Nannup	Blackwood	115.743	-33.820	State Forest 28
2888	Nannup	Donnelly	115.777	-34.256	State Forest 35
6143	Nannup	Donnelly	115.807	-34.135	State Forest 35
3141	Three Springs	Moora	115.320	-29.545	Land Administration Act - Unallocated Crown Land
3140	Three Springs	Moora	115.272	-29.542	Land Administration Act - Unallocated Crown Land
3698	West Arthur	Wellington	116.464	-33.361	State Forest 24
3679	Williams	Wellington	116.458	-33.207	Land Act Reserve Unvested 4555 - Resting Place For Travellers & Stock (Proposed NP)
250	Yalgoo	Geraldton	117.187	-29.563	Land Administration Act - NINGHAN Pastoral Lease - Pastoral Lands Board
5413	Yalgoo	Geraldton	117.307	-29.543	Land Administration Act - NINGHAN Pastoral Lease - Pastoral Lands Board
5411	Yalgoo	Geraldton	117.213	-29.536	Land Administration Act - NINGHAN Pastoral Lease - Pastoral Lands Board
5412	Yalgoo	Geraldton	117.281	-29.527	Land Administration Act - NINGHAN Pastoral Lease - Pastoral Lands Board

# 3. Area of clearing

- (a) The Permit Holder must not clear more than 2.35 hectares of native vegetation in total.
- (b) The Permit Holder must not clear more than 0.05 hectare for each of the apiary sites described in condition 2 of this Permit.
- (c) The clearing described in condition 3(a) of this Permit may only occur within a 2,000 metre radius of the coordinates of each apiary sites described in condition 2 of this Permit, subject to the Permit Holder having the power to clear native vegetation for those activities under any written law.

# 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 within *apiary sites* described in conditions 2 and the type of clearing in condition 3 of this Permit to the extent of activities permitted under an authority granted to the Permit Holder under Part 8A of the *Conservation and Land Management Regulations 2002*.

# 6. Clearing not authorised

This Permit does not authorise the Permit Holder to clear trees that have a diameter, measured at 1.5m above the ground, of 10cm or greater.

# 7. 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

# 8. 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.

# 9. Method of clearing

- (a) The Permit Holder must comply with the directions of the relevant District Apiary Officer of the Department of Environment and Conservation prior to undertaking clearing within apiary sites described in conditions 2 and 3 of this Permit.
- (b) The permit holder may only clear native vegetation using minimal impact methods, such as hand mowers or raking.

### 10. 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.

### PART III - RECORD KEEPING AND REPORTING

# 11. Records must be kept

The Permit Holder must maintain the following records in relation to the clearing of native vegetation authorised under 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 and/or decimal degrees;
- (b) the date that the area was cleared; and
- (c) the size of the area cleared (in hectares).

### 12. 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 11 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 27 December 2016, the Permit Holder must provide to the CEO a written report of records required under condition 11 of this Permit where these records have not already been provided under condition 12(a) of this Permit.

### Definitions

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

apiary site/s means the land specified in an apiary authority as the land to which an apiary licence granted under Part VIII Division 2 of the CALM Act, or an apiary permit granted under Part VIII Division 1 of the CALM Act;

CALM Act means the Conservation and Land Management Act 1984;

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.

Kelly Faulkner MANAGER

NATIVE VEGETATION CONSERVATION BRANCH

Officer delegated under Section 20 of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

2 February 2012





# **Clearing Permit Decision Report**

### 1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.:

4760/

Permit type:

Purpose Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name:

James Alfred Ligman

1.3. Property details

Property:

2.35

Various Crown land and unallocated Crown land parcels

Local Government Area:

Bridgetown-Greenbushes, Busselton, Capel, Collie, Coolgardie, Coorow, Dandaragan, Irwin,

Manjimup, Murray, Nannup, Three Springs, West Arthur, Williams and Yalgoo

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)

No. Trees

Method of Clearing Mechanical Removal For the purpose of:

Apiculture

1.5. Decision on application

**Decision on Permit Application:** 

Grant

**Decision Date:** 

2 Febuary 2012

# 2. Site Information

### 2.1. Existing environment and information

# 2.1.1. Description of the native vegetation under application

### Vegetation Description

The areas under application within the Swan Coastal Plain and lower southwest of WA occur within various vegetation complexes associated with Mattiske and Heddle complexes, whilst those of the Wheatbelt, Goldfields and Midwest regions occur within varying Beard vegetation complexes. (Heddle, 1998; Mattiske, 1998; Shepherd, 2009)

### Clearing Description

The proposed maintenance clearing affects a variety of vegetation associations and areas varying from being well vegetated to those with patchy vegetation cover

#### Vegetation Condition

Excellent: Vegetation structure intact; disturbance affecting individual species, weeds non-aggressive (Keighery 1994)

To

Good: Structure significantly altered by multiple disturbance; retains basic structure/ability to regenerate (Keighery 1994)

### Comment

The proposed clearing may impact up to approximately 0.05 hectare of regrowth within each of the 47 apiary sites, totalling 2.35ha of proposed maintenance work.

# Assessment of application against clearing principles

### Comments

This application is for the proposed clearing of up to 2.35 hectares of native vegetation across 47 sites within numerous Crown land and unallocated Crown land parcels in the Shires of Bridgetown-Greenbushes, Busselton, Capel, Collie, Coolgardie, Coorow, Dandaragan, Irwin, Manjimup, Murray, Nannup, Three Springs, West Arthur, Williams and Yalgoo, for the purpose of apiary site maintenance. The apiary sites are located within areas previously used for beekeeping and within areas permitted under the Conservation and Land Management Act 1984. Clearing (maintenance) may be in the form of either: pruning, slashing or scrub rolling vegetation. If any maintenance is required, up to approximately 0.05ha may be necessary per site for access or placement of beehives. Clearing for a firebreak may also be required and has been factored into the 0.05ha.

All 47 sites are sufficiently distanced from any known rare or priority listed flora, threatened ecological community and any water courses that they are unlikely to be impacted by any maintenance activities.

Several sites, especially within the Shire of Manjimup, exist within close proximity to mapped geomorphic wetland category systems (e.g sump land, dampland, ANCA wetlands). However, given the minor maintenance and the low impact nature of the proposed works (e.g pruning), the proposed maintenance is unlikely to have

any detrimental environmental impact on biodiversity values. Given this, it is considered that the proposed maintenance works is not likely to be at variance with principles (a), (c), (d) or (f).

Those apiary sites within the Swan Coastal Plain and lower southwest of WA are likely to include habitat for indigenous fauna (including species of conservation significance), as they are located adjacent to areas that generally contain extensive native vegetation cover. Those towards the Wheatbelt and Goldfields and to a lesser extent in the Midwest regions are less likely to occur near such well-vegetated areas. Given that the apiary sites are located within areas previously used for beekeeping, the small scale of proposed maintenance within each site is not expected to have an impact on significant fauna habitat, nor have an impact on the remaining native vegetation in areas that are extensively cleared. It is considered that the proposed maintenance work is not likely to be at variance with principle (b) or (e).

Up to 20 of the apiary sites are located within DEC-managed estate. Given that the apiary sites are located within areas previously used for beekeeping, the small scale of the proposed maintenance work within each apiary site is not expected to have an impact on the environmental values of these conservation areas. It is considered that the proposed maintenance work is not likely to be at variance with principle (h).

Four apiary sites are located within Country Areas Water Supply Act 1947 areas. The standard apiary site conditions state that apiary sites should be located a minimum of 200 metres from watercourses within PDWSAs (DEC 2011). Given that the apiary sites are located within areas previously used for beekeeping, the small scale of the proposed maintenance within each apiary site is not expected to have an impact on the quality of surface or underground water. It is considered that the proposed maintenance is not likely to be at variance with principle (i).

Given that most of the apiary sites are located within areas previously used for beekeeping, the small scale of the proposed maintenance within each apiary site is not expected to have an impact on the incidence or intensity of flooding, or contribute to any land degradation. It is considered that the proposed maintenance is not likely to be at variance with principles (g) or (j).

#### Methodology

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

#### Comments

All apiary sites have been previously used (on and off for many years) and not all sites will require maintenance (maintenance would involve dealing with re-growth).

Apiarists prefer, and attempts are made by them, to use existing cleared areas and tracks for access (firebreaks) and keep any maintenance to a minimum. But in some areas, for example in the southwest of WA, some sites may not have been visited for a number of years and clearing of regrowth may be required.

Apiarists are requested to liaise with either local DEC office, Department of Water / Water Corporation and other relevant government agencies concerning beehive placement. Apiarists must also abide by their apiary permit conditions concerning, for example, access to property, placement of bee-hives and their obligations under any other written law (DEC, 2011).

Under the Bush Fires Act 1954 apiary sites require a 3m firebreak.

Authority to access land:

Apiary authorities are granted under the CALM Act. As part of the process, authority to access lands is obtained from the relevant land managers. Therefore from a clearing application perspective the apiary authority represents the necessary land access authority.

Standard apiary permit conditions state, in part, the apiarist must liaise with the local DEC apiary officer to gain final approval prior to using / entering the nominated site. If the site is no longer suitable for bee hive use, the local DEC officer can request the apiarist to relocate. If a clearing permit is granted, a similar condition will be imposed also.

DEC's Moora District have recommended that a rare flora search be undertaken for Apiary sites 3262, 3140 and 3141 prior to these sites being used. (DEC, 2012)

### Methodology

#### References

- Keighery 1994
- DEC 2011
- DEC 2012

#### GIS datasets

- Heddle Vegetation
- Mattiske Vegetation
- Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation of Australia

- Pre-European Vegetation
- Geomorphic Wetlands (Mgt Categories), Swan Coastal Plain
- Hydrography, linear (hierarchy)
- Public Drinking Water Source Areas
- DEC Managed Lands and Waters
- SAC biodatasets (accessed January 2012)

### 4. References

DEC (2011) Standard Apiary Site Conditions. Department of Environment and Conservation, Kensington (DEC Ref: A443833) DEC (2012) Moora District Regional advice received (DEC Ref: A470123)

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.

Mattiske, E.M. and Havel, J.J. (1998) Vegetation Complexes of the South-west Forest Region of Western Australia. Maps and report prepared as part of the Regional Forest Agreement, Western Australia for the Department of Conservation and Land Management and Environment 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)