



## CLEARING PERMIT

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

<b>Purpose Permit number:</b>	CPS 4782/1
<b>Permit Holder:</b>	Triple M Transport (WA) Pty Ltd
<b>Duration of Permit:</b>	12 October 2012 – 12 October 2027

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 limestone extraction.

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

Lot 471 on Deposited Plan 201723, Dalyup

**3. Area of Clearing**

The Permit Holder must not clear more than 8.8 hectares of native vegetation within the area cross hatched yellow on attached Plan 4782/1.

**4. Period in which clearing is authorised**

The Permit Holder shall not clear any native vegetation after 12 October 2022

**5. 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.

**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

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.

## 9. Retain vegetative material and topsoil, revegetation and rehabilitation

The Permit Holder shall:

- (a) retain the vegetative material and topsoil removed by clearing authorised under this Permit and stockpile the vegetative material and topsoil in an area that has already been cleared.

- (b) at an *optimal time* following clearing authorised under this Permit, *revegetate* and *rehabilitate* the area(s) that are no longer required for the purpose for which they were cleared under this Permit by:

- (i) re-shaping the surface of the land so that it is consistent with the surrounding 5 metres of uncleared land; and
- (ii) ripping the ground on the contour to remove soil compaction; and
- (iii) ripping the pit floor and contour batters within the extraction site; and
- (iv) laying the vegetative material and topsoil retained under condition 9(a) on the cleared area(s) that are no longer required for the purpose for which they were cleared under this Permit.

- (c) within 24 months of laying the vegetative material and topsoil on the cleared area in accordance with condition 9(b) of this Permit:

- (i) engage an *environmental specialist* to determine the species composition, structure and density of the area *revegetated* and *rehabilitated*; and
- (ii) where, in the opinion of an *environmental specialist*, the composition structure and density determined under condition 9(c)(i) of this Permit will not result in a similar species composition, structure and density to that of pre-clearing vegetation types in that area, *revegetate* the area by deliberately *planting* and/or *direct seeding* native vegetation that will result in a similar species composition, structure and density of native vegetation to pre-clearing vegetation types in that area and ensuring only *local provenance* seeds and propagating material are used.

- (d) where additional *planting* or *direct seeding* of native vegetation is undertaken in accordance with condition 9(c)(ii) of this permit, the Permit Holder shall repeat condition 9(c)(i) and 8(c)(ii) within 24 months of undertaking the additional *planting* or *direct seeding* of native vegetation.

- (e) where a determination by an *environmental specialist* that the composition, structure and density within areas *revegetated* and *rehabilitated* will result in a similar species composition, structure and density to that of pre-clearing vegetation types in that area, as determined in condition 9(c)(i) and (ii) of this permit, that determination shall be submitted for the CEO's consideration. If the CEO does not agree with the determination made under condition 9(c)(ii), the CEO may require the Permit Holder to undertake additional *planting* and *direct seeding* in accordance with the requirements under condition 9(c)(ii).

### **PART III - RECORD KEEPING AND REPORTING**

#### **10. Records must be kept**

The Permit Holder must maintain the following records for activities done pursuant to this Permit:

- (a) In relation to the clearing of native vegetation authorised under this Permit:
  - (i) the species composition, structure and density of the cleared area;
  - (ii) 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;
  - (iii) the date that the area was cleared; and
  - (iv) the size of the area cleared (in hectares).
  
- (b) In relation to the *revegetation* and *rehabilitation* of areas pursuant to condition 9 of this Permit:
  - (i) the location of any areas *revegetated* and *rehabilitated*, recorded using a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit set to Geocentric Datum Australia 1994 (GDA94), expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings or decimal degrees;
  - (ii) a description of the *revegetation* and *rehabilitation* activities undertaken;
  - (iii) the size of the area *revegetated* and *rehabilitated* (in hectares);
  - (iv) the species composition, structure and density of *revegetation* and *rehabilitation*, and
  - (v) a copy of the environmental specialist's report.

#### **11. Reporting**

- (a) The Permit Holder must provide to the CEO on or before 31 July 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 July and 30 June of the preceding year.
  
- (b) Prior to 12 July 2027, the Permit Holder must provide to the CEO a written report of records required under condition 10 of this Permit where these records have not already been provided under condition 11(a) of this Permit.

### **DEFINITIONS**

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

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

***direct seeding*** means a method of re-establishing vegetation through the establishment of a seed bed and the introduction of seeds of the desired plant species;

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

***environmental specialist*** means a person who is engaged by the Permit Holder for the purpose of providing environmental advice, who holds a tertiary qualification in environmental science or equivalent, and has experience relevant to the type of environmental advice that an environmental specialist is required to provide under 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;

***optimal time*** means the period from April to May.

***planting*** means the re-establishment of vegetation by creating favourable soil conditions and planting seedlings of the desired species;

*rehabilitate/ed/ion* means actively managing an area containing native vegetation in order to improve the ecological function of that area;

*revegetate/ed/ion* means the re-establishment of a cover of *local provenance* native vegetation in an area using methods such as natural *regeneration*, *direct seeding* and/or *planting*, so that the species composition, structure and density is similar to pre-clearing vegetation types in that area;

*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*.

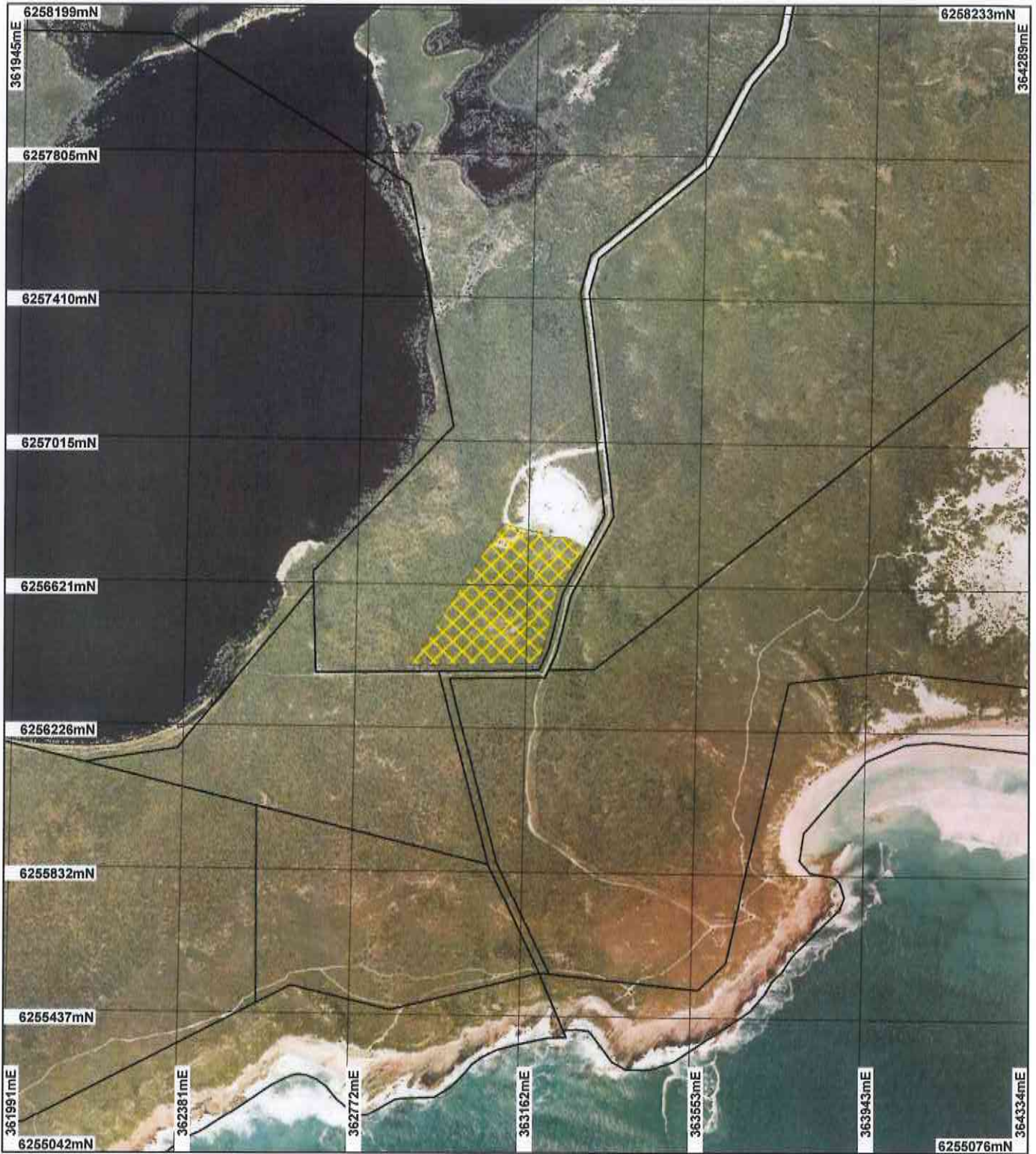
Roxane Shadbolt

Roxane Shadbolt  
A/MANAGER  
NATIVE VEGETATION CONSERVATION BRANCH

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




20 September 2012

# Plan 4782/1



## LEGEND

### Clearing instruments

-  Areas Approved to Clear
-  Cadastre
-  Esperance Causeway 50cm Orthomosaic - Landgate 2007



0 -375 m

Scale 1:13895

(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.

R. Shadbolt Date 19/9/12  
R. Shadbolt

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

Our environment, our future  
WA Crown Copyright 2002

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



## 1. Application details

### 1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 4782/1  
Permit type: Purpose Permit

### 1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Triple M Transport (WA) Pty Ltd

### 1.3. Property details

Property: LOT 471 ON PLAN 201723 (DALYUP 6450)  
Local Government Area: Shire of Esperance  
Colloquial name:

### 1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
8.8		Mechanical Removal	Extractive Industry

### 1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Grant  
Decision Date: 20 September 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
Beard Vegetation Association: 42 Shrublands; mallee and acacia scrub on south coastal dunes (Shepherd, 2009).	The application is to progressively clear 8.8 hectares over a ten year period for the purpose of extracting limestone.	Very Good: Vegetation structure altered; obvious signs of disturbance (Keighery 1994)	The condition of the vegetation was obtained through aerial photography (Esperance Causeway 50cm Orthomosaic - Landgate 2007).
125: bares areas salt lakes (Shepherd, 2009)	The vegetation is considered to be low lying areas of shrub mallee and health on sandy soil (Esperance Wildflower Society Inc, 2009).		
	The vegetation under application is considered to be in a very good (Keighery, 1994) condition. The northern boundary of the application area appears to have historical impact from the adjacent previous excavation area.		

## 3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

### Comments

The application is to progressively clear 8.8 hectares over a ten year period for the purpose of extracting limestone approximately 40km west of the Esperance townsite. A vegetation report undertaken by the Esperance Wildflower Society in March 2009 identified a total of 75 flora species within the application area, out of the 75 species 8 were identified as being weed species.

Only one fauna species of conservation significance (Hooded Plover) has been recorded within a 10km radius of the application. Given the large percent of vegetation remaining in the local area (approximately 75 percent), it is considered unlikely that the proposed clearing will significantly impact upon this species or other local native fauna.

No declared rare or priority flora have been recorded within a 10km radius of the application. There has also

been no threatened ecological communities (TEC?s) mapped within 10km of the proposed clearing.

Approximately 95 percent of the vegetation under application comprises of Beard vegetation association 42, the other 5 percent is represented by Beard vegetation association 125 (Shepherd, 2009). Both recorded vegetation association identified are above the threshold level (30 percent) recommended in the National Objectives Targets for Biodiversity Conservation, below which species loss appears to accelerate exponentially at an ecosystem level (Commonwealth of Australia 2001). In addition to this, the application area is not within an extensively cleared landscape, with approximately 75 percent remaining within a 5km radius of the proposed clearing. Given this the vegetation under application is not considered significant as a remnant.

The disturbance resulting from the proposed clearing will increase the risk of weeds and dieback spreading into the adjacent remnant vegetation. Weed and dieback management practices will assist in mitigating this risk.

The application area is located approximately 350 metres east of Lake Quallilup, classified as a south coast significant wetland. The lake is also vested with the Conservation Commission Western Australia, with its purpose being for conservation and recreation. In addition to this the, Lake Gore RAMSAR wetland has been mapped approximately 500 metres of the proposed clearing area. The area between the wetlands and application area appears to be well vegetated with minimal disturbance. The topography in the area is considered to be low relief ranging between 40 to 60 AHD.

The removal of vegetation from the area may increase the amount of surface water runoff in the area, thus mobilizing excess sedimentation which may subsequently infiltrate into the nearby mapped wetlands and lead to deterioration of these wetlands. However, given that there is approximately 350 metres of vegetation remaining between Lake Quallilup and the proposed clearing site and approximately 500 metres of vegetation remaining between Lake Gore and the application area, the impacts upon these wetlands are likely to be minimal. In addition to this, the applicant has advised that clearing is to be carried out in stages over a 10 year period, with revegetation to occur once each stage has been completely excavated. A structured revegetation plan will assist in mitigating environmental harm to these sensitive wetland areas.

The application has been assessed against the clearing principles and is not likely to be at variance to any of the clearing principles.

**Methodology**    References:  
Commonwealth of Australia (2001)  
Esperance Wildflower Society (2009)  
Shepherd (2009)  
GIS Database:  
-SAC Biodatasets - accessed January 12  
- Hydrography linear  
-Pre-European vegetation

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

##### **Comments**

An extractive industry licence was granted by the Shire of Esperance on 30 October 2000 and renewed in October 2001 for a period of 21 years (Triple M Transport Pty Ltd, 2012).

The application is within the Esperance Groundwater RIWI Area. The Department of Water (DoW) 2012 has no objections to the proposal and provides the following comments; Measure should be implemented as a condition of clearing, that run-off from the site should not be directed towards Lake Quallilup (DoW, 2012).

**Methodology**    References:  
Department of Water (2012)  
Triple M Transport (2012)

#### **4. References**

- Commonwealth of Australia (2001) National Objectives and Targets for Biodiversity Conservation 2001-2005, Canberra.  
Department of Water (2012) Advice regarding Clearing Permit Application CPS 4782/1, Triple M Transport (WA) Pty Ltd (DEC Ref: A466223)  
Esperance Wildflower Society (Inc) (2009) Quallilup Vegetation Report. Additional information within Clearing Permit Application 4782/1, Triple M Transport (WA) Pty Ltd (DEC Ref:A460110)  
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.  
Triple M Transport (WA) Pty Ltd (2012) Supporting information for Clearing Permit Application CPS 4782/1 Triple M Transport (WA) Pty Ltd (DEC Ref:A475235)

## 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)