



## CLEARING PERMIT

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

### PERMIT DETAILS

Area Permit Number: 4808/1  
File Number: 2011/006889-1  
Duration of Permit: From 26 March 2012 to 26 March 2014

### PERMIT HOLDER

Shire of Quairading

### LAND ON WHICH CLEARING IS TO BE DONE

Goldfields Road Reserve (PIN: 1353878), DOODENANNING 6383

### AUTHORISED ACTIVITY

The Permit Holder shall not clear more than 0.2 hectares of native vegetation within the area shaded yellow on attached Plan 4808/1.

### CONDITIONS

#### 1. 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*:

- (a) clean earth-moving machinery of soil and vegetation prior to entering and leaving the area to be cleared;
- (b) ensure that no *weed*-affected soil, *mulch*, *fill* or other material is brought into the area to be cleared; and
- (c) 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:

*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;

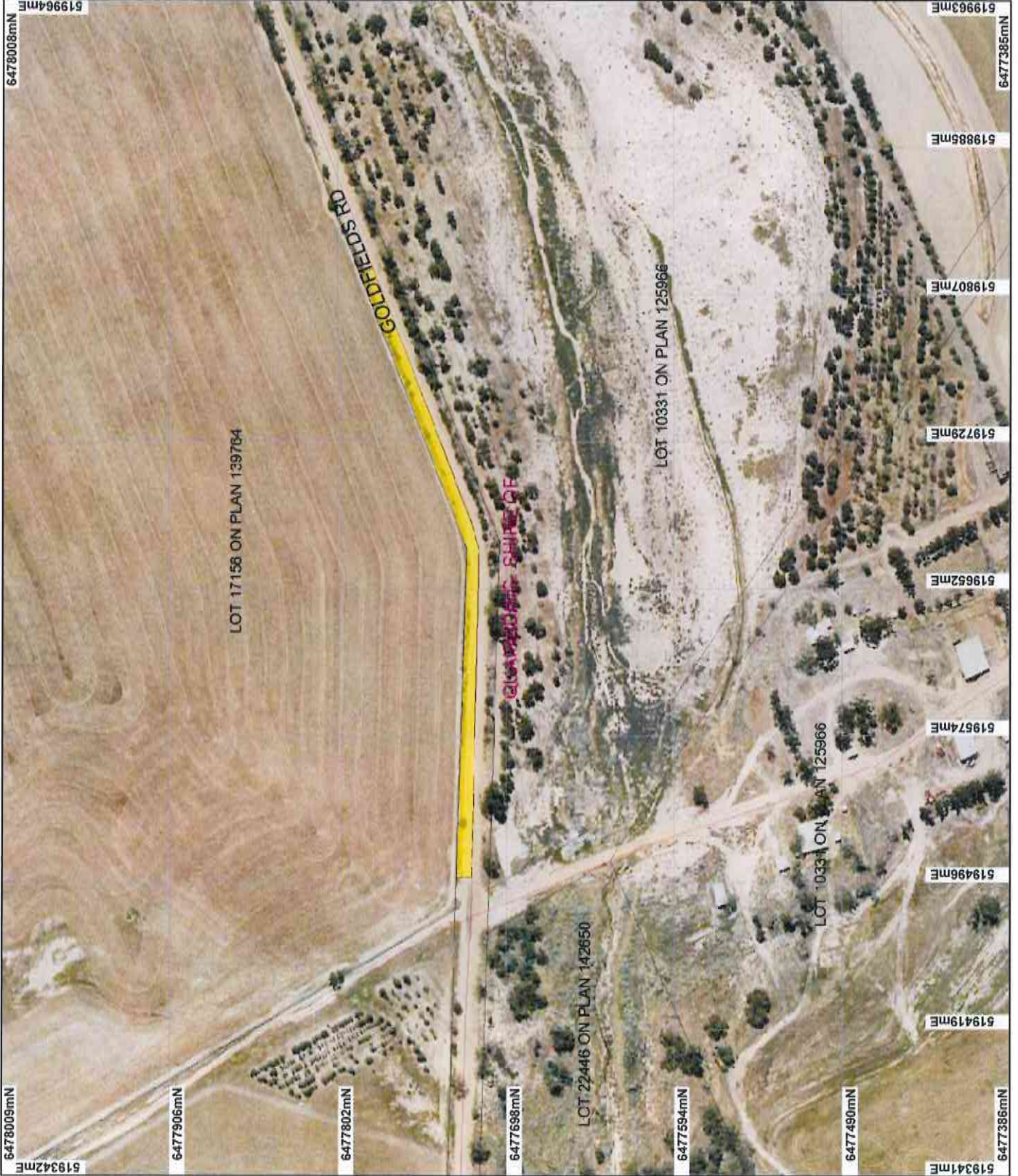
*weed/s* means a species listed in Appendix 3 of the "Environmental Weed Strategy" published by the Department of Conservation and Land Management (1999), and plants declared under section 37 of the *Agriculture and Related Resources Protection Act 1976*.

Kelly Faulkner  
MANAGER  
NATIVE VEGETATION CONSERVATION BRANCH

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

1 March 2012

# Plan 4808/1



## LEGEND

### Clearing Requirements

- Areas Approved to Clear
- Road Centrelines
- Local Government Authorities
- Towns

- A
- B
- C

Cunderdin 50cm Orthomosaic - Landgata 2004



Scale 1:3000  
Approximate when reproduced at A4

Geocentric Datum Australia 1994

Note: The data in this map have not been projected. This may result in geometric distortions or measurement inaccuracies.

*[Signature]*  
K. Peckham  
Date: 1/3/12

Information derived from this map should be confirmed with the data on which it is based by the agency acronym in the legend.

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## 1. Application details

### 1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 4808/1  
Permit type: Area Permit

### 1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Shire of Quairading

### 1.3. Property details

Property: ROAD RESERVE (DOODENANNING 6383)  
Local Government Area: Shire of Quairading  
Colloquial name: Goldfields Road reserve

### 1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
0.2	Mechanical Removal	Road construction or maintenance

### 1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: GRANT  
Decision Date: 1 March 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: 1049 - Medium woodland; wandoo, York Gum, salmon gum, morrel and gimlet (Hopkins et al, 2001).	The vegetation under application appears to be in a 'degraded' to 'completely degraded' (Keighery, 1994) condition with the area comprising Acacia sp. and Allocasuarina sp. over a predominantly weed infested understorey. The roadside vegetation appears to have been heavily impacted through historic clearing, grading, weed infestation and impacts associated with the movement of traffic through this area.	Completely Degraded: No longer intact; completely/almost completely without native species (Keighery 1994)  To  Degraded: Structure severely disturbed; regeneration to good condition requires intensive management (Keighery 1994)	Vegetation condition confirmed through photographs supplied with clearing application and aerial imagery - Cunderdin 50cm Orthomosaic - Landgate 2004.

## 3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

### Comments

The application to clear 0.2ha of native vegetation for the purposes of road realignment is not likely to have any detrimental impacts. The applied area is restricted to the northern side of the Goldfields Road reserve (Shire of Quairading, 2012). The vegetation is in 'completely degraded' to 'degraded' (Keighery, 1994) condition and consists predominantly of Acacia sp. and Allocasuarina sp. over a predominantly weed infested understorey. The vegetation is therefore not a good representation of the mapped Beard vegetation association 1049 - medium woodland; wandoo, York Gum, salmon gum, morrel and gimlet.

One priority ecological community - 'Mortlock flats (salt flats plant assemblages of the Mortlock River (East Branch))' has been recorded within the local area (20km radius) of the applied clearing area, approximately 16km away (to the mapped buffer). The closest threatened ecological community (TEC) is the critically endangered Toolibin TEC - 'Perched wetlands of the Wheatbelt Region with extensive stands of Casuarina obesa and Melaleuca strobophylla' however this community is approximately 47km away. Given the distance to these communities and the vegetation under application does not have any affinities with these communities, the vegetation is not likely to comprise, or is necessary for the maintenance of these communities.

Two threatened fauna species, *Idiosoma nigrum* (Shield-backed trapdoor spider, listed as rare or likely to become extinct under the Wildlife Conservation Act 1950 and ranked as Vulnerable under the World Conservation Union (IUCN) Red List criteria A2) and *Morelia spilota subsp. imbricata* (Carpet Python, Other Specially Protected Fauna) have been recorded within 20km radius of the applied clearing area (DEC, 2007-). Given the record of *Idiosoma nigrum* is from 1955, the 'completely degraded' to 'degraded' (Keighery, 1994) condition of the vegetation and the continued disturbance to this site, the vegetation is not considered significant as fauna habitat.

Seven declared rare and fifteen priority flora species have been recorded within the local area within the same vegetation and soil types of the applied clearing area with the closest records being *Hakea aculeata* (DRF) approximately 4.3km away and *Stylidium coroniforme* subsp. *amblyphyllum* (priority 1) and *Acacia phaeocalyx* (priority 3), approximately 3.0km from the applied clearing area. Although there are a number of rare and priority flora occurring within the local area on similar vegetation and soil types, the vegetation remaining at this site is narrow, heavily graded and disturbed and adjacent to a salt affected land parcel. During a site visit undertaken by Department of Environment and Conservation no rare or priority flora were observed. The vegetation therefore is not likely to provide habitat for flora of conservation significance.

A mapped wetland, minor, non perennial watercourse and land for wildlife site occur directly south of the Goldfields Road reserve. As the vegetation proposed to be cleared is confined to the northern side of the existing road, there should be no further impacts to the wetland, watercourse or conservation area as a result of the clearing under application. Appropriate weed hygiene measures will also reduce the risk of additional weed species being introduced into the area and potentially spreading to these environments. It is also unlikely that the clearing as proposed will result in appreciable land degradation, further deterioration in water resources or result in flooding.

Given the vegetation proposed to be cleared does not support any biodiversity values and given the scale and condition of the vegetation, it is not likely that the proposed clearing is at variance to any of the clearing principles.

- Methodology**    References:
- DEC (2007-) – NatureMap Accessed 9 February 2012
  - Keighery (1994)
  - Shepherd (2009)
  - Shire of Quairading (2012)
- GIS Databases:
- Geomorphic wetlands, Wheatbelt - DEC
  - Hydrography, linear - DoW
  - Hydrography, linear (hierarchy) - DoW
  - IBRA Australia - DEH
  - Land for Wildlife - DEC
  - Pre-European Vegetation - DA
  - SAC Biodatasets - Accessed 9 February 2012
  - Soils, Statewide - DA

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

##### **Comments**

The Goldfields Road realignment is proposed to extend through Lot 17158 Goldfields Road, Doodenanning however, the vegetation under application is contained within the cadastral boundary of the Goldfields Road reserve.

The area under application falls within the EPA Position Statement No. 2 boundary however, the proposed clearing is not for agricultural purposes and is minimal clearing (0.2ha) for the purposes of improved road safety.

The applied clearing area falls within the Avon River Catchment Surface Water Area proclaimed and managed under the Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914 administered by the Department of Water (DoW). Any taking of surface water or obstruction or interference with the bed or banks of a watercourse in this area will require approval from DoW.

- Methodology**    GIS Databases:
- Cadastre - Landgate
  - EPA Position Paper No. 2 Agriculture Region - DEP
  - RIWI, Surface Water Areas, Irrigation Districts - DoW

#### **4. References**

- DEC (2007-) NatureMap: Mapping Western Australia's Biodiversity. Department of Environment and Conservation. URL: <http://naturemap.dec.wa.gov.au/>. Accessed 09/02/2012.
- Hopkins, A.J.M., Beeston, G.R. and Harvey J.M. (2001) A database on the vegetation of Western Australia. Stage 1. CALMScience after J. S. Beard, late 1960's to early 1980's Vegetation Survey of Western Australia, UWA Press.
- 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.
- Shire of Quairading (2012) Email correspondence: Proposed road realignment and confirmation of applied clearing area for Goldfields Road reserve, Doodenanning. Shire of Quairading, Quairading, Western Australia. DEC ref A467166.