



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

PERMIT DETAILS

Area Permit Number: CPS 4823/1

File Number: 2012/000281/1

Duration of Permit: From 26 March 2012 to 26 March 2014

PERMIT HOLDER

Michael Gordon Palmer

Coralie Marie Palmer

LAND ON WHICH CLEARING IS TO BE DONE

Lot 7 on Plan 13616, Dongara

AUTHORISED ACTIVITY

The Permit Holder shall not clear more than 6 hectares of native vegetation within the area cross hatched yellow on attached Plan 4823/1.

CONDITIONS

Nil.

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

Kelly Faulkner

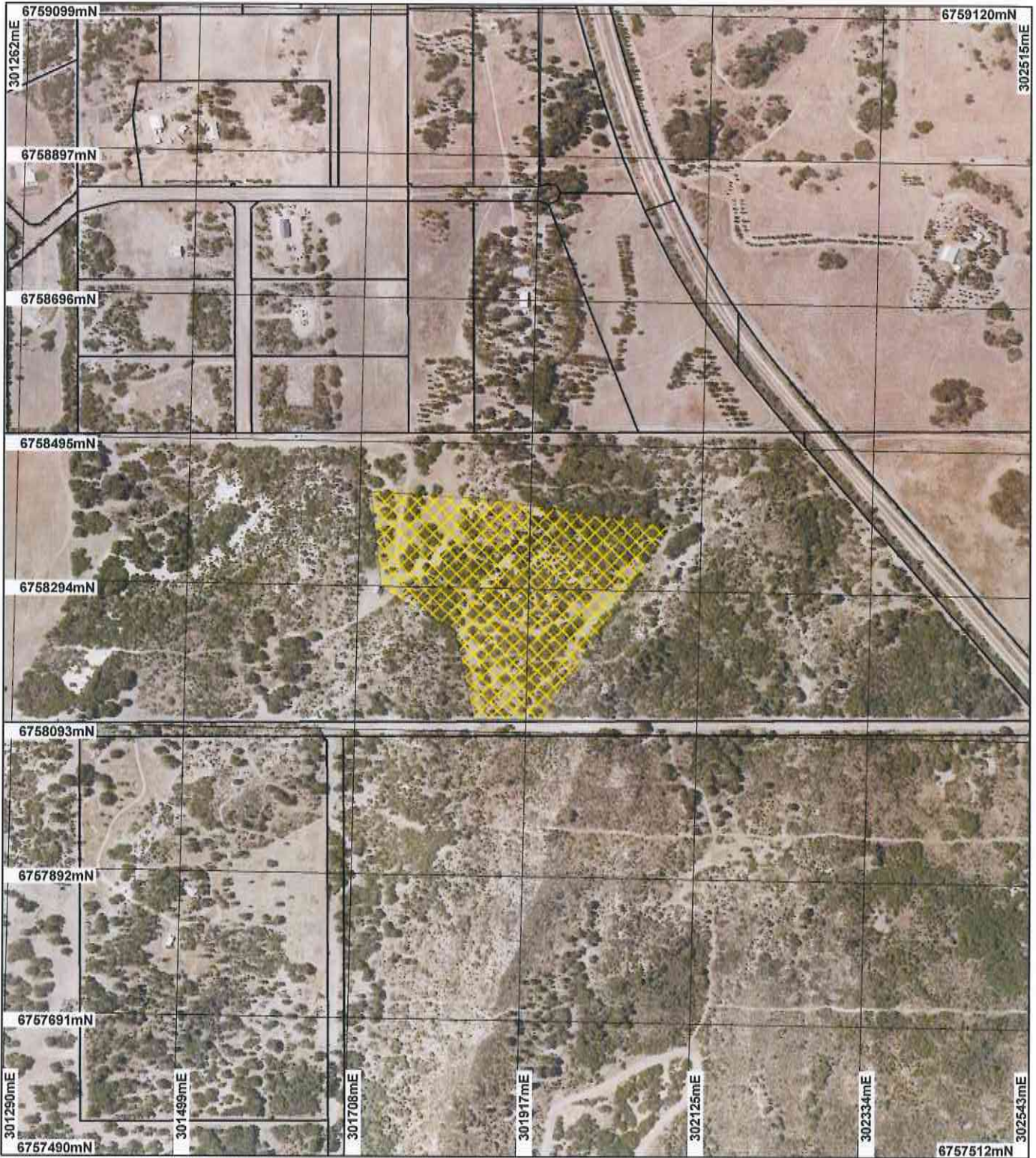
MANAGER

NATIVE VEGETATION CONSERVATION BRANCH

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

1 March 2012

Plan 4823/1



LEGEND

Clearing Instruments

-  Areas Approved to Clear
 -  Cadastre
- Dongara 50cm Orthomosaic -
Landgate 2006



0 200 m

Scale 1:7208
(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 1/3/19
K. Faulkner

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

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1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 4823/1
Permit type: Area Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: MR Michael Gordon Palmer

1.3. Property details

Property: LOT 7 ON PLAN 13616 (SPRINGFIELD 6525)
Local Government Area: Shire of Irwin

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
0.2		Mechanical Removal	Hazard reduction or fire control
5.8		Mechanical Removal	Pasture

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
Mapped Beard vegetation association: 17 Shrublands; Acacia rostellifera thicket (Shepherd, 2009).	The application is to clear 6 hectares of native vegetation for the purpose of pasture and firebreaks. The vegetation under application consists mainly of Acacia rostellifera and appears to have very little middle story and a ground cover of mainly weeds (Williams, 2007). The application area also consists of a number of Melaleuca lanceolata species, however the applicant has advised that that these species will not be removed. The vegetation under application appears to be sparse and subjected to current and previous grazing from horses. The vegetation within the applied area is considered to be in a degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition.	Degraded: Structure severely disturbed; regeneration to good condition requires intensive management (Keighery 1994)	The condition of the vegetation was obtained via aerial photography and additional information within clearing permit application CPS 4823/1.

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

Comments **Proposal is not likely to be at variance to this Principle**
The application is to clear 6 hectares for the purpose of fire breaks and pasture. The vegetation consists mainly of Acacia rostellifera with no understory and ground cover of various weeds (Williams, 2007). The area under application has been subjected to grazing from live stock (horses). The vegetation under application is considered to be in a degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition.

Within a 10km radius of the area under application a number of fauna species of conservation significance has

been recorded. Given that the clearing consist of mainly *Acacia rostellifera* with little to no middle storey or ground cover, it is considered unlikely the application area comprises of suitable habitat for fauna species of conservation significance known in the local area.

Several priority flora species have been recorded within a 10km radius of the application. The closest mapped priority flora species is *Anthocercis intricata* (P3) which has been recorded approximately 3.5 km north west from the proposed clearing. *Anthocercis intricata* priority species has been mapped as occurring within the same vegetation and soil type as those of the applied area. However given the historical disturbance to the area from grazing, and the degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition of the vegetation under application, it is unlikely that the area under application will support priority flora species.

The vegetation under application is described as Beard vegetation association as 17, which has approximately 82 per cent of its pre-European vegetation remaining in the Geraldton Sandplains IBRA Bioregion (Shepherd, 2009). Additionally to this the area under application does not occur within an extensively cleared landscape with approximately 40 per cent of vegetation remaining in the local area (10km). Given this, the vegetation under application is not considered significant as a remnant.

Given the degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition of the vegetation under application along with the historical and ongoing disturbance from grazing, it is unlikely that the proposed clearing comprises of a high level of biodiversity, nor will it significantly impact upon ground water quality, surface water quality or cause appreciable land degradation in the local area.

The assessment of the application identified that the clearing is not likely to be at variance to any of the principles.

Methodology References:
Keighery (1994)
Shepherd (2009)
Williams (2007)
GIS Databases:
- SAC Biodatasets - Accessed January 2012

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

Comments

The Department of Water (DoW, 2012) has advised that there are no applications for a licence under 26D or 5C of the Rights in Water and Irrigation (RIWI) Act 1914 associated with the property or property owner. DoW advises, due to the nature of the Arrowsmith groundwater area, there is no guarantee that a new application will be granted. The applicant should speak to a groundwater professional regarding potential groundwater yields and water quality suitability on his property before proceeding (DoW, 2012).

The applicant has advised he has no intentions of using the groundwater due to its poor quality (Palmer, 2012)

The town planning scheme of the area under application is zoned special rural.

Methodology References:
Department of Water (2012)
Michael Palmer (2012)

4. References

- DoW (2012) Advice for Clearing Permit Application CPS 4799/1. Department of Water. Midwest Gascoyne Region, Western Australia. DEC ref A474324.
- Keighery, B.J. (1994) Bushland Plant Survey: A Guide to Plant Community Survey for the Community. Wildflower Society of WA (Inc). Nedlands, Western Australia.
- Palmer, M (2012). Email Correspondence. Supporting information for Clearing Permit Application CPS 4823/1. DEC Ref:A4
- 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.
- Williams, D. (2007) Flora impact Survey of proposed Development for MG & CM Palmer. Additional information within Clearing Permit Application CPS 4823/1. DEC ref:A465813.

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)