



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

PERMIT DETAILS

Area Permit Number: 4946/1
File Number: 2011/006829-1
Duration of Permit: From 22 February 2014 to 22 February 2016

PERMIT HOLDER

Shire of Cranbrook

LAND ON WHICH CLEARING IS TO BE DONE

Lot 289 on Deposited Plan 216233 (Reserve 19966), Cranbrook

AUTHORISED ACTIVITY

The Permit Holder shall not clear more than 0.38 hectares of native vegetation within the area hatched yellow on attached Plan 4946/1.

CONDITIONS

Weed control

- (a) 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*:
- (i) clean earth-moving machinery of soil and vegetation prior to entering and leaving the area to be cleared;
 - (ii) ensure that no *weed*-affected soil, *mulch*, *fill* or other material is brought into the area to be cleared; and
 - (iii) restrict the movement of machines and other vehicles to the limits of the areas to be cleared.
- (b) At least once in each 12 month period for the term of this Permit, the Permit Holder must remove or kill any *weeds* growing within areas cleared under this Permit.

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; and

weeds means any plant -

- (a) that is a declared pest under section 22 of the *Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act 2007*; or
- (b) published in a Department of Parks and Wildlife Regional Weed Summary, regardless of ranking; or
- (c) not indigenous to the area concerned.

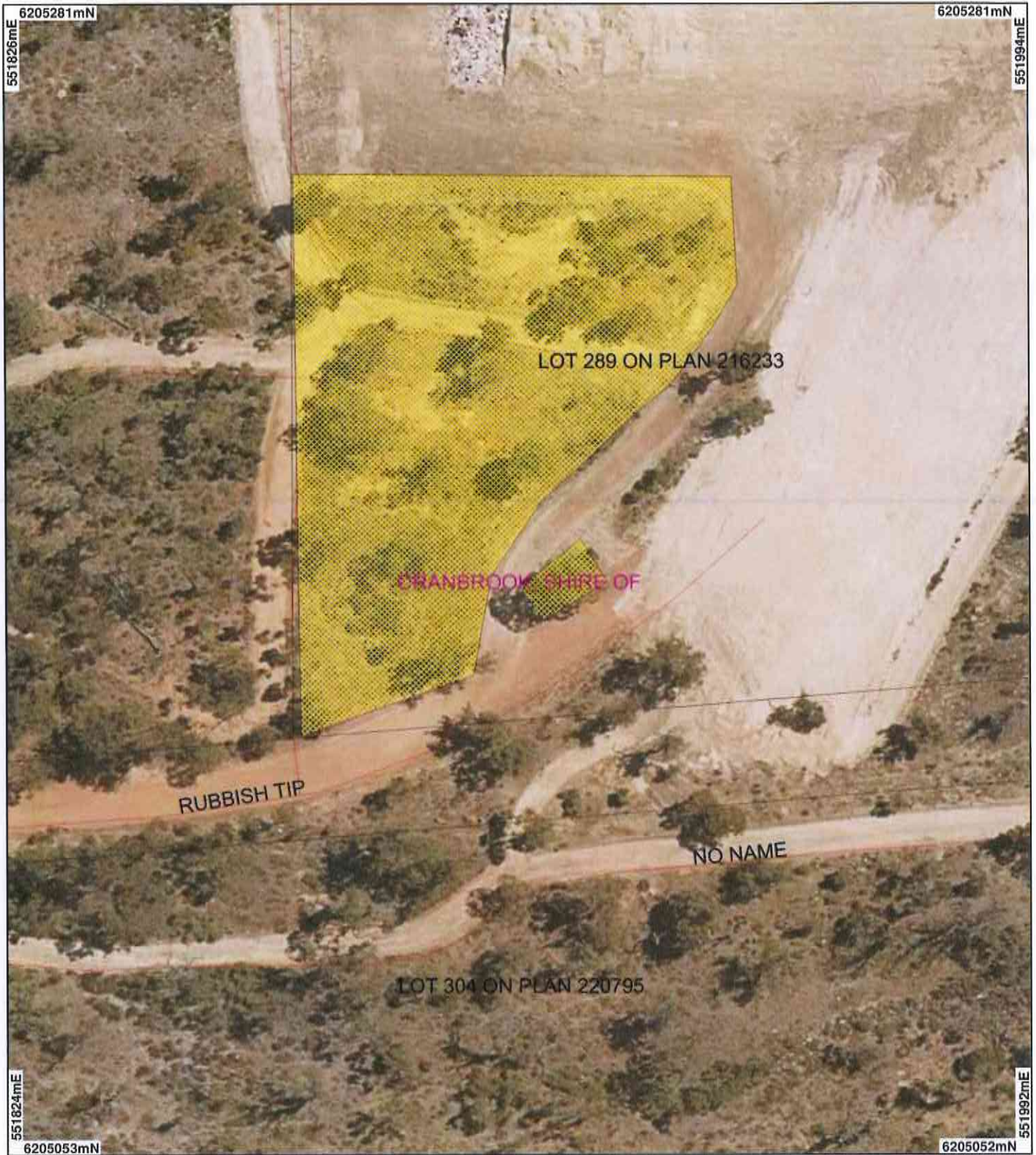
A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jane Clarkson", written over a horizontal line.

Jane Clarkson
ACTING MANAGER
NATIVE VEGETATION CONSERVATION BRANCH

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

23 January 2014

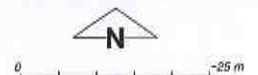
Plan 4946/1



LEGEND

- Road Centrelines
- Cadastre
- Clearing Instruments
- Areas Approved to Clear
- Local Government Authorities

Cranbrook Townsite 20cm
Orthomosaic - Landgate
2009



Scale 1:1000
(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 23.1.14
Jane Clarkson

Officer with delegated authority under Section 20 of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

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.: 4946/1
Permit type: Area Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Shire of Cranbrook

1.3. Property details

Property: LOT 289 ON PLAN 216233 (Lot No. 289 RUBBISH TIP CRANBROOK 6321)
Local Government Area: Shire of Cranbrook
Colloquial name:

1.4. Application

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

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Grant
Decision Date: 23 January 2014

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: 697 - Shrublands; scrub heath on lateritic sandplain in the southern Geraldton Sandplain Region (Shepherd et al., 2001)	The application is to clear up to 0.38 hectares of native vegetation within Lot 289 on Plan 216233 (Reserve 19966) on Rubbish Tip Road, Cranbrook, for the purpose of constructing a waste transfer station including internal roads, infrastructure and fencing.	Good: Structure significantly altered by multiple disturbance; retains basic structure/ability to regenerate (Keighery 1994) To Degraded: Structure severely disturbed; regeneration to good condition requires intensive management (Keighery 1994)	The vegetation under application is very open and consists of scattered native trees over a reduced and significantly altered understorey. Vegetation condition was determined through aerial imagery and photographs provided by the applicant (Shire of Cranbrook, 2012).

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

Comments

The application is to clear 0.38 hectares of native vegetation on the outer edge of the town of Cranbrook, at the western end of the existing rubbish facility. It is adjacent to approximately 2 hectares of cleared land associated with the existing rubbish tip and is surrounded by cleared areas for firebreaks and tip access.

The vegetation under application consists of scattered native overstorey species over a reduced and significantly altered understorey and is considered to be in good to degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition.

The local area (10 kilometre radius) is extensively cleared with approximately 10 percent native vegetation remaining. The application area is located within a remnant of native vegetation on Crown land approximately 400 hectares in size. Aerial imagery indicates this remnant vegetation is in better condition than the application area. Soil disturbance while undertaking clearing activities poses a high risk of introducing or spreading weeds or pathogens such as dieback to the surrounding environment, which may impact upon the condition of the surrounding remnant vegetation. Weed and dieback management will minimise this risk.

There are numerous records of flora and fauna of conservation significance within the local area. Considering the small amount of clearing proposed (0.38 hectares), vegetation condition and the amount of adjacent vegetation that appears to be in better condition, the proposed clearing is not likely to provide significant habitat for flora or fauna of conservation significance.

The vegetation under application is mapped as Beard Vegetation Association 697 which is underrepresented in the Avon Wheatbelt IBRA bioregion, retaining approximately 20 per cent (21,455 hectares) of the pre-European extent, approximately 2 per cent (323 hectares) of which is held in the conservation reserve system (Government of Western Australia, 2013). However given the reduced biodiversity values of the vegetation under application, it is not considered to be a significant remnant of this vegetation type.

There are no watercourses mapped within the application area.

The proposed clearing is small (0.38 hectares) and is not likely to result in appreciable land degradation, water quality deterioration or increase the risk of flooding.

Considering the above, the proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to any of the clearing principles.

Methodology References:
Keighery (1994)
Government of Western Australia (2013)
GIS Databases:
- Cranbrook 20cm Orthomosaic - Landgate 2009
- Hydrography, linear
- NLWRA, Current Extent of Native Vegetation - DEC 08/11
- Pre-European vegetation
- SAC Biodatasets - DEC 03/12

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

Comments

The property is zoned public purposes under the Town Planning Scheme and is reserved under management order to the Shire of Cranbrook for the purpose of rubbish disposal site.

There are no known Aboriginal Sites of Significance within the application area.

No public submissions were received in relation to this application.

A Works Approval has been granted by the Department of Environment Regulation.

Methodology GIS Databases:
- Aboriginal Sites of Significance
- Town Planning Scheme Zones

4. References

- Government of Western Australia (2013) 2012 Statewide Vegetation Statistics incorporating the CAR Reserve Analysis (Full Report). Current as of October 2012. WA Department of Environment and Conservation, Perth.
- 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., 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 Cranbrook (2012) Application and Supporting Documentation for Clearing Permit CPS 4946/1, Rubbish Tip Road. DEC Ref: A484936; A503167