



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Purpose Permit number:	CPS 5102/1
Permit Holder:	Shire of Murray
Duration of Permit:	7 September 2012 – 7 September 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 road widening.

2. Land on which clearing is to be done

State Forest 14, Banksiadale 6213 (PIN: 538970)

Lot 2297 on Deposited Plan 210749, Whittaker 6207 (PIN: 1076345)

3. Area of Clearing

The Permit Holder must not clear more than 0.05 hectares of native vegetation within the area shaded yellow on attached Plan 5102/1.

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 for the activities described in condition 1 of this Permit to the extent that the Permit Holder has the power to carry out works involving clearing for those activities under the *Local Government Act 1995* or any other written law.

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

- (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* and *dieback*:
 - (i) clean earth-moving machinery of soil and vegetation prior to entering and leaving the area to be cleared;
 - (ii) shall only move soils in *dry conditions*;
 - (iii) ensure that no *dieback* or *weed*-affected soil, *mulch*, *fill* or other material is brought into the area to be cleared; and
 - (iv) 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.

9. Flora management

- (a) Prior to undertaking any clearing authorised under this Permit, the Permit Holder shall engage a *botanist* to inspect that area for the presence of rare flora listed in the *Wildlife Conservation (Rare Flora) Notice* and *priority flora*.
- (b) Where rare flora or *priority flora* are identified in relation to condition 9(a) of this Permit, the Permit Holder shall ensure that:
 - (i) no clearing occurs within 50 metres of identified rare flora, unless approved by the CEO;
 - (ii) no clearing of identified rare flora occurs unless approved under section 23F(2) of the *Wildlife Conservation Act 1950*;
 - (iii) no clearing of identified *priority flora* occurs, unless approved by the CEO; and
 - (iv) no clearing occurs within 10 metres of identified *priority flora*, unless approved by the CEO.

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 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;
 - (ii) the date that the area was cleared; and
 - (iii) the size of the area cleared (in hectares).
- (b) In relation to flora management pursuant to condition 9 of this Permit:
 - (i) the location of each rare and/or *priority flora* 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) the species name of each rare and/or *priority flora* identified; and
 - (iii) a copy of the botanists flora survey report.

11. 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 10 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 7 June 2017, 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:

botanist means a person with specific training and/or experience in the ecology and taxonomy of Western Australian flora;

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;

priority flora means those plant taxa described as priority flora classes 1, 2, 3 or 4 in the *Department's Declared Rare and Priority Flora List for Western Australia* (as amended);

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*;

Wildlife Conservation (Rare Flora) Notice means those plant taxa gazetted as rare flora pursuant to section 23F(2) of the *Wildlife Conservation Act 1950* (as amended).

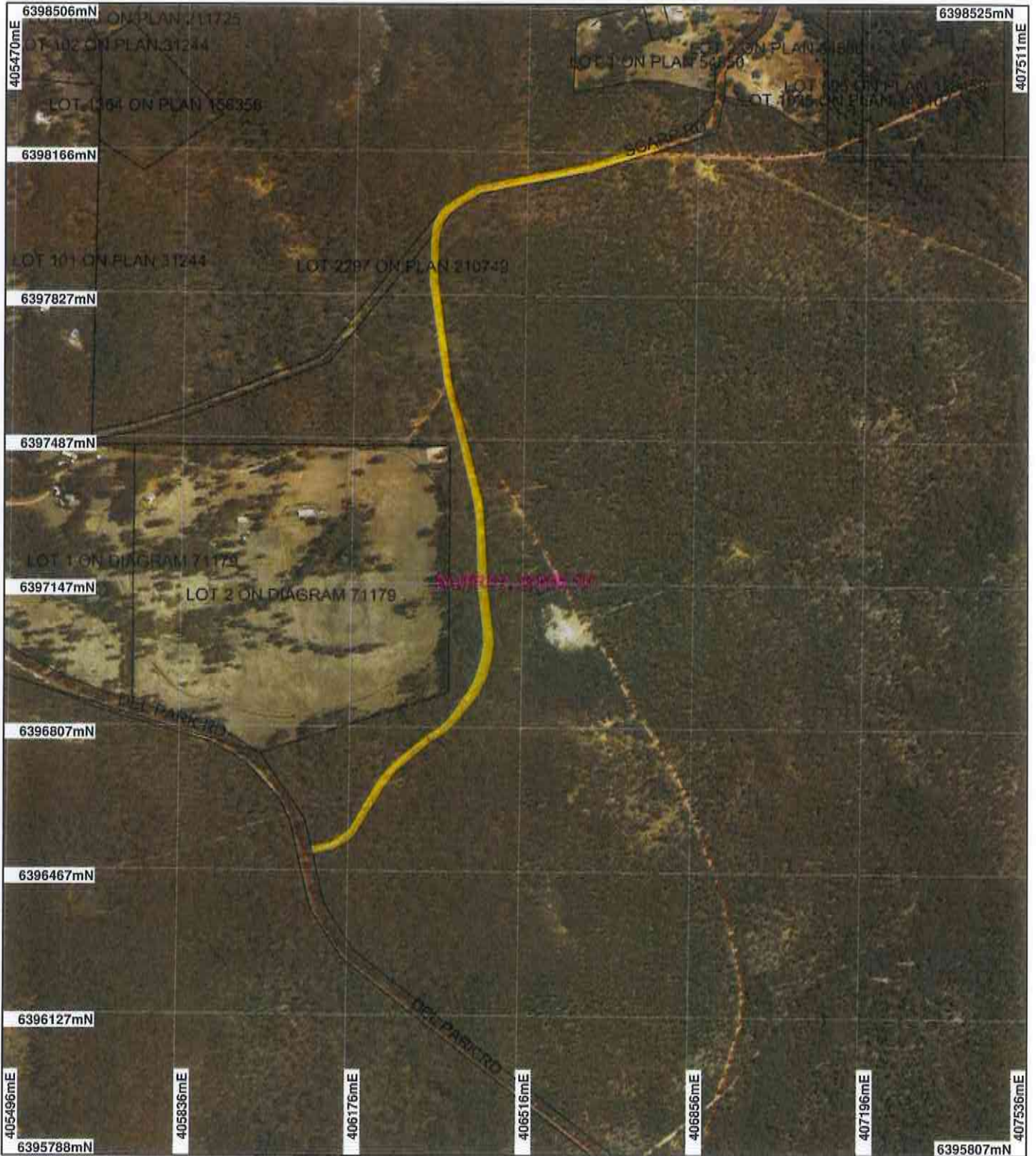


M Warnock
A/MANAGER
NATIVE VEGETATION CONSERVATION BRANCH

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

16 August 2012

Plan 5102/1



LEGEND

- Cadastral for labelling
Clearing Instruments**
- Areas Approved to Clear
 - / Road Centrelines
 - Local Government Authorities

Towns

- A
- B
- C

Perth Metropolitan South
15cm Orthomosaic - Landgate
2011



Scale 1:12000

(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.

M Warnock Date 10/8/12

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.: 5102/1
Permit type: Purpose Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Shire of Murray

1.3. Property details

Property: STATE FOREST 14 (BANKSIADALE 6213)
LOT 2297 ON PLAN 210749 (WHITTAKER 6207)
Local Government Area: SHIRE OF MURRAY
Colloquial name: Scarp Road

1.4. Application

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

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: GRANT
Decision Date: 16 AUGUST 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: 3 - Medium forest; jarrah-marri (Shepherd et al, 2001)	The area under application comprises 0.05ha of native vegetation in mostly 'good' to 'very good' (Keighery, 1994) condition with some areas being degraded as a result of understorey clearing associated with road works activities along Scarp Road (DEC, 2012a).	Degraded: Structure severely disturbed; regeneration to good condition requires intensive management (Keighery 1994)	Vegetation condition confirmed through site visit undertaken by Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC) officers on 18 July 2012 (DEC, 2012a) and through aerial imagery (Perth Metropolitan South 15cm Orthomosaic - Landgate 2011).
Mattiske vegetation complexes: Murray (My1) - Open forest of Eucalyptus marginata subsp. marginata-Corymbia calophylla-Eucalyptus patens on valley slopes to woodland of fs24 Eucalyptus rudis-Melaleuca raphiophylla on the valley floors in humid and subhumid zones.	The applied area consists predominantly of an open overstorey of Corymbia calophylla (marri) and Eucalyptus marginata (jarrah) with understorey including, but not limited to, Xanthorrhoea preissii, Hibbertia sp., Banksia sp., Hakea species, Macrozamia riedlei and Drosera sp. with some stands of Banksia sessilis (DEC, 2012a). The applicant has advised that much of the clearing will be of trees directly adjacent to the existing road edge to improve safety of vehicles travelling along this road.	To Very Good: Vegetation structure altered; obvious signs of disturbance (Keighery 1994)	
Dwellingup (D1) - Open forest of Eucalyptus marginata subsp. marginata-Corymbia calophylla on lateritic uplands in mainly humid and subhumid zones. (Mattiske and Havel, 1998).			

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

Comments

The area under application comprises 0.05 hectares of native vegetation in mostly 'good' to 'very good' (Keighery, 1994) condition with some areas degraded as a result of clearing of the understorey in association with road construction and maintenance/upgrade activities (DEC, 2012a). The applied area consists predominantly of an open overstorey of Corymbia calophylla (marri) and Eucalyptus marginata (jarrah) with understorey including, but not limited to, Xanthorrhoea preissii, Hibbertia sp., Banksia sp., a number of Hakea species, Macrozamia riedlei and Drosera sp. with some stands of Banksia sessilis (DEC, 2012a).

Fifteen priority and six rare flora species have been recorded within the local area (10km radius) of the applied clearing area with ten priority and one rare flora, *Anthocercis gracilis*, being recorded within similar vegetation and soil types to the area under application. Given this, and the overall good (Keighery, 1994) condition of the vegetation under application, there is the potential for rare and priority flora species to occur within the applied clearing area. Given this, the proposed clearing may be at variance to principles (a) and (c). A flora survey will be required to determine the presence or absence of flora of conservation significance.

Two male Forest Red-tailed Cockatoos (*Calyptorhynchus banksia naso*) were observed within the applied clearing area during a DEC site visit (DEC, 2012a). Given the vegetation comprises marri (*Corymbia calophylla*) and stands of *Banksia sessilis* the area provides some food source for black cockatoo species. However, given the lack of mature trees with hollows and the small scale of the clearing proposed (0.05ha) within State Forest, the vegetation under application is not likely to be considered significant as fauna habitat.

The closest watercourses to the applied clearing area are minor, perennial watercourses approximately 190m east and west and approximately 250m north. No riparian vegetation was observed within the applied clearing area. Given the scale of the proposed clearing, distances to watercourses and wetlands and low salinity risk, the proposed clearing is considered not likely to be at variance to principles (f), (g), (i) or (j).

The vegetation under application is part of State Forest and due to the scale of the clearing, the environmental values are not likely to be significantly impacted by the clearing. However it is possible that indirect impacts such as the introduction and/or spread of weeds and dieback may impact the State Forest as a result of the clearing process. Appropriate weed and dieback hygiene measures should be implemented to prevent this. The proposed clearing may be at variance to principle (h).

The proposed clearing may be at variance to principles (a), (c) and (h).

Methodology

References:

- DEC (2012a)
- Keighery (1994)

GIS Databases:

- DEC Tenure - DEC
- Geomorphic wetlands (Mgt Categories) Swan Coastal Plain - DEC
- Hydrography, linear - DoW
- Hydrography, linear (hierarchy) - DoW
- NatureMap (Accessed 25 June 2012)
- SAC Biodatasets - Accessed 25 June 2012
- Salinity Risk LM 25m - DOLA 00
- Soils, Statewide - DA

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

Comments

The area under application is zoned 'State Forest' under the Peel Regional Scheme. The proposed clearing is for the purposes of improving safety for vehicle movement along the existing Scarp Road. The Swan Region of Department of Environment and Conservation have provided the Shire of Murray authorisation to access the land and are in support of the Shire seeking clearing approval for this purpose (DEC, 2012b).

The applied clearing area falls within the Dandalup River System proclaimed as a surface water area under the Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914, managed and administered by the Department of Water. Any taking of surface water or obstruction or interference with the bed or banks of a watercourse requires approval from the Department of Water.

Methodology

References:

- Conservation Commission of Western Australia (2012)
- DEC (2012b)

GIS Databases:

- DEC Tenure - DEC
- Environmental Impact Assessments - EPA
- Peel Regional Scheme - DPI
- RiWI Act, Surface Water Areas and Irrigation Districts - DoW

4. References

Conservation Commission of Western Australia (2012) Forest Management Plan 2014-2023 Environmental Scoping Document. Conservation Commission of Western Australia, Perth, Western Australia.

DEC (2007 -) NatureMap: Mapping Western Australia's Biodiversity. Department of Environment and Conservation. URL: <http://naturemap.dec.wa.gov.au/>. Accessed 25/06/2012.

DEC (2012a) Site Inspection Report for Clearing Permit Application CPS 5102/1, Scarp Road (Lot 2297 on Plan 210749, Whittaker and State Forest 14, Banksiadale). Site inspection undertaken 18/07/2012. Department of Environment and Conservation, Western Australia (DEC Ref. A534718).

- DEC (2012b) Scarp Road - Proposed Clearing Part State Forest 14 and Lot 2297 on Plan 210749, Whittaker. Swan Region, Department of Environment and Conservation, Bentley, Western Australia (DEC Ref. A517254).
- Government of Western Australia (2011); 2011 Statewide Vegetation Statistics incorporating the CAR Reserve Analysis (Full Report). 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.
- 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.
- Northcote, K. H. with Beckmann G G, Bettenay E., Churchward H. M., van Dijk D. C., Dimmock G. M., Hubble G. D., Isbell R. F., McArthur W. M., Murtha G. G., Nicolls K. D., Paton T. R., Thompson C. H., Webb A. A. and Wright M. J. (1960-68): 'Atlas of Australian Soils, Sheets 1 to 10, with explanatory data'. CSIRO and Melbourne University Press: Melbourne.
- 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
CALM	Department of Conservation and Land Management (now DEC)
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
DoP	Department of Planning
DPI	Department of Planning and Infrastructure (now DoP)
DRF	Declared Rare Flora
EPA	Environmental Protection Authority
EPP	Environmental Protection Policy
GIS	Geographical Information System
ha	Hectare (10,000 square metres)
WRC	Water and Rivers Commission (now DoW)