



## CLEARING PERMIT

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

### PERMIT DETAILS

Area Permit Number: CPS 5134/1

File Number: 2012/004599

Duration of Permit: From 28 September 2012 to 28 September 2014

### PERMIT HOLDER

Western Australian Land Authority TA LandCorp

### LAND ON WHICH CLEARING IS TO BE DONE

Lot 505 on Deposited Plan 60220, GAP RIDGE 6714

Lot 521 on Deposited Plan 69961, GAP RIDGE 6714

### AUTHORISED ACTIVITY

The Permit Holder must not clear more than 18.93 hectares of native vegetation within the area cross hatched yellow on attached Plan 5134/1.

### CONDITIONS

#### 1. 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:

- (a) avoid the clearing of native vegetation;
- (b) minimise the amount of native vegetation to be cleared; and
- (c) reduce the impact of clearing on any environmental value.

#### 2. Period in which clearing is authorised

The Permit Holder shall not clear native vegetation unless undertaking works within 3 months of the authorised clearing being undertaken.

#### 3. 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;

*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*.

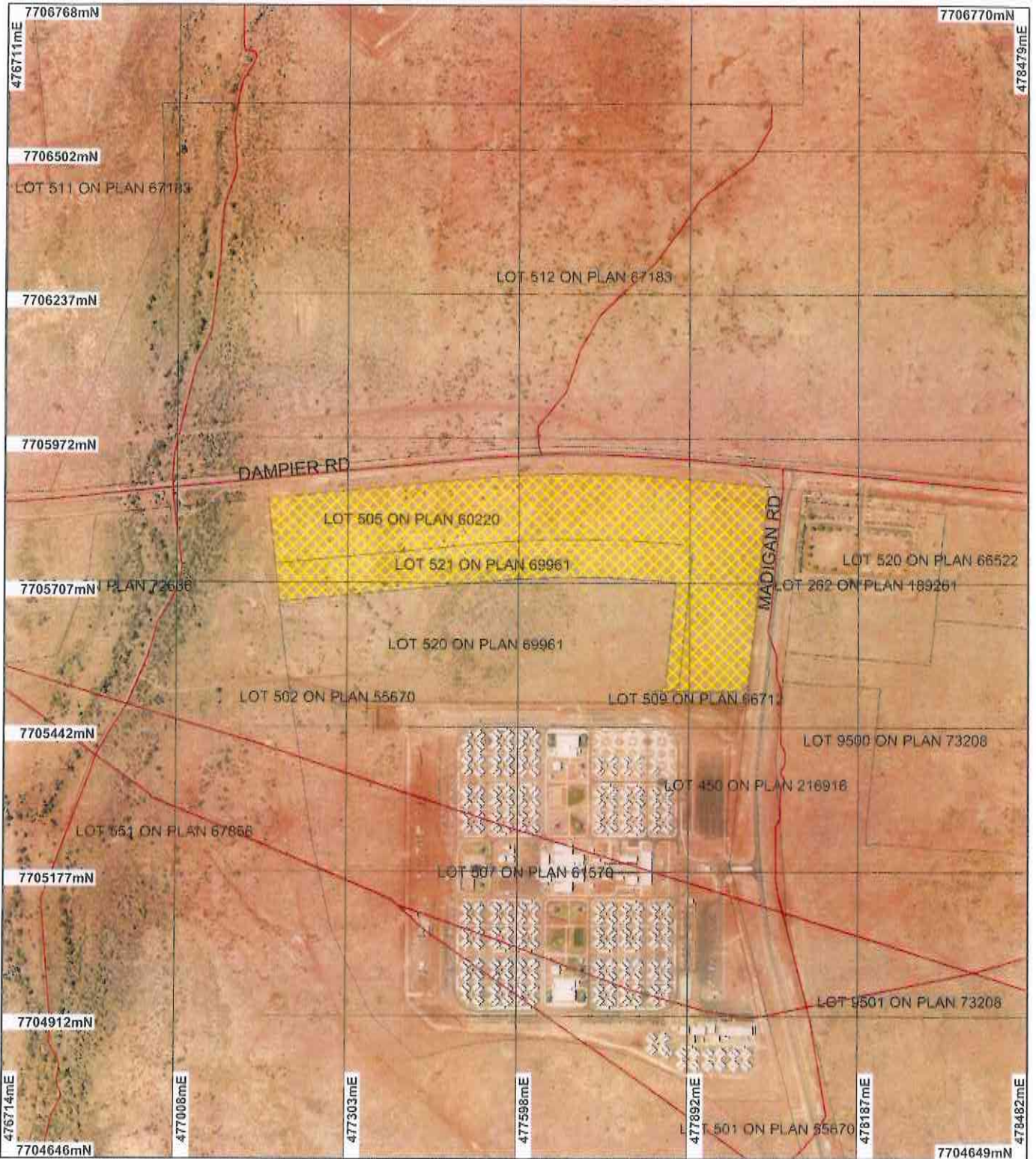


M Warnock  
MANAGER, COMPLIANCE AND AUDIT SECTION  
NATIVE VEGETATION CONSERVATION BRANCH

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

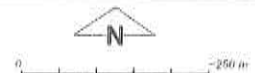
6 September 2012

# CPS 5134/1 - Plan



## LEGEND

- Areas Approved to Clear
- Road Centrelines
- Damper and Extensions 50cm
- Orthomosaic - Landgate



Scale 1:9749  
(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 6/9/12  
M Warnock

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

Our environment. Our future.  
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\* 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.: 5134/1

Permit type: Area Permit

### 1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Western Australian Land Authority TA LandCorp

### 1.3. Property details

Property: LOT 505 ON PLAN 60220 (GAP RIDGE 6714)  
LOT 521 ON PLAN 69961 (Lot No. 521 MADIGAN GAP RIDGE 6714)

Local Government Area: Shire of Roebourne

Colloquial name:

### 1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
18.93		Mechanical Removal	Drainage

### 1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Grant

Decision Date: 3 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
Vegetation associations mapped within the application area:	The proposed clearing of 18.93 hectares is for the purpose of a pump station and drainage lines.	Excellent: Vegetation structure intact; disturbance affecting individual species, weeds non-aggressive (Keighery 1994)	Vegetation description and condition obtained from supporting information supplied with the application (GHD, 2012) and from aerial photography (Dampier and Extensions 50cm Orthomosaic – Landgate 2008).
Beard vegetation association 589: Mosaic: Short bunch grassland - savannah / grass plain (Pilbara) / Hummock grasslands, grass steppe; soft Spinifex (Shepherd et al, 2001).	The vegetation under application has been described as mosaic shrubland of Acacia spp. over low open shrublands of Indigofera monophylla, Corchorus walcottii, Senna notabilis, Ptilotus spp. and Aerva javanica over hummock grassland and scattered mixed herbs on gravelly sandy/clay plains (GHD, 2012).	To  Completely Degraded: No longer intact; completely/almost completely without native species (Keighery 1994)	
	The majority of the vegetation under application is in excellent (Keighery, 1994) condition with degraded areas adjacent to existing tracks and previously cleared areas (GHD 2012).		

## 3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

### Comments

The application is to clear up to 18.93ha of native vegetation for the purpose of installing a sewer line, a sewer pump station and construction of drainage channels.

The vegetation under application has been described as mosaic shrubland of Acacia spp. over low open shrublands of Indigofera monophylla, Corchorus walcottii, Senna notabilis, Ptilotus spp. and Aerva javanica over hummock grassland and scattered mixed herbs on gravelly sandy/clay plains (GHD, 2012) and occurs in an excellent (Keighery 1994) condition (GHD 2012).

A flora survey of the area under application carried out in August 2011 did not identify any priority or rare flora species (GHD 2012). In addition, no threatened ecological communities were identified (GHD 2012).

The area under application is 940m of the Roebourne Plains Gilgai Grassland Priority Ecological Community (PEC) and is connected to this PEC through continuous vegetation.

The Biodiversity Audit of the Pilbara (McKenzie et al., 2002) classifies the Roebourne Plains coastal grassland, as being part of an ecosystem at risk, of vulnerable status with a declining condition rating and it is not protected in any reserve. Therefore is a high priority for conservation. Clearing on a large scale has been occurring within the Karratha area and it is not known to what extent this PEC has been cleared. Therefore the continued development around this PEC such as the proposed clearing may cause further degradation through the spread of weeds. Weed management practices will assist in mitigating any adverse impacts to this PEC.

Numerous conservation significant fauna species have been recorded within a 10 km radius of the proposed clearing. A fauna habitat investigation of the area proposed to be cleared identified one habitat type, that being Acacia shrublands/ hummock grassland flats (GHD 2012). The fauna investigation also found 44 bird species, five reptiles and two mammal species using the area under application, one of which is conservation significant being the Rainbow Bee Eater (*Merops ornatus*) (GHD 2012). This habitat type is well represented in the local area in similar or better condition as the area under application.

The proposed clearing of 18.93 ha of native vegetation may result in an increase runoff into the watercourse occurring 200m away during high rainfall events given the relatively large size of the proposed clearing. The clearing of 18.93ha of native vegetation may also result in land degradation through soil erosion. Therefore, the proposed clearing may be at variance to principles (g) and (i). Appropriate surface water management will be required to mitigate potential impacts of the proposed clearing.

The proposed clearing of 18.93ha of native vegetation may be at variance to principle (g) and (i) and is not likely to be at variance to the remaining clearing principles.

#### Methodology

##### References

- Keighery (1994)
- GHD (2012)
- McKenzie et al (2002)

##### GIS Databases

- Mattiske Vegetation (1998)
- Dampier and extensions 50cm Orthomosaic (DLI 2008)
- SAC Biodatasets (accessed July 2012)

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

#### Comments

The application is to clear up to 18.93 hectares of native vegetation for the purpose of pump station and drainage line construction.

The area under application is zoned urban development under the Shire of Roebourne Town Planning Scheme.

The area under application contains two Aboriginal Sites of Significance. It is the responsibility of the proponent to ensure that no Aboriginal Sites of Significance are damaged through the clearing process.

The area under application falls within the Pilbara Groundwater and Surface Water areas. As no groundwater will be taken and no watercourses are present within the application area, no licences should be required (Department of Water, 2012).

Shire of Roebourne advice states that development approval from the Shire will not be necessary as the works on the area under application are required to service a subdivision approval on an adjoining lot (Shire of Roebourne, 2012).

#### Methodology

##### References

- Department of Water (2012)
- Shire of Roebourne (2012)

##### GIS Databases

- Aboriginal sites of significance

#### 4. References

- GHD (2012) LandCorp, Lot 505 and 521 Madigan Road Karratha, Supporting documentation for Clearing Permit (area permit). 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.
- McKenzie N. L., May J. E and McKenna S, (2002) Bioregional Summary of the 2002 Bioregional Audit for Western Australia. CALM 2003.
- 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 Roebourne (2012) Advice received from the Shire of Roebourne for CPS 5134/1 on 3/9/2012. DEC reference A541110. Shire of Roebourne

#### 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)