



## CLEARING PERMIT

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

### PERMIT DETAILS

Area Permit Number: 5178/1  
File Number: 2012/005261-1  
Duration of Permit: From 5 October 2012 to 5 October 2014

### PERMIT HOLDER

Nicholas Raymond de Vries

### LAND ON WHICH CLEARING IS TO BE DONE

Lot 2429 on Deposited Plan 104981, Greenough.

### AUTHORISED ACTIVITY

The Permit Holder shall not clear more than 0.2 hectares of native vegetation within the area hatched yellow on attached Plan 5178/1.

### 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*.

Roxane Shadbolt  
A/MANAGER  
NATIVE VEGETATION CONSERVATION BRANCH

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

13 September 2012

# Plan 5178/1



## LEGEND

- Local Government Authorities
- Cadastre
- Clearing Instruments**
- Areas Approved to Clear
- Road Centrelines
- Geraldton 50cm Orthomosaic - Landgate 2006



0 ————— -75 m

Scale 1:2500  
(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.

R. Shadbolt 12/9/12 Date  
Roxane Shadbolt

Information derived from this map should be confirmed with the data custodian acknowledged by the agency acronym in the legend.



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## 1. Application details

### 1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 5178/1  
Permit type: Area Permit

### 1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Nicholas Raymond de Vries

### 1.3. Property details

Property: LOT 2429 ON PLAN 104981 (House No. 190 GEORGINA GREENOUGH 6532)  
Local Government Area: City of Greater Geraldton  
Colloquial name:

### 1.4. Application

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

### 1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Grant  
Decision Date: 13 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
Beard Vegetation Association: 359 - Shrublands; acacia & banksia scrub (Shepherd et al. 2001).	The application is to clear 0.2 hectares of native vegetation within Lot 2429 on Deposited Plan 104981, Greenough, for the purpose of planting a fruit orchard and vegetable patch.	Good: Structure significantly altered by multiple disturbance; retains basic structure/ability to regenerate (Keighery 1994).  To  Very Good: Vegetation structure altered; obvious signs of disturbance (Keighery 1994).	Vegetation description and condition were determined through aerial imagery (Geraldton 50cm Orthomosaic - Landgate 2006).

## 3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

### Comments

The application is to clear up to 0.2 hectares of native vegetation within Lot 2429 on Deposited Plan 104981, Greenough, in good to very good (Keighery 1994) condition for the purpose of planting a fruit orchard and vegetable patch.

There are several priority flora species recorded within the local area (10 kilometre radius), however only two species occur on the same soil and vegetation type as the application area. The closest of these is *Acacia leptospermoides* subsp. *psammophila* (priority 3), which was located approximately 6 kilometres north-northwest of the application area. There is no ecological linkage between this record and the application area.

There are several fauna species of conservation significance within the local area (10 kilometre radius). The majority of these species are marine birds and marine reptiles, and are therefore unlikely to be impacted by the proposed clearing. Other threatened species include the carpet python (*Morelia spilota* subsp. *imbricata*), which is listed as specially protected fauna (Wildlife Conservation Act 1950) and the Australian bustard (*Ardeotis australis*), which is listed as Priority 4 (Wildlife Conservation Act 1950). Given the mobile nature of these species and that the application area is surrounded by vegetation of similar type and condition, it is unlikely that the proposed clearing would significantly impact on either of these species.

There are three rare flora species located within the local area (10 kilometre radius), but only one species is located on the same soil and vegetation type as the application area. This species, *Drummondita ericoides*, was located approximately 9.7 kilometres northwest of the application area. *Drummondita ericoides* grows on sandstone and laterite slopes, ridges and gullies, in brown loam or sandy loam and clay soils (DEC 2004). Given the siliceous sands present, it is unlikely that this species occurs within the application area.

The application area is located within an extensively cleared and fragmented landscape, with the local area retaining approximately 10 per cent native vegetation. The City of Greater Geraldton retains approximately 20 per cent of pre-European levels of vegetation. Beard vegetation type 359 is poorly represented with approximately 25 per cent of the pre-European extent remaining within the bioregion; approximately 4 per cent



of this is located within DEC managed lands. The application area is located within an isolated remnant area of vegetation that is approximately 29 hectares in size.

The national objectives and targets for biodiversity conservation in Australia has a target to prevent clearance of ecological communities with an extent below 30 per cent of that present pre-1750, below which species loss appears to accelerate exponentially at an ecosystem level (Commonwealth of Australia 2001). Given the above, the proposed clearing may be at variance to principle (e).

Given the above, the proposed clearing may be at variance to Principle (e) and is not likely to be at variance to the remaining principles.

**Methodology**    References:  
Commonwealth of Australia 2001  
DEC 2004  
GIS databases:  
- Geraldton 50cm Orthomosaic - Landgate 2006  
- NLWRA, Current extent of Native Vegetation  
- Pre European Vegetation  
- SAC Biodatasets  
- Soils Statewide  
- Topographic Contours, Statewide

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

**Comments**    The application area is located within the Arrowsmith Groundwater Area and the Greenough River and Tributaries Catchment Area covered by the Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914.

**Methodology**    References:  
GIS databases:  
- RIWI Groundwater Areas  
-RIWI Surface Water Areas

#### **4. References**

- Commonwealth of Australia (2001) National Objectives and Targets for Biodiversity Conservation 2001-2005, Canberra.
- de Vries, N. (2012) Clearing Permit Application CPS 5178/1 - Lot 2429 on Deposited Plan 104981 Greenough. DEC REF: A527598.
- Department of Environment and Conservation (2004) Moresby Range Drummondita (*Drummondita ericoides*) Interim Recovery Plan 2004-2009. Interim Recovery Plan No. 168. Department of Conservation and Land Management, Western Australia.
- 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.
- 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.
- Shared Land Information Platform, Natural Resource Management (2009) Department of Agriculture and Food, Western Australia. <<http://spatial.agric.wa.gov.au/slip/index.asp>>
- 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
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)