

### CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Purpose Permit number:

CPS 5269/1

Permit Holder:

Cotton Holdings Pty Ltd

**Duration of Permit:** 

30 November 2012 to 30 November 2017

The Permit Holder is authorised to clear native vegetation subject to the following conditions of this Permit.

1. Purpose for which clearing may be done

Clearing for the purpose of rehabilitation of an old sand extraction site.

2. Land on which clearing is to be done

Lot 2 on Diagram 45139, Gelorup

3. Area of Clearing

The Permit Holder must not clear more than 0.9 hectares of native vegetation within the area hatched yellow on attached Plan 5269/1.

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.

1835 13361 No 176

Roxane Shadbolt A/MANAGER

NATIVE VEGETATION CONSERVATION BRANCH

exer Shalloot

Officer delegated under Section 20 of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

8 November 2012

## Plan 5269/1





\* Project Data. This data has not been quality assured. Please contact map author for details.

Department of Environment and Conservation

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# Clearing Permit Decision Report

### 1. Application details

Permit application details

Permit application No.:

5269/1

Permit type:

Purpose Permit

Proponent details

Proponent's name:

Cotton Holdings Pty Ltd

1.3. Property details

Property:

LOT 2 ON DIAGRAM 45139 (GELORUP 6230)

Local Government Area:

Colloquial name:

Shire of Capel

Application 1.4. Clearing Area (ha)

No. Trees

Method of Clearing

For the purpose of:

0.9

Mechanical Removal

Road construction or maintenance

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application:

**Decision Date:** 

8 November 2012

#### 2. Site Information

### Existing environment and information

#### 2.1.1. Description of the native vegetation under application

#### Vegetation Description

The area under application has been mapped as **Beard Vegetation** Association 6. This vegetation type is described as 'Medium woodland; tuart & jarrah' (Shepherd et al, 2001).

#### Clearing Description

This application proposes to clear approximately 0.9 hectares of native vegetation for the purpose of lowering Calinup Road to bring it in line with surrounding landform and to allow for recontouring and rehabilitation of the old sand pit.

The area under application is in a degraded to completely degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition and contains such native species as Kunzea glabrescens, Acacia saligna and Jacksonia sp., the remaining species are weeds such as castor oil plant. pelargonium, exotic eucalypt species and grassy weeds (DEC, 2012).

#### Vegetation Condition

Degraded: Structure severely disturbed; regeneration to good condition requires intensive management (Keighery 1994).

To

Completely Degraded: No longer intact; completely/almost completely without native species (Keighery 1994)

#### Comment

The condition and description of the vegetation was determined via a site inspection undertaken by Department of Environment and Conservation staff (DEC, 2012) and throught digital imagery (Bunbury 50cm Orthomosaic - Landgate 2008).

### 3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

#### Comments

The application to clear up to 0.9 hectares of native vegetation for the purpose of road reconstruction is unlikely to have any significant environmental impacts. The vegetation is considered to be in a degraded to completely degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition (DEC, 2012).

There are no rare or priority flora species or threatened ecological communities in close proximity to the application area.

Given the small, degraded area under application it is unlikely for the proposed clearing to contain significant fauna habitat, impact on nearby conservation areas, cause or exacerbate land degradation, flooding or impact on water quality.

The local area (10km radius) contains approximately 30 per cent vegetation and therefore the area under application is not considered to be a significant remnant in an area that has been extensively cleared.

The proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to any of the clearing principles.

#### Methodology

References:

- -DEC (2012)
- -Keighery (1994)

#### GIS databases:

- Hydrography, linear
- Pre-European vegetation
- SAC Bio datasets (Accessed October 2012)

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

#### Comments

An extractive industry has been operating on this property since 1978. The extractive industry licence requires that the pit be rehabilitated after the completion of extraction. This application has been made to facilitate this rehabilitation as the property needs to be re- contoured. Calinup Road runs through the middle of Lot 2 and therefore needs to be lowered to allow for the rehabilitation. The Shire of Capel holds a current clearing permit (CPS 4406/1) to clear within the road reserve to allow for it to be lowered.

The Shire of Capel has advised that the property under application is zoned as 'Rural' under the Town Planning Scheme No. 7 and under the Local Planning Scheme 'Road Construction and Rehabilitation of Land' does not require Planning Consent (Shire of Capel, 2012).

The area under application falls within the Bunbury Groundwater Area which is an area proclaimed under the Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914. The Department of Water has advised that they have no objection to the proposed clearing (DoW, 2012).

#### Methodology

References:

DoW (2012)

Shire of Capel (2012)

GIS Database:

- RIWI Groundwater Areas

#### 4. References

DEC (2012) Site Inspection Report for Clearing Permit Application CPS 5269/1, Lot 2 on Diagram 45139, Gelorup. Site inspection undertaken 1 November 2012. Department of Environment and Conservation, Western Australia (DEC Ref: A563438).

DoW (2012) Advice for clearing permit application CPS 5269/1. Department of Water, Western Australia (DEC Ref: A560247).

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.

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 Capel (2012) Planning advice for clearing permit application CPS 5269/1 (DEC Ref: A557376).

### 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)