



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Purpose Permit number:	CPS 5311/1
Permit Holder:	Shire of Boyup Brook
Duration of Permit:	4 January 2013 - 4 January 2018

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

Boyup Brook-Arthur Road reserve (PIN 1382914 and 1389215)

3. Area of Clearing

The Permit Holder must not clear more than 0.25 hectares of native vegetation within the area cross hatched yellow on attached Plan 5311/1.

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. Fauna management

The Permit Holder must not clear *habitat trees* within the areas authorised to be cleared under this permit between the months of August to December.

DEFINITIONS

The following meanings are given to terms used in this Permit:

habitat tree(s) means trees that have a diameter, measured at 1.5 metres from the base of the tree, of 50 centimetres or greater, that contains or has the potential to develop hollows or roosts suitable for native fauna;

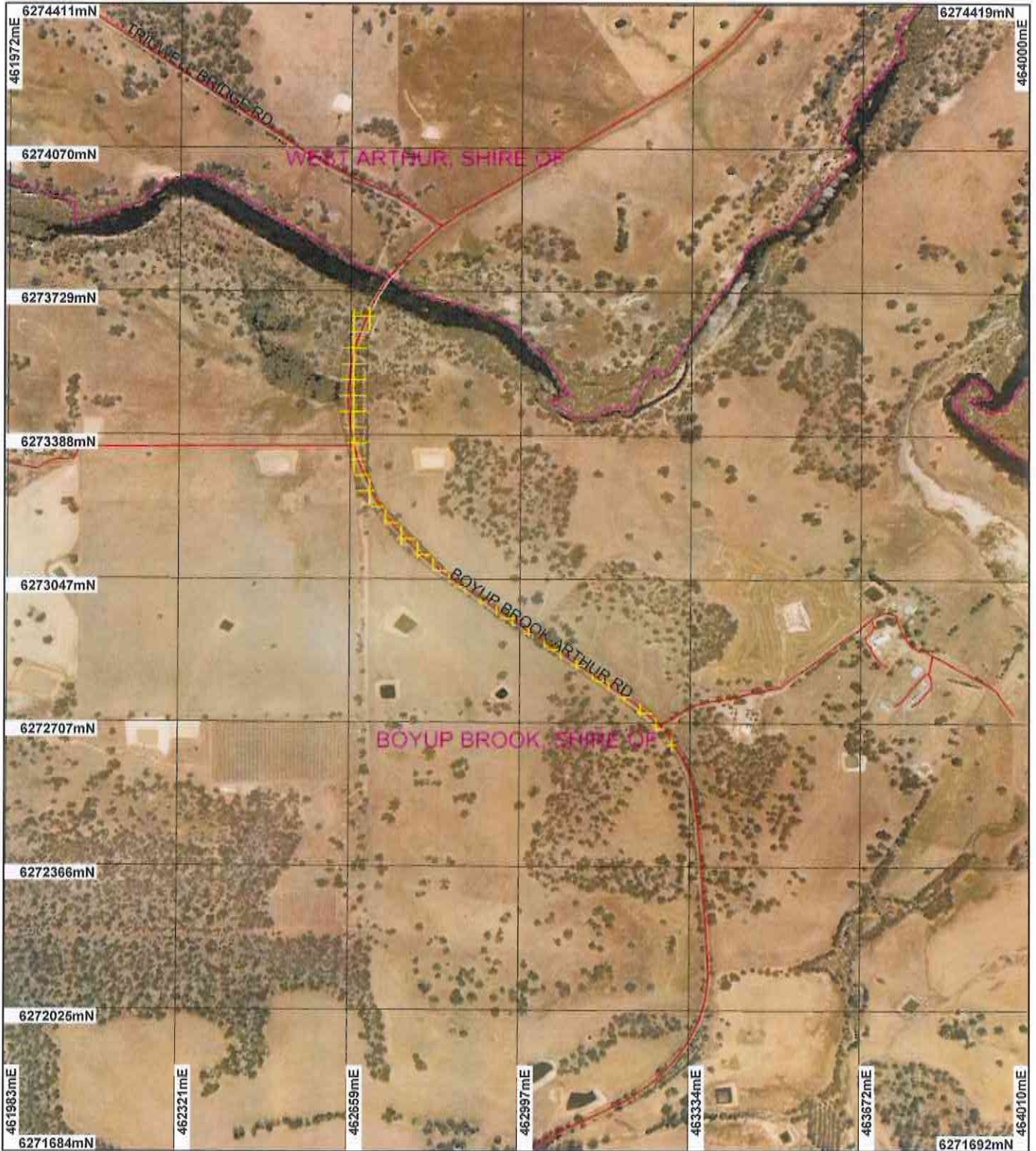


M Warnock
A/MANAGER
NATIVE VEGETATION CONSERVATION BRANCH

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

13 December 2012

Plan 5311/1



LEGEND

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

Dinninup 50cm Orthomosaic - Landgate 2004



0 300 m

Scale 1:12015

(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 13/12/12

M Warnock

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.: 5311/1
Permit type: Purpose Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Shire of Boyup Brook

1.3. Property details

Property: ROAD RESERVE (DINNINUP 6244)
Local Government Area: Shire of Boyup Brook
Colloquial name:

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
0.25		Mechanical Removal	Road construction or maintenance

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Grant
Decision Date: 13 December 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
Mapped Beard vegetation association 4: Medium woodland; marri & wandoo (Beard et al, 2001)	The application is to clear 0.25 hectares of native vegetation over an approximate 1.3 kilometre linear shape.	Degraded: Structure severely disturbed; regeneration to good condition requires intensive management (Keighery 1994)	The condition of the vegetation under application was obtained from a site inspection undertaken by the Department of Environment and Conservation in September 2006.
Mattiske vegetation complex: (Darkin) Dk5: Low woodland of Casuarina obesa-Melaleuca spp. on low lying moister soils, and woodland of Banksia prionotes with occasional Corymbia calophylla and Eucalyptus rudis over Acacia acuminata on sandy lunettes in the arid zone (Mattiske and Havel, 1998).	The vegetation under application comprises of mature trees with a severe weed invasion (DEC, 2006). The vegetation within the applied area is considered to be in a degraded to completely degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition (DEC, 2006).	To Completely Degraded: No longer intact; completely/almost completely without native species (Keighery 1994)	
Mattiske vegetation complex: (Darkin) Dk1- Woodland of Eucalyptus marginata subsp. marginata-Eucalyptus wandoo-Corymbia calophylla over Dryandra sessilis on uplands in the arid zone (Mattiske and Havel, 1998).			
Mattiske vegetation complex: Darkan Dk3 - Open woodland of Allocasuarina huegeliana-Acacia acuminata with occasional Eucalyptus rudis and Eucalyptus wandoo on variable slopes near granite outcrops and			

woodland of *Eucalyptus astringens*-*Eucalyptus wandoo* on breakaways in the arid zone (Mattiske and Havel, 1998).

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

Comments

The application is to clear 0.25 hectares of native vegetation over an approximate 1.3 kilometre linear shape for the purpose of road widening. The area under application is approximately 25 kilometres from the townsite of Boyup Brook. The vegetation under application is in a degraded to completely degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition and comprises of mature trees with a severe weed invasion (DEC, 2006).

Several fauna species of conservation significance have been recorded in the local area (10 kilometre radius). Including the Red-tailed black cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus banksii*) and Baudin's cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus baudinii*). The application area consist of trees that may contain hollows suitable for breeding purposes for the above mentioned cockatoo species. Considering this the application may be at variance to principle (b). Appropriate fauna management practises will mitigate impacts to fauna.

Several priority and rare flora species have been recorded within 10 kilometres of the area under application, mapped within different soil and vegetation types to the application area. Considering this and that the vegetation under application is in a degraded to completely degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition, it is not likely any flora of conservation significance will be impacted upon by the proposal.

The application occurs within an extensively cleared landscape with approximately 15 per cent of its pre-European native vegetation remaining. The vegetation under application is represented by three Mattiske vegetation complexes, referred to as Dk1 (Darkan), Dk3 (Darkan) and Dk5 (Darkan) which have 26, 9 and 24 per cent respectively of their pre-European vegetation remaining in the bioregion. The application area is also represented by Beard vegetation association 4, which has 28 per cent of its pre-European vegetation remaining in the bioregion (Government of Western Australia, 2011).

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). The mapped vegetation associations/complexes fall below this level however, the vegetation under application is considered to be in a degraded to completely degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition comprising mainly of trees and not a true representation of the mapped vegetation associations/complexes. Considering this the application is not likely to be at variance to principle (e).

Given the linear nature of the proposed clearing, that the vegetation under application is in a degraded to completely degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition (DEC, 2006) and comprises of mature trees with a severe weed invasion, it is considered unlikely the application comprises of a high level of biodiversity. Additionally the application is not likely to impact upon ground water quality, surface water quality, and conservation reserves or cause appreciable land degradation in the local area.

The application may be at variance to principle (b) and not likely to be at variance to the remaining clearing principles.

Methodology

Reference

- Commonwealth of Australia (2001)
 - DEC (2006)
 - Government of Western Australia (2011)
 - Keighery (1994)
- GIS databases:
- Mattiske Vegetation Complexes
 - Pre-European vegetation
 - SAC Biodatasets (16/11/2012)
 - Soils Statewide

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

Comments

The area under application was a part previous permit (CPS 892/1) granted to the Shire of Boyup Brook. The permit expired before the Shire cleared the vegetation resulting in the current application. The Shire has prepared and is in the process of implementing a strategic offset package which incorporates the granting Clearing Permit CPS 892/1, CPS 2040/1, CPS 2047/1 and CPS 3470/1. The offset requirements are due to be completed in 2015.

A public submission (2012) was received objecting to the clearing of 0.25 hectares as there is alternative measures for road upgrades that do not require so much clearing. Additionally the submission requested that a

flora survey be undertaken. DEC has considered the submission and is of the opinion that given that the vegetation under application comprises mainly of mature trees with severe weed invasion (DEC, 2006) and is in a degraded to completely degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition, the clearing as proposed is not likely to comprise of suitable habitat for conservation significant flora. It also should be noted that rare and priority flora identified within a 10 kilometre radius of the applied area occur in different vegetation and soil types to the application area. Considering this, DEC is of the opinion that the clearing as proposed, will not impact on conservation significant flora, thus alternative clearing methods and a flora survey are not required for the application.

- Methodology** **References**
- DEC (2006)
 - Keighery (1994)
 - Public submission (2012)

4. References

- Commonwealth of Australia (2001) National Objectives and Targets for Biodiversity Conservation 2001-2005, Canberra.
- Department of Environment and Conservation (2006). Site Visit undertaken September 2006. Western Australia. DEC ref DOC4051, DOC4036, DOC4018.
- 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.
- Public submission (2012) Public submission received on 6 November 2012 (DEC Ref: A565318)
- 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)