



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Purpose Permit number: CPS 5408/1
Permit Holder: Michael John Summerfield
Duration of Permit: 8 March 2013 to 8 March 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 *apiary site* maintenance.

2. Land on which clearing is to be done

| Apiary Site Auth No. | DEC District | Land tenure | Longitude | Latitude | Local Government Area |
|----------------------|--------------|--|-----------|----------|--------------------------------|
| 59 | Esperance | Land Administration Act - Unallocated Crown Land (UCL) | 120.2105 | -33.3291 | Shire of Ravensthorpe |
| 240 | Esperance | Unallocated Crown land | 120.2234 | -33.3552 | Shire of Ravensthorpe |
| 634 | Perth Hills | STATE FOREST 67 - CCWA | 116.5162 | -32.3870 | Shire of Wandering |
| 865 | Swan Coastal | STATE FOREST 65 (Proposed 5G Reserve) - CCWA | 115.5868 | -31.3711 | Shire of Gingin |
| 949 | Frankland | Mt Frankland National Park Walpole Wilderness Area - CCWA | 116.5510 | -34.7461 | Shire of Manjimup |
| 1756 | Wellington | Bennelaking Conservation Park - CCWA | 116.5794 | -33.4564 | Shire of West Arthur |
| 2733 | Perth Hills | State Forest 22 - CCWA | 116.1682 | -32.3622 | Shire of Serpentine-Jarrahdale |
| 2734 | Perth Hills | STATE FOREST 22 - CCWA | 116.2024 | -32.4055 | Shire of Serpentine-Jarrahdale |
| 4666 | Swan Coastal | Land Act Reserve (Other) 3020 Minister for Water Resources (Water Corporation) - Water | 115.9670 | -31.6884 | City of Swan |
| 5569 | Albany | Land Act Reserve Unvested 27102 - Common, Rec (Proposed CP) | 118.8253 | -34.4352 | Shire of Jerramungup |
| 6100 | Swan Coastal | Local Government Reserve - Shire of Gingin - Reserve 39736 - Quarry | 115.5746 | -31.3497 | Shire of Gingin |
| 812 | Kalgoorlie | Land Administration Act - Madoonia Downs pastoral lease - | 121.8863 | -31.5573 | Shire of Coolgardie |

| Apiary Site Auth No. | DEC District | Land tenure | Longitude | Latitude | Local Government Area |
|----------------------|-------------------|--|-----------|----------|-----------------------|
| | | Pastoral Lands Board | | | |
| 813 | Kalgoorlie | Land Administration Act - Madoonia Downs pastoral lease - Pastoral Lands Board | 121.9133 | -31.5711 | Shire of Coolgardie |
| 816 | Kalgoorlie | Land Administration Act - Madoonia Downs pastoral lease - Pastoral Lands Board | 121.9479 | -31.5745 | Shire of Coolgardie |
| 2650 | Perth Hills | STATE FOREST 13 - CCWA | 116.3191 | -32.0494 | Shire of Mundaring |
| 1581 | Esperance | Land Administration Act - Unallocated Crown Land (UCL) | 120.6183 | -32.1613 | Shire of Dundas |
| 1582 | Esperance | Land Administration Act - Unallocated Crown Land (UCL) | 120.6451 | -32.1759 | Shire of Dundas |
| 1583 | Kalgoorlie | Land Administration Act - Unallocated Crown Land (UCL) | 120.7984 | -31.7485 | Shire of Coolgardie |
| 1584 | Kalgoorlie | Land Administration Act - Unallocated Crown Land (UCL) | 120.8235 | -31.7857 | Shire of Coolgardie |
| 1585 | Esperance | Land Administration Act - Unallocated Crown Land (UCL) | 120.8497 | -31.8921 | Shire of Dundas |
| 1586 | Esperance | Land Administration Act - Unallocated Crown Land (UCL) | 120.8237 | -31.9063 | Shire of Dundas |
| 1587 | Esperance | Land Administration Act - Unallocated Crown Land (UCL) | 121.1675 | -32.7399 | Shire of Esperance |
| 1588 | Esperance | Land Administration Act - Unallocated Crown Land (UCL) | 121.1969 | -32.7442 | Shire of Esperance |
| 1589 | Central Wheatbelt | Land Administration Act - Unallocated Crown Land (UCL) | 119.9658 | -32.3428 | Shire of Kondinin |
| 1593 | Central Wheatbelt | Land Administration Act - Unallocated Crown Land (UCL) | 119.9965 | -32.3434 | Shire of Kondinin |
| 413 | Perth Hills | STATE FOREST 67 - CCWA | 116.5026 | -32.3608 | Shire of Wandaring |

3. Area of clearing

- (a) The Permit Holder must not clear more than 1.3 hectares of native vegetation in total.
- (b) The Permit Holder must not clear more than 0.05 hectares for each of the *apiary sites* described in condition 2 of this Permit.
- (c) The clearing described in condition 3(a) of this Permit may only occur within a 2,000 metre radius of the coordinates of each *apiary site* described in condition 2 of this Permit, subject to the Permit Holder having the power to clear native vegetation for those activities under any written law.

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 within *apiary sites* described in condition 2 and the type of clearing in condition 3 of this Permit to the extent of activities permitted under an authority granted to the Permit Holder under Part 8A of the *Conservation and Land Management Regulations 2002*.

6. Clearing not authorised

This Permit does not authorise the Permit Holder to clear trees that have a diameter, at average adult human chest height, of 10cm or greater.

7. 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

8. 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.

9. Method of clearing

- (a) The Permit Holder must comply with the directions of the relevant District Apiary Officer of the Department of Environment and Conservation prior to undertaking clearing within *apiary sites* described in condition 2 of this Permit.
- (b) The permit holder may only clear native vegetation using minimal impact methods, such as hand mowers or raking.

10. Dieback and 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* and *dieback*:

- (a) clean earth-moving machinery of soil and vegetation prior to entering and leaving the area to be cleared;
- (b) shall only move soils in *dry conditions*;
- (c) ensure that no *dieback* or *weed*-affected soil, *mulch*, *fill* or other material is brought into the area to be cleared; and
- (d) restrict the movement of machines and other vehicles to the limits of the areas to be cleared.

PART III – RECORD KEEPING AND REPORTING

11. Records must be kept

The Permit Holder must maintain the following records in relation to the clearing of native vegetation authorised under this Permit:

- (a) 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 and/or decimal degrees;
- (b) the date that the area was cleared; and
- (c) the size of the area cleared (in hectares).

12. 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 11 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 8 December 2017, the Permit Holder must provide to the CEO a written report of records required under condition 11 of this Permit where these records have not already been provided under condition 12(a) of this Permit.

Definitions

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

apiary site/s means the land specified in an apiary authority as the land to which an apiary licence granted under Part VIII Division 2 of the CALM Act, or an apiary permit granted under Part VIII Division 1 of the CALM Act;

CALM Act means the *Conservation and Land Management Act 1984*;

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; and

weed/s means any plant -

- (a) that is declared under section 37 of the *Agriculture and Related Resources Protection Act 1976*; or
- (b) published in the Department of Environment and Conservation Regional Weed Assessments, regardless of ranking; or
- (c) not indigenous to the area concerned.



M Warnock
A/MANAGER
NATIVE VEGETATION CONSERVATION BRANCH

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

14 February 2013



1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 5408/1
Permit type: Purpose Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Michael J Summerfield

1.3. Property details

Property:
 LOT 10692 ON PLAN 187371 (WILBINGA 6041)
 LOT 5611 ON PLAN 208677 (INDIAN OCEAN YANCHEP 6035)
 LOT 377 ON PLAN 254636 (Lot No. 377 COOPER BULLSBROOK 6084)
 STATE FOREST 13 (SAWYERS VALLEY 6074)
 LOT 774 ON PLAN 204137 (JARRAHDAL 6124)
 CROWN RESERVE 16634; STATE FOREST 22 (BALMORAL JARRAHDAL 6124)
 STATE FOREST 67 (MOUNT COOKE 6390)
 LOT 4101 ON PLAN 203341 (BOWELLING 6225)
 LOT 2128 ON PLAN 240361 (BREMER BAY 6338)
 UNALLOCATED CROWN LAND (MUNGLINUP 6450)
 LOT 1494 ON PLAN 92239 (MUNGLINUP 6450)
 UNALLOCATED CROWN LAND (NORTH CASCADE 6445)
 UNALLOCATED CROWN LAND (FORRESTANIA 6359)
 LOT 329 ON PLAN 70762 (NORSEMAN 6443)
 UNALLOCATED CROWN LAND (NORSEMAN 6443)
 UNALLOCATED CROWN LAND (VICTORIA ROCK 6429)
 LOT 101 ON PLAN 238594 (WIDGIEMOOLTHA 6443)
 LOT 13309 ON PLAN 240297 (NORTH WALPOLE 6398)

1.4. Application

| Clearing Area (ha) | No. Trees | Method of Clearing | For the purpose of: |
|--------------------|-----------|--------------------|---------------------|
| 1.3 | | Mechanical Removal | Apiculture |

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Grant
Decision Date: 14 February 2013

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 |
|--|--|--|--|
| The areas under application fall within various vegetation associations. | The proposed clearing may impact up to approximately 0.05 hectares of regrowth within each of the 26 apiary sites, totalling 1.3 hectares. | Degraded: Structure severely disturbed; regeneration to good condition requires intensive management (Keighery 1994) | The vegetation condition was ascertained through aerial imagery. |
| | The proposed maintenance clearing affects various vegetation associations in various conditions. | To Excellent: Vegetation structure intact; disturbance affecting individual species, weeds non-aggressive (Keighery 1994) | |

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

Comments

The application is for the proposed clearing of up to 1.3 hectares of native vegetation across 26 apiary sites within the local government areas of Coolgardie, Dundas, Esperance, Gingin, Jerramungup, Kondinin, Manjimup, Mundaring, Ravensthorpe, Serpentine-Jarrahdale, Swan, Wandering and West Arthur. The apiary sites are located within areas previously used for bee keeping and within areas permitted under the Conservation and Land Management Act 1984 (CALM Act).

Clearing may be in the form of either pruning, scrub rolling or slashing vegetation. If any maintenance is required, up to approximately 0.05 hectares may be necessary per site for access or placement of beehives. Clearing for a firebreak may also be required and has been factored into the 0.05 hectares.

Two of the apiary sites occur within 500 metres of priority listed flora species and one site occurs 120 metres from the Bremer Range Vegetation Complex (Priority1). Given the minor maintenance and the low impact nature of the proposed works (e.g. pruning), the proposed maintenance is unlikely to have any detrimental environmental impact on biodiversity values of any nearby rare or priority listed flora species or communities at any of the nominated apiary sites.

Six of the application sites also fall in close proximity (within 100 metres) to a number of watercourses. It is unlikely that any riparian vegetation will be impacted upon and given the small scale of the proposed maintenance work any impact that does occur is likely to be minimal.

Several apiary sites are located within Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC) managed estate. Given that the apiary sites are located within areas previously used for beekeeping, the small scale of the proposed maintenance work within each apiary site is not expected to have an impact on the environmental values of these conservation areas.

Given that most of the apiary sites are located within areas previously used for beekeeping and the small scale of the proposed maintenance within each apiary site, the proposed clearing is not expected to have an impact on significant fauna habitat, a significant remnant in a highly cleared area, impact the incidence or intensity of flooding, cause degradation to surface or ground water or contribute to land degradation.

Considering the above, the application is not likely to be at variance to any of the clearing principles.

Methodology

References:

- Keighery (1994)

GIS Data Sets:

- Hydrography, linear (hierarchy)
- SAC biodatasets (accessed October 2012)
- Pre-European Vegetation
- DEC Managed Land

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

Comments

All apiary sites have been previously used and not all sites will require maintenance (maintenance would involve clearing re-growth).

Apiarists prefer, and attempts are made by them, to use existing cleared areas and tracks for access (such as firebreaks) and keep any maintenance to a minimum. However, in some areas sites may not have been visited for a number of years and clearing of regrowth may be required.

Apiary licences are granted under the Conservation and Land Management Act 1984. As part of the process, authority to access lands is obtained from the relevant land managers. Therefore from a clearing application perspective the apiary authority represents the necessary land access authority.

Standard apiary permit conditions state, in part, the apiarist must liaise with the local DEC apiary officer to gain final approval prior to using / entering the nominated site. If the site is no longer suitable for bee hive use, the local DEC officer can request the apiarist to relocate. If a clearing permit is granted, a similar condition will be imposed also.

One public submission was received, expressing concerns for the environmental impact of using a non-native bee species. This, however, is not a direct result of clearing native vegetation and is addressed at the apiary licensing stage.

4. References

Keighery, B.J. (1994) Bushland Plant Survey: A Guide to Plant Community Survey for the Community. Wildflower Society of

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) |