

# **CLEARING PERMIT**

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Purpose Permit number: CPS 5420/1

Permit Holder: Department of Water

Duration of Permit: 24 January 2013 – 24 January 2018

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 reconstructing the existing Gauging Station including the replacement of the concrete weir and floatwell.

2. Land on which clearing is to be done

Unallocated Crown Land, Palmer (PIN 1039493) Lot 102 on Deposited Plan 61201, Palmer

3. Area of Clearing

The Permit Holder must not clear more than 0.02 hectares of native vegetation within the area shaded yellow on attached Plan 5420/1.

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.

M Warnock A/MANAGER

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NATIVE VEGETATION CONSERVATION BRANCH

Officer delegated under Section 20 of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

24 January 2013

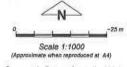
# Plan 5420/1





Local Government Cadastre Road Centrelines Collie 50cm Orthomosaic -Landgate 2006 Clearing Instruments

Areas Approved to Clear



Geocentric Datum Australia 1994

Note: the data in this map have not been projected. This may result in geometric distortion or pressurement inaccuracies.

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



Department of Environment and Conservation

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# **Clearing Permit Decision Report**

# 1. Application details

Permit application details

Permit application No.:

Permit type:

Purpose Permit

Proponent details

Proponent's name:

Department of Water

1.3. Property details

Property:

0.02

UNALLOCATED CROWN LAND (PALMER 6225)

LOT 102 ON PLAN 61201 (PALMER 6225)

Local Government Area:

Colloquial name:

Shire of Collie

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)

No. Trees

Method of Clearing

Mechanical Removal

For the purpose of:

Infrastructure Maintenance

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application:

Decision Date: 24 January 2013

### 2. Site Information

## Existing environment and information

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

#### Vegetation Description

Beard Vegetation Association: 3 -Medium forest; jarrah-marri (Shepherd et al. 2001).

Mattiske Vegetation Complex: My1 -Open forest of Eucalyptus marginata subsp. marginata-Corymbia calophylla-Eucalyptus patens on valley slopes to woodland of fs24 Eucalyptus rudis-Melaleuca rhaphiophylla on the valley floors in humid and subhumid zones (Mattiske & Havel 1998).

#### Clearing Description

The application is to clear up to 0.02 hectares of native vegetation within unallocated Crown Land and Lot 102 on Deposited Plan 61201, Palmer, for the purpose of reconstructing the existing Gauging Station including the replacement of the concrete weir and floatwell.

The vegetation under application consists of Eucalyptus rudis and Melaleuca rhaphiophylla with grassy weeds.

## Vegetation Condition

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

### Comment

Vegetation description and condition were determined through aerial imagery (Collie 50cm Orthomosaic - Landgate 2008) and information provided by proponent (Department of Water 2012).

## 3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

#### Comments

The application is to clear up to 0.02 hectare of native vegetation within unallocated Crown Land and Lot 102 on Deposited Plan 61201, Palmer for the purpose of reconstructing the existing Gauging Station including the replacement of the concrete weir and floatwell. The vegetation consists of a Eucalyptus rudis and Melaleuca rhaphiophylla overstorey with grassy weeds in degraded (Keighery 1994) condition.

There are no rare or priority flora species or threatened ecological communities in the vicinity of the proposed clearing. The vegetation to be cleared is well represented in the local area (70 per cent), and therefore would not have a detrimental impact on fauna habitat or consist of an area of high biodiversity.

The application area occurs within an ecological linkage. However, given the size of the application area, the proposed clearing is unlikely to cause an appreciable impact on this linkage.

Given the proposed clearing is 0.02 hectares, the impact on nearby conservation areas will be minimal and the clearing is unlikely to cause or exacerbate land degradation or flooding.

The application area is located on the banks of the Bingham River and the proposed clearing may consist of riparian vegetation. Therefore, the proposed clearing is at variance to Principle (f). The proposed clearing may cause some short term water quality issues in terms of localised surface water sedimentation during clearing however, these issues should be minimal given the small size of the proposed clearing.

The assessment of the application identified that the clearing is at variance to Principle (f), may be at variance to Principle (i) and is not likely to be at variance to any of the remaining principles.

#### Methodology

References:

Keighery 1994

GIS Databases:

- Collie 50cm Orthomosaic Landgate 2008
- DEC Tenure
- Hydrography, Linear
- Mattiske Vegetation Complexes
- Pre European Vegetation
- SAC Biodatasets
- Soils, Statewide

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

#### Comments

The application area is located within the Collie River Irrigation District, a surface water area, and the Collie Groundwater Area, a groundwater area, covered by the Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914. The Department of Water has advised that the officers involved in the reconstruction are skilled in the installation, stabilisation and rehabilitation necessary to ensure the protection of water quality and the Bingham River's bed and banks. The Department of Water has no objections to the proposed clearing (DoW 2013a).

The application area is located within a Zone A of the Wellington Dam Catchment Area, a Country Areas Water Supply Act 1947 area. The Department of Water has no objections to the proposed clearing (DoW 2013b).

The application area is located within the Collie River Waugal area, an Aboriginal Site of Significance.

The application area is located within a Native Title claim area determined by the Federal Court. The claimants were given the opportunity to make comment on the application. The South West Aboriginal Land and Sea Council has advised that they would not be able to provide formal comment until April 2013. The applicant will be advised of their obligations under other Local Government, State and Commonwealth legislation.

The Department of Regional Development and Lands has granted the Department of Water authority to access the Unallocated Crown Land, Palmer. Verve Energy has granted the Department of Water authority to access Lot 102 on Plan 61201, Palmer (Verve Energy 2012).

## Methodology

References: DoW 2013a

DoW 2013b

Verve Energy 2012

GIS Databases:

- Aboriginal Sites of Significance
- CAWSA areas
- Native Title claims determined by the Federal Court
- RIWI Act areas

## 4. References

DoW (2013a) Advice for clearing permit application CPS 5420/1. Received 16/01/2013, Department of Water, Western Australia. DEC REF: A590429.

DoW (2013b) Advice for clearing permit application CPS 5420/1. Received 18/01/2013, Department of Water, Western Australia. DEC REF: A591095.

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.

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.

Verve Energy (2012) Advice for clearing permit application CPS 5420/1. Received 31/12/2012, Verve Energy, Western Australia. DEC REF: A585818.

## 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)	