



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

PERMIT DETAILS

Area Permit Number: 5452/1

File Number: 2013/000376-1

Duration of Permit: From 3 May 2013 to 3 May 2015

PERMIT HOLDER

Gary Robert Elks

Verna Lynette Elks

LAND ON WHICH CLEARING IS TO BE DONE

LOT 370 ON DEPOSITED PLAN 205924 (THOMSON BROOK 6239)

AUTHORISED ACTIVITY

Clearing of up to 0.5 hectares of native vegetation within the area cross-hatched yellow on attached Plan 5452/1.

CONDITIONS

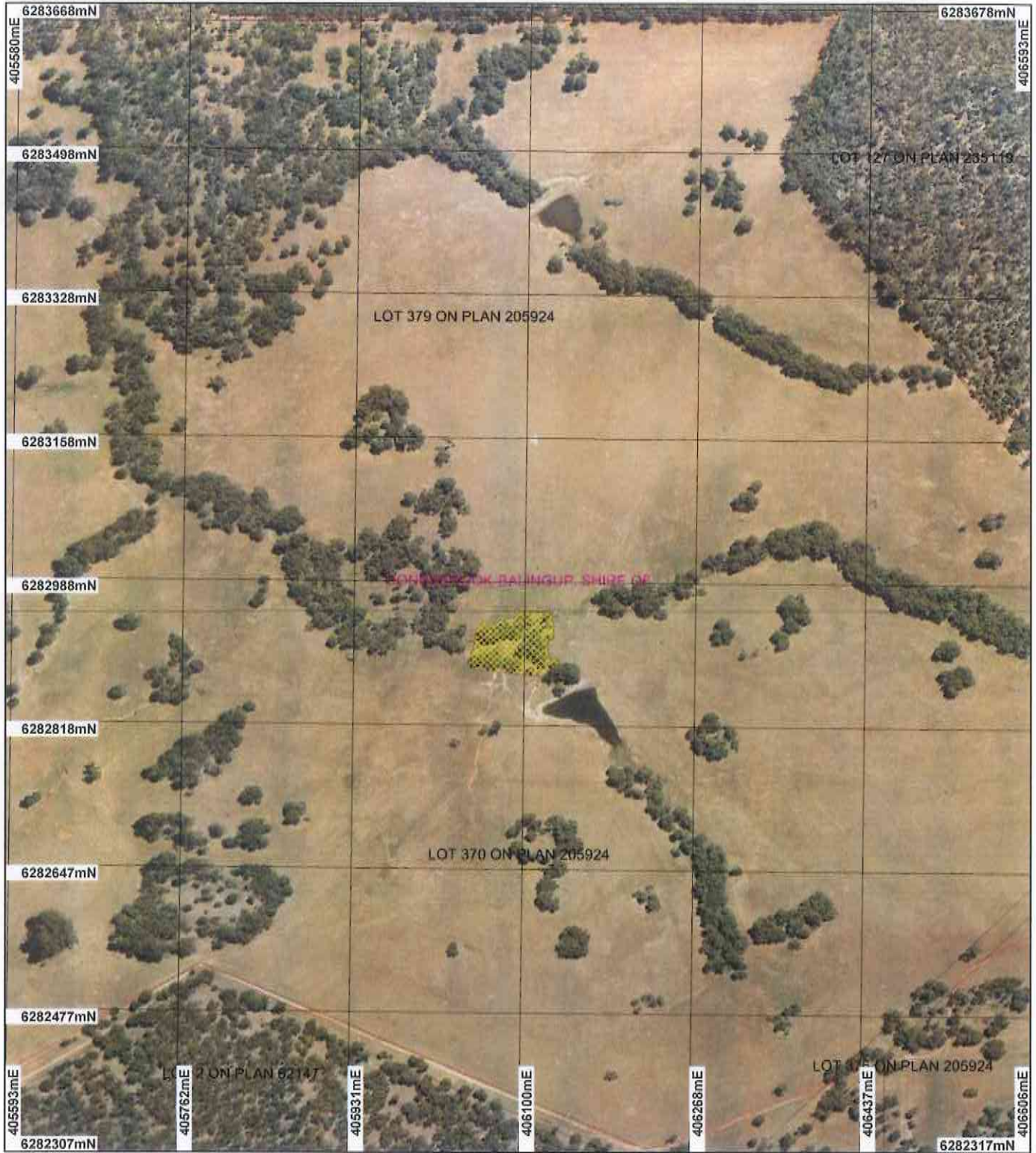
Nil

M Warnock
MANAGER
NATIVE VEGETATION CONSERVATION BRANCH

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

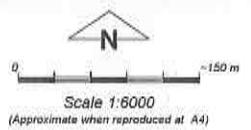
18 April 2013

Plan 5452/1



LEGEND

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Clearing Instruments | Local Government Authorities |
| Areas Approved to Clear | Donnybrook 50cm Orthomosaic - Landgate 2004 |
| Road Centrelines | |
| Cadastre | |
| Cadastre for labelling | |



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 18/3/13
 M Warnock

Officer with delegated authority under Section 20 of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

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
 Our environment, our future
 WA Crown Copyright 2002



1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 5452/1
Permit type: Area Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Gary Robert and Verna Lynette Elks

1.3. Property details

Property: LOT 370 ON DEPOSITED PLAN 205924 (THOMSON BROOK 6239)
Local Government Area: Shire of Donnybrook-Balingup

1.4. Application

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

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Grant
Decision Date: 18 April 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
Mapped Beard Vegetation Association 1184 is described as medium woodland-fringing; jarrah, marri, Eucalyptus rudis and Agonis flexuosa (Shepherd et al 2001).	The application is to clear up to 0.5 hectares of native vegetation at the intersection of two minor perennial watercourses for the construction of a dam. The vegetation under application consists of scattered mature trees with little or no understorey due to livestock grazing.	Degraded: Structure severely disturbed; regeneration to good condition requires intensive management (Keighery 1994)	The condition and description of the vegetation was determined using aerial imagery (Donnybrook 50cm Orthomosaic - Landgate 2004).
Mapped Mattiske Vegetation Association (BL) is described as open forest of Eucalyptus marginata subsp. marginata-Corymbia calophylla on slopes and woodland of Eucalyptus rudis on the valley floor in the humid zone (Mattiske and Havel 1998).			
Mapped Heddle Vegetation Complex 1744 (Lowdon Complex) is described as open forest and fringing woodland (Heddle et al 1980).			

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

Comments

The application is to clear up to 0.5 hectares of native vegetation at the intersection of two minor perennial watercourses for the construction of a dam. The vegetation under application consists of scattered mature trees with little or no understorey due to livestock grazing and is in a degraded (Keighery 1994) condition.

There are no flora, fauna or ecological communities of conservation significance that are likely to be impacted by the proposed clearing. The vegetation is well represented within the local area, with 57 percent of original vegetation remaining in the Shire of Donnybrook-Balingup and 82 percent of this being protected within conservation estate (Government of Western Australia 2011). The vegetation under application is mapped as Beard Vegetation Association 1184 (Shepherd et al 2001) which currently retains approximately 40 percent of the original extent (Government of Western Australia 2011). Considering the condition of the vegetation under application and the extent of surrounding vegetation in better condition, the application area is unlikely to comprise high biological diversity.

Due to the small size of the application area (0.5 hectares) the proposed clearing is unlikely to cause or exacerbate flooding or result in appreciable land degradation.

The application area is 500 metres away from Wilga State Forest which is adjacent to the applicant's property and extends to the north, east and south of the application area. Considering the small size of the application area, the lack of understorey and the level of disturbance, the vegetation under application has limited capacity to provide an ecological linkage and the proposed clearing is unlikely to impact upon this or any other conservation estate.

Given the application area is at the confluence of two watercourses for the construction of a dam, the vegetation under application is growing in an environment associated with the watercourse. The construction of the dam may impact upon the quality of the surface water downstream. Both watercourses arise on the applicant's property and dams already occur upstream from the area under application. The area has already undergone significant disturbance from livestock grazing and is small in size (0.5 hectares), therefore the impacts are likely to be minimal.

Considering the above, the application is at variance to principle (f), may be at variance to principle (i) and is not likely to be at variance to the remaining principles.

Methodology

References:

- Government of Western Australia (2011)
- Keighery (1994)
- Shepherd et al (2001)

GIS Databases:

- DEC Tenure
- Donnybrook 50cm Orthomosaic - Landgate 2004
- Hydrography, linear
- SAC Biodatasets - accessed 31/01/2013

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

Comments

The application is to clear up to 0.5 hectares of native vegetation at the intersection of two minor perennial watercourses for the construction of a dam.

The Department of Water advised that the application area intersects a Proclaimed tributary of the Preston River under the Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914 (DoW 2013). The application is also within Preston River and Tributaries Surface Water Area (DoW 2013). A permit obtained from the Department of Water for the construction of the dam has been provided by the applicant.

The Shire of Donnybrook-Balingup (2013) has advised that planning approval is not required for the construction of the dam.

No public submissions have been received for the application.

The application area is zoned as rural under the Town Planning Scheme Zones.

Methodology

References:

- DoW (2013)
- Shire of Donnybrook-Balingup (2013)

GIS Databases:

- Hydrography, linear DOW
- RIWI Act, Areas
- Town Planning Scheme Zones

4. References

- Department of Water (2013) Advice regarding CPS 5452/1, provided 12 February 2013 (DEC Ref: A599082).
- Government of Western Australia (2011); 2011 Statewide Vegetation Statistics incorporating the CAR Reserve Analysis (Full Report). WA Department of Environment and Conservation, Perth.
- Hedde, E. M., Loneragan, O. W., and Havel, J. J. (1980) Vegetation Complexes of the Darling System, Western Australia. Department of Conservation and Environment, Atlas of Natural Resources, Darling System, Western Australia.
- 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.
- Shire of Donnybrook-Balingup (2013) Advice regarding Clearing Permit Application CPS 5452/1, provided 6 March 2013 (DEC Ref: A608539).

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)