



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Purpose Permit number:	CPS 5532/1
Permit Holder:	Broome International Airport Pty Ltd
Duration of Permit:	31 May 2013 – 31 May 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 constructing a hardstand area to establish a mobile asphalt plant and aggregate stockpile area.

2. Land on which clearing is to be done

Lot 586 on Deposited Plan 71791 (Roebuck 6725)

3. Area of Clearing

The Permit Holder must not clear more than 2.25 hectares of native vegetation within the area hatched yellow on attached Plan 5532/1.

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.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "M Warnock".

M Warnock
MANAGER
NATIVE VEGETATION CONSERVATION BRANCH





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

9 May 2013

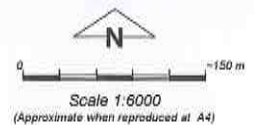
Plan 5532/1



LEGEND

-  Road Centrelines
-  Cadastre for labelling
-  Clearing Instruments
-  Areas Approved to Clear

Broome 50cm Orthomosaic - Landgate 2007



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 9/5/18
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

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1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 5532/1
Permit type: Purpose Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Broome International Airport Pty Ltd

1.3. Property details

Property: LOT 586 ON PLAN 71791 (ROEBUCK 6725)
Local Government Area: Shire of Broome
Colloquial name:

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
2.25		Mechanical Removal	Building or Structure

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Grant
Decision Date: 8 May 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 750 is described as Shrublands, pindan; <i>Acacia tumida</i> shrubland with grey box & cabbage gum medium woodland over ribbon grass & curly spinifex (Shepherd et al 2001).	The applicant proposes to clearing up to 2.25 hectares of native vegetation for the purpose of constructing a hardstand area to establish a mobile asphalt plant and aggregate stockpile area. The area is predominantly <i>Acacia</i> Shrubland and consists of fire affected <i>Acacia</i> sp. along with <i>Eucalyptus</i> sp, <i>Bauhinia cunninghamii</i> and <i>Ficus opposita</i> amongst a moderately dense understorey of grassland (predominately <i>Triodia</i> sp and <i>Heteropogon</i> sp). Other species observed include <i>Trichodesma zeylanicum</i> , <i>Solanum cunninghamii</i> , and <i>Trianthema</i> sp. (DEC 2013) The vegetation is considered to be in a good condition (DEC 2013).	Good: Structure significantly altered by multiple disturbance; retains basic structure/ability to regenerate (Keighery 1994)	The condition of the native vegetation under application was determined by digital imagery (Broome 50cm Orthomosaic - Landgate 2007) and a site inspection undertaken by the Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC 2013).

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

(a) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises a high level of biological diversity.

Comments

Proposal is not likely to be at variance to this Principle

The applicant proposes to clear up to 2.25 hectares of native vegetation for the purpose of constructing a hardstand area to establish a mobile asphalt plant and aggregate stockpile area.

The area under application falls within mapped Beard vegetation association 750 which has approximately 99 per cent of its pre-clearing extent remaining within the Dampier land bioregion (Government of Western Australia 2013).

Two fauna species listed as 'rare or likely to become extinct' under the Wildlife Conservation Act 1950 have been recorded within the local area (10 kilometre radius) being, *Macrotis lagotis* (Bilby) and *Mesembriomys macrurus* (Golden-backed Tree-rat) (DEC 2007-). The fauna habitats within the area proposed to be cleared are well represented elsewhere within the local and regional area, and no significant loss of habitat for fauna indigenous to Western Australia is expected.

Thirteen priority flora species have been recorded within the local area. A flora survey conducted by GDH (2010) within Lot 586 including the application area did not identify any priority flora species within the

application area. Three priority flora species were identified within close proximity of the application area. The first priority flora species has a widespread distribution across the Kimberley coast and extends into the Pilbara region. The second priority flora species is known from the Beagle Bay vicinity to One Arm Point and two separate islands. The third priority flora species is known from at least six separate locations from Beagle Bay to Broome. The clearing as proposed is not likely to affect the conservation status of these priority flora species.

Given the above the clearing as proposed is not likely to be at variance to this principle.

Methodology References:
- DEC (2007-)
- GDH (2010)
- Government of Western Australia (2013)

GIS Databases:
- Pre European Vegetation
- SAC Biodatasets - accessed April 2013

(b) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises the whole or a part of, or is necessary for the maintenance of, a significant habitat for fauna indigenous to Western Australia.

Comments Proposal is not likely to be at variance to this Principle

Two fauna species listed as 'rare or likely to become extinct' under the Wildlife Conservation Act 1950 have been recorded within the local area (10 kilometre radius) being, *Macrotis lagotis* (Bilby) and *Mesembriomys macrurus* (Golden-backed Tree-rat) (DEC 2007-).

A fauna survey conducted by GDH (2010) within Lot 586 including the application area identified two potential Bilby burrows and two priority 4 species (bush stone-curlew (*Burhinus grallarius*) and Australian Bustard (*Ardeotis australis*)) in the area surrounding the application area.

The area under application may contain suitable habitat for fauna of conservation significance. However, the fauna habitats within the area proposed to be cleared are well represented elsewhere within the local and regional area, and no significant loss of habitat for fauna indigenous to Western Australia is expected.

Based on the above, the proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to this Principle.

Methodology References:
- DEC (2007-)
- GDH (2010)

GIS databases:
- SAC Biodatasets - accessed April 2013

(c) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it includes, or is necessary for the continued existence of, rare flora.

Comments Proposal is not likely to be at variance to this Principle

One known record of rare flora has been recorded within the local area. The closest record of rare flora is located approximately 8.9 km south west from the proposed clearing area. This species is found on red sand in pindan and on coastal sites on relict desert dune swale (Western Australian Herbarium 1998-).

A flora survey conducted by GDH (2010) within Lot 586 including the application area did not identify any rare flora.

The vegetation proposed to be cleared is not suitable habitat for this species. Therefore, the clearing as proposed is not likely to be at variance to this principle.

Methodology References:
- GDH (2010)
- Western Australian Herbarium (1998-)

GIS databases:
- SAC Biodatasets - accessed April 2013

(d) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises the whole or a part of, or is necessary for the maintenance of a threatened ecological community.

Comments Proposal is not likely to be at variance to this Principle

The closest Threatened Ecological Communities (TEC) is Roebuck Bay mudflats located approximately 4.4 km south west of the application area.

The vegetation under application is not representative of the TEC.

Therefore, the clearing as proposed is not likely to be at variance to this principle

Methodology GIS databases:
- SAC Biodatasets - accessed April 2013

(e) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it is significant as a remnant of native vegetation in an area that has been extensively cleared.

Comments Proposal is not at variance to this Principle

The area under application is located within the Dampierland Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation of Australia (IBRA) bioregion. This IBRA bioregion has approximately 99 per cent of its Pre European vegetation extent remaining (Government of Western Australia 2013).

The vegetation under application is mapped as Beard Vegetation Association 750, which has approximately 100 per cent of its Pre-European extent remaining in the Dampierland bioregion (Government of Western Australia 2011).

Digital imagery (Broome 50cm Orthomosaic - Landgate 2007) indicates that the local area (10 kilometre radius) surrounding the area under application retains approximately 90 per cent vegetation cover.

Given the vegetation representation within the local area it is unlikely that the vegetation under application is significant as a remnant in an extensively cleared landscape.

Therefore, the clearing as proposed is not at variance to this principle.

	Pre-European (ha)	Current Extent Remaining (ha)	Remaining (%)	Extent in DEC Managed Lands (%)
IBRA Bioregion* Dampierland	8,345,173	8,321,243	100	1
Shire* Shire of Broome	5,469,436	5,436,146	99	1
Beard Vegetation Association in Bioregion* 750	1,229,176	1,225,279	100	1

* Government of Western Australia.

Methodology References:
Government of Western Australia (2013)

GIS Database:
- IBRA Australia
- Local Government Authority
- Pre-European vegetation
- Broome 50cm Orthomosaic - Landgate 2007
- SAC Biodatasets - accessed April 2013

(f) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it is growing in, or in association with, an environment associated with a watercourse or wetland.

Comments Proposal is not likely to be at variance to this Principle

A minor watercourse and ANCA wetland 'Roebuck Bay' are located approximately 4.3 km south west of the application area.

Given the distance to the closest watercourse/wetland the vegetation under application is not likely to be growing in an environment associated with a watercourse or wetland.

Therefore, the clearing as proposed is not likely to be at variance to this principle.

Methodology GIS Databases:
-Hydrology, linear

(g) Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause appreciable land degradation.

Comments **Proposal is not likely to be at variance to this Principle**
Soil type AB26 is described as 'Sand plain with longitudinal sand dunes and some active drainage-ways: chief soils are red earthy sands associated with soils on the plains, with dunes and hummocks of red sands. Some soils occur in lower sites often with a heavy surface layer of ferruginous gravel (Northcote et al 1960 - 1968).'

The propose clearing may cause land degradation impacts in form of small scale wind erosion. However the impacts are likely to be short term and given the highly vegetation surroundings the clearing as proposed is unlikely to cause appreciable land degradation.

Given the above, the clearing as proposed is not likely to be at variance to this principle.

Methodology References:
-Northcote (1960-1968)

GIS Databases:
-Soils, Statewide

(h) Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to have an impact on the environmental values of any adjacent or nearby conservation area.

Comments **Proposal is not likely to be at variance to this Principle**
An unnamed reserve is located approximately 5.8 km west of the application area.

A large proportion of the vegetation in the Dampierland bioregion remains uncleared, approximately 99 per cent (Government of Western Australia 2013). Therefore, it is unlikely that the application area provides an important buffer or ecological linkage to this nature reserve.

Therefore, the clearing as proposed is not likely to be at variance to this principle.

Methodology Reference:
- Government of Western Australia (2013)

GIS Databases:
- DEC Tenure
- Pre-European vegetation

(i) Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause deterioration in the quality of surface or underground water.

Comments **Proposal is not likely to be at variance to this Principle**
A minor watercourse and ANCA wetland 'Roebuck Bay' are located approximately 4.3 km south west of the application area. Given the distance to the closest watercourse the clearing as proposed is unlikely to cause deterioration in the quality of surface water.

Groundwater salinity is mapped as less than 500 mg/L which is considered to be 'Fresh'. The clearing of 2.25 hectares of native vegetation in an area that it highly vegetated (99 per cent) is unlikely to cause deterioration in the quality of groundwater.

Based on the above, the clearing as proposed is not likely to be at variance to this principle.

Methodology GIS Databases:
- ANCA wetlands
- Hydrology, linear
- Groundwater, salinity

(j) Native vegetation should not be cleared if clearing the vegetation is likely to cause, or exacerbate, the incidence or intensity of flooding.

Comments **Proposal is not likely to be at variance to this Principle**
Natural flood events may occur in the Kimberley region following cyclonic activity. However, the proposed clearing is not expected to increase the incidence or intensity of flooding.

Based on the above, the proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to this principle.

Methodology GIS Database:
- Rainfall, Mean Annual

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

Comments

The applicant proposes to clear up to 2.25 hectares of native vegetation for the purpose of constructing a hardstand area to establish a mobile asphalt plant and aggregate stockpile area.

The applicant has been granted Planning Approval for the propose of a mobile asphalt plant from the Shire of Broome (Shire of Broome 2013).

Nyamba Buru Yawuru Ltd and Pearl Coast Properties Pty Ltd have given authority to Broome International Airport Pty Ltd to access Lot 586 On Plan 71791 (Pearl Coast Properties Pty Ltd).

DEC's Kimberly Region Industry Regulation Branch has advised they have assessed the application for a works approval for a mobile asphalt site to be environmentally acceptable and have drafted the works approval instrument.

The application area is located within the Broome Groundwater Area proclaimed under the Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914.

No Aboriginal Sites of Significance are located within the application area.

Methodology

References:

- Pearl Coast Properties Pty Ltd
- Shire of Broome

GIS Databases:

- Aboriginal Sites of Significance
- RIWI Act, Groundwater Areas

4. References

- DEC (2007 -) NatureMap: Mapping Western Australia's Biodiversity. Department of Environment and Conservation. URL: <http://naturemap.dec.wa.gov.au/>. Accessed April 2013.
- DEC (2013) Site Inspection Report for Clearing Permit Application CPS 5532/1, Lot 586 on Deposited Plan 71791, Roebuck. Site inspection undertaken 1 May 2013. Department of Environment and Conservation, Western Australia (DEC Ref: A628033)
- GDH (2010) LandCorp, Report for Broome Road Industrial Area. Preliminary Environmental Impact Assessment and Biological Survey, August 2010 (DEC Ref: A337395).
- Government of Western Australia. (2013). 2012 Statewide Vegetation Statistics incorporating the CAR Reserve Analysis (Full Report). Current as of October 2012. 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.
- Northcote, K. H. with Beckmann G G, Bettenay E., Churchward H. M., van Dijk D. C., Dimmock G. M., Hubble G. D., Isbell R. F., McArthur W. M., Murtha G. G., Nicolls K. D., Paton T. R., Thompson C. H., Webb A. A. and Wright M. J. (1960-68): 'Atlas of Australian Soils, Sheets 1 to 10, with explanatory data'. CSIRO and Melbourne University Press: Melbourne.
- Pearl Coast Properties Pty Ltd (2013) Offer to lease land for Mobile Asphalt Site. DEC Ref: A628166
- 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 Broome (2013) Planning Approval - Mobile Asphalt Plant ? Lot 586 Broome Road Roebuck 6725. Western Australia. DEC Ref: A628166
- Western Australian Herbarium (1998-) FloraBase - The Western Australian Flora. Department of Environment and Conservation. <http://florabase.dec.wa.gov.au/> (Accessed April 2013)

5. Glossary

Term	Meaning
DAFWA	Department of Agriculture and Food
DEC	Department of Environment and Conservation
GIS	Geographical Information System
ha	Hectare (10,000 square metres)
TEC	Threatened Ecological Community