



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

PERMIT DETAILS

Area Permit Number: 5654/1

File Number: 2013/003589-1

Duration of Permit: From 28 September 2013 to 28 September 2015

PERMIT HOLDER

Robert Lawrence

Megan Lawrence

LAND ON WHICH CLEARING IS TO BE DONE

Lot 3767 on Deposited Plan 134219 (Glenlynn)

Lot 7373 on Deposited Plan 172882 (Glenlynn)

AUTHORISED ACTIVITY

The Permit Holder shall not clear more than 10 hectares of native vegetation within the area cross hatched yellow on attached Plan 5654/1.

CONDITIONS

1. Dieback 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 introduction and spread of *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*-affected soil, *mulch*, *fill* or other material is brought into an area that is not affected by *dieback*; and
- (d) restrict the movement of machines and other vehicles to the limits of the areas to be cleared.

DEFINITIONS

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

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;

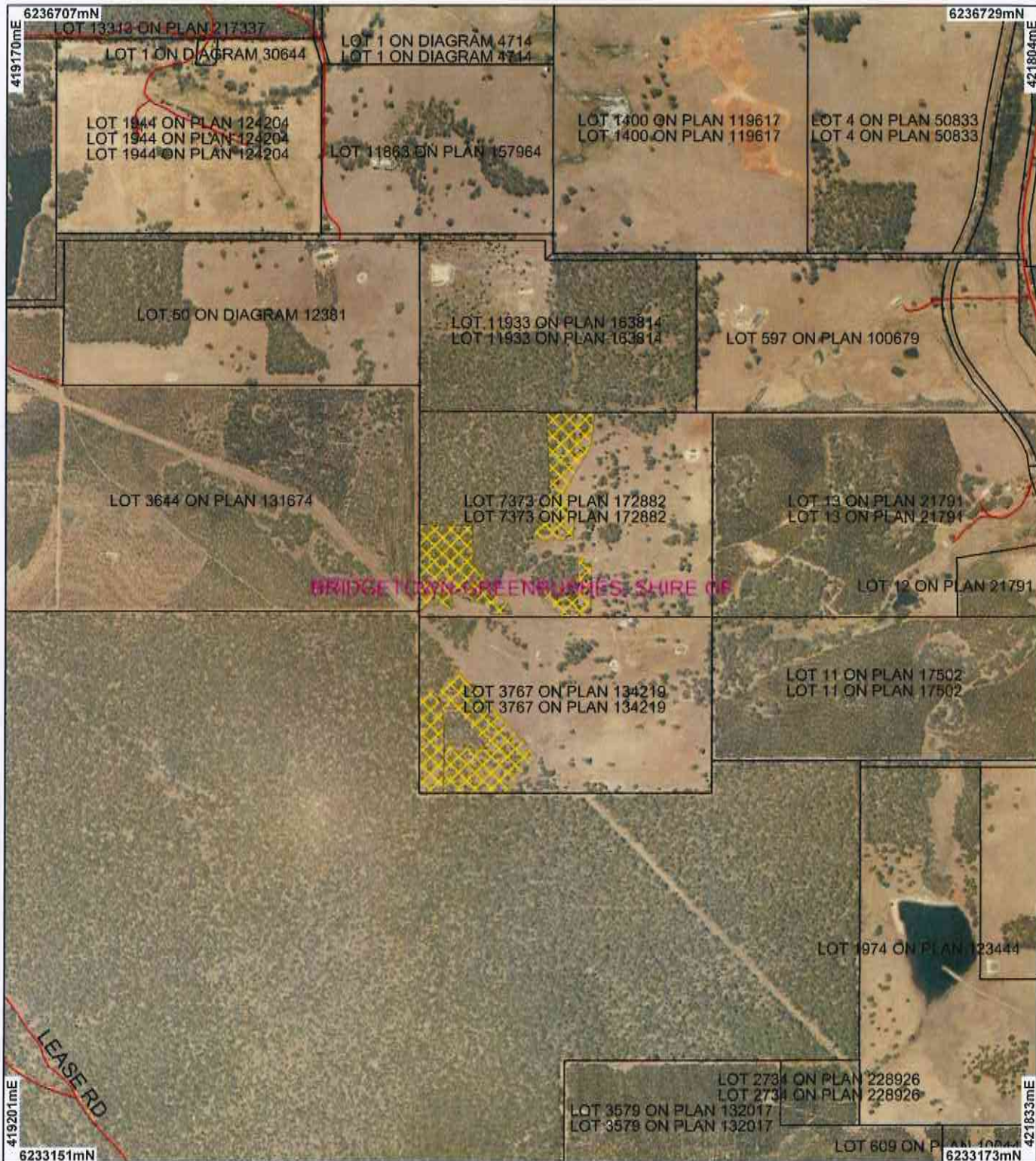
A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "M Warnock", written over a horizontal line.

M Warnock
MANAGER
NATIVE VEGETATION CONSERVATION BRANCH

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

29 August 2013

Plan 5654/1



LEGEND

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

Manjimup 50cm Orthomosaic -
Landgate 2007



0 375 m

Scale 1:15642

(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 29/8/13
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.



Government of Western Australia
Department of Environment Regulation

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Clearing Permit Decision Report

Government of Western Australia
Department of Environment Regulation

1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 5654/1
Permit type: Area Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Robert Earl and Megan Patricia Lawrence

1.3. Property details

Property: LOT 7373 ON PLAN 172882 (GLENLYNN 6256)
LOT 3767 ON PLAN 134219 (Lot No. 3767 SOUTH WESTERN GLENLYNN 6256)
Local Government Area: Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes
Colloquial name:

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
10		Mechanical Removal	Grazing & Pasture

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Grant
Decision Date: 29 August 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 3: Medium forest; jarrah-marri (Shepherd et al, 2001)	The application is to clear 10 hectares of native vegetation within Lot 3767 on Deposited Plan 134219 and Lot 7373 on Deposited Plan 172882, Glenlynn, for the purpose of agriculture.	Degraded: Structure severely disturbed; regeneration to good condition requires intensive management (Keighery 1994)	The vegetation under application consists of regrowth, trees with a ground cover of bracken fern, patches of blackberry, introduced weeds and grasses (DPaW, 2013). The area has been subject to heavy grazing with the vegetation under application in a degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition (DPaW, 2013).
Mattiske vegetation complex Grimwade (GR): Tall open forest to open forest of <i>Corymbia calophylla</i> - <i>Eucalyptus marginata</i> subsp. <i>marginata</i> with <i>Eucalyptus patens</i> on slopes and <i>Eucalyptus rudis</i> over some <i>Agonis flexuosa</i> on lower slopes in the humid zone (Mattiske and Havel, 1998).			
Mattiske vegetation complex Bevan (BE1): Tall open forest of <i>Corymbia calophylla</i> - <i>Eucalyptus marginata</i> subsp. <i>marginata</i> on uplands in perhumid and humid zones (Mattiske and Havel, 1998).			
Hedde vegetation complex Dwellingup and Hester Complex In\High Rainfall-Central and South: No Description			The description of the vegetation under application was obtained from a site inspection undertaken by the Department of Parks and Wildlife (DPaW) on 10 July 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 application is to clear 10 hectares of native vegetation for the purpose of agriculture, the application area is located approximately seven kilometres south of Bridgetown. The vegetation under application is in a degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition (DPaW, 2013) and has been subject to historical grazing. The vegetation within the applied area consists of trees with a ground cover of bracken fern, blackberry, grasses and weeds (DPaW, 2013).

Several priority flora species have been recorded within 10 kilometres of the area under application. Of the known species, six have been recorded within the same vegetation and soil type as the applied area. There has also been three rare flora species mapped within the same vegetation and soil type as the applied area within the local area (10 kilometre radius).

The area under application was subject to historical grazing, the vegetation under application is in a degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition (DPaW, 2013) and is infested with grasses and weeds. Considering this, the area under application is not likely to contain priority flora or is it likely to provide habitat suitable for priority flora.

Numerous conservation significant indigenous fauna species have been recorded in the local area (10 kilometre radius). Due to the age of the vegetation under application, is not considered to be significant habitat for conservation and priority fauna known in the local area or does it act as corridor for fauna movement in the local area.

Considering the above, the proposed clearing is not likely to contain a high level of biodiversity.

The proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to this principle.

Methodology

References:

DPaW (2013)

Keighery (1994)

GIS Databases:

- SAC Biodatasets - accessed July 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

Numerous conservation significant indigenous fauna species have been recorded in the local area (10 kilometre radius), these include; *Calyptorhynchus banksii* subsp. *naso* (Forest Red-tailed Black-Cockatoo), *Calyptorhynchus baudinii* (Baudin's Cockatoo), *Calyptorhynchus latirostris* (Carnaby's Cockatoo), *Myrmecobius fasciatus* (Numbat), *Macrotis lagotis* (Bilby), and *Dasyurus geoffroii* (Chuditch) (DEC, 2007-).

The trees within the applied area are 30 year old regrowth (DPaW, 2013) and do not contain any hollows that may be used by the three black-cockatoo species for breeding and roosting purposes. The applied area may provide foraging habitat for black cockatoos however, there is approximately 40 percent of vegetation similar to the applied area remaining in the local area (10 kilometre radius) that provides suitable foraging habitat for black cockatoo species. Additionally, the area under application has been subject to heavy grazing and is unlikely to provide significant habitat for ground dwelling fauna known to occur in the area. The vegetation in the application area is not likely to act a stepping stone or corridor to facilitate fauna movement between the remaining vegetation remnants in the local area.

Given the above, the application is not likely to be at variance to this principle.

Methodology

References:

DEC (2007-)

DPaW (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

Within 10 kilometres of the area under application, three rare flora species have been recorded. The three rare flora species have been mapped as occurring within similar vegetation and soil types that occur within the area under application.

The vegetation under application consists of regrowth with trees and a ground cover of bracken fern, patches of blackberry, introduced weeds and grasses (DPaW, 2013). The area has been subject to heavy grazing with the vegetation under application in a degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition (DPaW, 2013).

Given the above, it is unlikely the area under application contains rare flora or provides habitat for rare flora

known to exist in the area. Additionally the area under application is adjacent to the Yornup State Forest which is a larger and more intact remnant of native vegetation than the applied area and is likely to provide suitable habitat for rare flora.

The application is not likely to be at variance to this principle.

Methodology References:
 DPaW (2013)
 Keighery (1994)
 GIS Databases
 - SAC Biodatasets - accessed July 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**
 There have been no threatened ecological communities mapped within 10 kilometres of the area under application. The vegetation under application does not represent a TEC.

The application is not likely to be at variance to this principle.

Methodology GIS Databases
 - SAC Biodatasets - accessed July 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 likely to be at variance to this Principle**
 The vegetation under application is represented by Beard Vegetation Association 3, Heddle Vegetation Complex Dwellingup and Hester Complex In/High Rainfall- Central and South, and Mattiske Vegetation Complexes Grimwade and Bevan.

The national objectives and targets for biodiversity conservation in Australia has a target to prevent clearance of ecological communities with an extent below 30 percent of that present pre-1750, below which species loss appears to accelerate exponentially at an ecosystem level (Commonwealth of Australia, 2001). All of the mapped vegetation association/complexes are above the recommended 30 percent threshold level.

The area under application is not within an extensively cleared landscape with approximately 40 percent of pre-European vegetation remaining within 10 kilometres of the applied area. Considering this along with the vegetation association/complexes being above the recommended 30 percent threshold level, the vegetation under application is not significant as a remnant within an extensively cleared landscape.

The application is not likely to be at variance to this principle.

	Pre-European (ha)	Current Extent (ha)	Remaining (%)	Extent in DEC Managed Lands (%)
IBRA Bioregion				
Jarrah Forest	4,506,660	2,459,298	54.57	68.19
Shire				
Shire of Bridgetown				
- Greenbushes	133,759	72,590	54.27	83.89
Beard Vegetation Association in Bioregion 3	2,390,591	1,631,110	68.23	80.00
Heddle Vegetation Complex				
Dwellingup and Hester Complex In/High Rainfall-Central and South	144,221	125,422	86.97	82.27
Mattiske Vegetation Complex				
Grimwade (GR)	22,046	11,547	52.38	44.03
Bevan (BE1)	76,781	64,556	84.08	78.35

Methodology References:
 Commonwealth of Australia (2001)
 Government of Western Australia (2013)
 GIS Databases
 - Heddle Vegetation Complexes
 - Mattiske Vegetation
 - Pre European Vegetation

(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**
The closest watercourse to the applied area is Rectory Creek approximately 1.5 kilometres east of the applied area. There are no known wetlands within 10 kilometres of the applied area.

The vegetation is not growing in or within association to a watercourse or wetland, therefore the application is not likely to be at variance to this principle.

Methodology GIS Databases
- Hydrography, 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**
The soils and landforms within the applied areas are referred to as the Bevan Subsystem. Broad, gently sloping lateritic divides on deeply weathered mantle over granite in the southern forests west of Lake Muir and north of Manjimup. Soils are loamy gravels, duplex sandy gravels, shallow gravels and deeply sandy gravels (Deputy Commissioner of Soil and Land Conservation, 2013).

The Deputy Commissioner of Soil and Land Conservation (2013) advises that the potential for land degradation is low and the application is unlikely to cause land degradation in the form of wind and water erosion, salinity, eutrophication or flooding.

The application is not likely to be at variance to this principle.

Methodology References:
Deputy Commissioner of Soil and Land Conservation (2013)

(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 may be at variance to this Principle**
The southern area of the proposed clearing adjoins the Yornup State Forest. The proposed clearing may indirectly impact the state forest through the spread of dieback from the clearing.

Dieback conditions will assist in mitigating impacts to the state forest from the clearing.

The application may be at variance to this principle.

Methodology GIS Databases
- DEC Tenure

(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**
Groundwater salinity has been measured at 500-1000 total dissolved solids (TDS) milligrams per litre. The Deputy Commissioner of Soil and Land Conservation (2013) advises that the proposed clearing of 10 hectares of native vegetation is unlikely to increase or change groundwater salinity in the area.

No wetlands or waterways are within or near the application area and therefore the quality of the surface water is unlikely to be deteriorated.

The application is not likely to be at variance to this principle.

Methodology References:
Deputy Commissioner of Soil and Land Conservation (2013)
GIS Databases
- Hydrography, linear
- Groundwater Salinity Statewide

(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 at variance to this Principle**
The closest watercourse to the applied area is the Rectory Creek approximately 1.5 kilometres east of the

applied area. Considering the distance of the mapped watercourse to the application area, it is unlikely the clearing as proposed will increase the incidence or intensity of flooding.

The application is not likely to be at variance to this principle.

Methodology GIS Databases
- Hydrography, linear

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

Comments

The Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes (2013) advises the proposed clearing for agricultural purposes is consistent with the zoning of the land and the Shire have no objection.

There have been no submissions received for this application.

There are no known Aboriginal sites of significance within the applied area.

Methodology References:
Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes (2013)

4. References

- Deputy Commissioner of Soil and Land Conservation (2013); Land Degradation Advice and Assessment Report for clearing permit application CPS 5654/1 received 26 July, 2013; Department of Agriculture and Food Western Australia (TRIM Ref. DOC:A654357).
- Commonwealth of Australia (2001) National Objectives and Targets for Biodiversity Conservation 2001-2005, Canberra.
- DEC (2007 -) NatureMap: Mapping Western Australia's Biodiversity. Department of Environment and Conservation. URL: <http://naturemap.dec.wa.gov.au/>. Accessed July, 2013.
- DPaW (2013) Site Inspection Report for Clearing Permit Application CPS 5654/1, Lot 3767 and 7373, Glenlyn. Site inspection undertaken 10 July 2013. Department of Environment Parks and Wildlife, Western Australia (TRIM Ref. DOC663593).
- 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.
- 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 Bridgetown-Greenbushes (2013) Information received for Clearing Permit Application 5654/1, Lot 3767 and 7373, Glenlyn (DER Ref:A655316).

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)