



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

PERMIT DETAILS

Area Permit Number: 5700/1

File Number: 2013/000090-1

Duration of Permit: From 12 October 2013 to 12 October 2015

PERMIT HOLDER

Rocky Property Nominees Pty Ltd

LAND ON WHICH CLEARING IS TO BE DONE

Lot 16326 on Deposited Plan 88745, Westdale.

Lot 75 on Deposited Plan 56223, Westdale.

AUTHORISED ACTIVITY

The Permit Holder shall not clear more than 2 hectares of native vegetation and 50 native trees within the areas hatched yellow on attached Plan 5700/1.

CONDITIONS

1. Fauna management

- (a) Prior to undertaking any clearing authorised under this Permit, the Permit Holder shall engage a *fauna specialist* to conduct a *fauna survey* of the Permit Area to identify the fauna species identified below and *black cockatoo habitat tree/s* being utilised by fauna species listed below:
 - (i) *Calyptorhynchus lateriosis* (*Carnaby's cockatoo*);
 - (ii) *Calyptorhynchus baudini* (*Baudin's cockatoo*); and
 - (iii) *Calyptorhynchus banksii naso* (*Forest Red-tailed Black Cockatoo*).
- (b) Where fauna or black cockatoo habitat trees are identified under condition 1(a) of this Permit, the Permit Holder shall engage a *fauna specialist* to map the fauna and *black cockatoo habitat tree/s* within the Permit Area.
- (c) Prior to undertaking any clearing authorised under this Permit, the Permit Holder shall provide the results of the *fauna survey* in a report to the CEO.
- (d) The *fauna survey* report must include the following:
 - (i) the location of the *black cockatoo habitat tree/s* recorded using a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit set to Geocentric Datum Australia 1994 (GDA94), expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings or decimal degrees;
 - (ii) the location of any fauna species, listed in condition 1(a) if identified, recorded using a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit set to Geocentric Datum Australia 1994 (GDA94), expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings or decimal degrees; and
 - (iii) the name and amount of each fauna species identified;
 - (iv) the methodology, used to survey the Permit Area; and
 - (v) a description of the *black cockatoo habitat tree/s* identified.
- (e) where fauna are identified under condition 1(a) of this Permit, the Permit Holder shall ensure that:
 - (i) no clearing of the *black cockatoo habitat tree/s* that contain the identified fauna occurs, unless first approved by the CEO; and
 - (ii) no taking of identified fauna occurs, unless first approved by the CEO.

DEFINITIONS

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

black cockatoo habitat tree/s: means trees that have a diameter, measured at 1.5 metres from the base of the tree, of 50 centimetres or greater;

fauna specialist: means a person who holds a tertiary qualification specializing in environmental science or equivalent, and has a minimum of 2 years work experience in fauna identification and surveys of fauna native to the region being inspected or surveyed, or who is approved by the CEO as a suitable fauna specialist for the bioregion, and who holds a valid fauna licence issued under the *Wildlife Conservation Act 1950*; and

fauna survey: means a field-based investigation, including a review of established literature, of the biodiversity of fauna and/or fauna habitat of the Permit Area. Where conservation significant fauna are identified in the Permit Area, the survey should also include sufficient surrounding areas to place the Permit Area into local context.

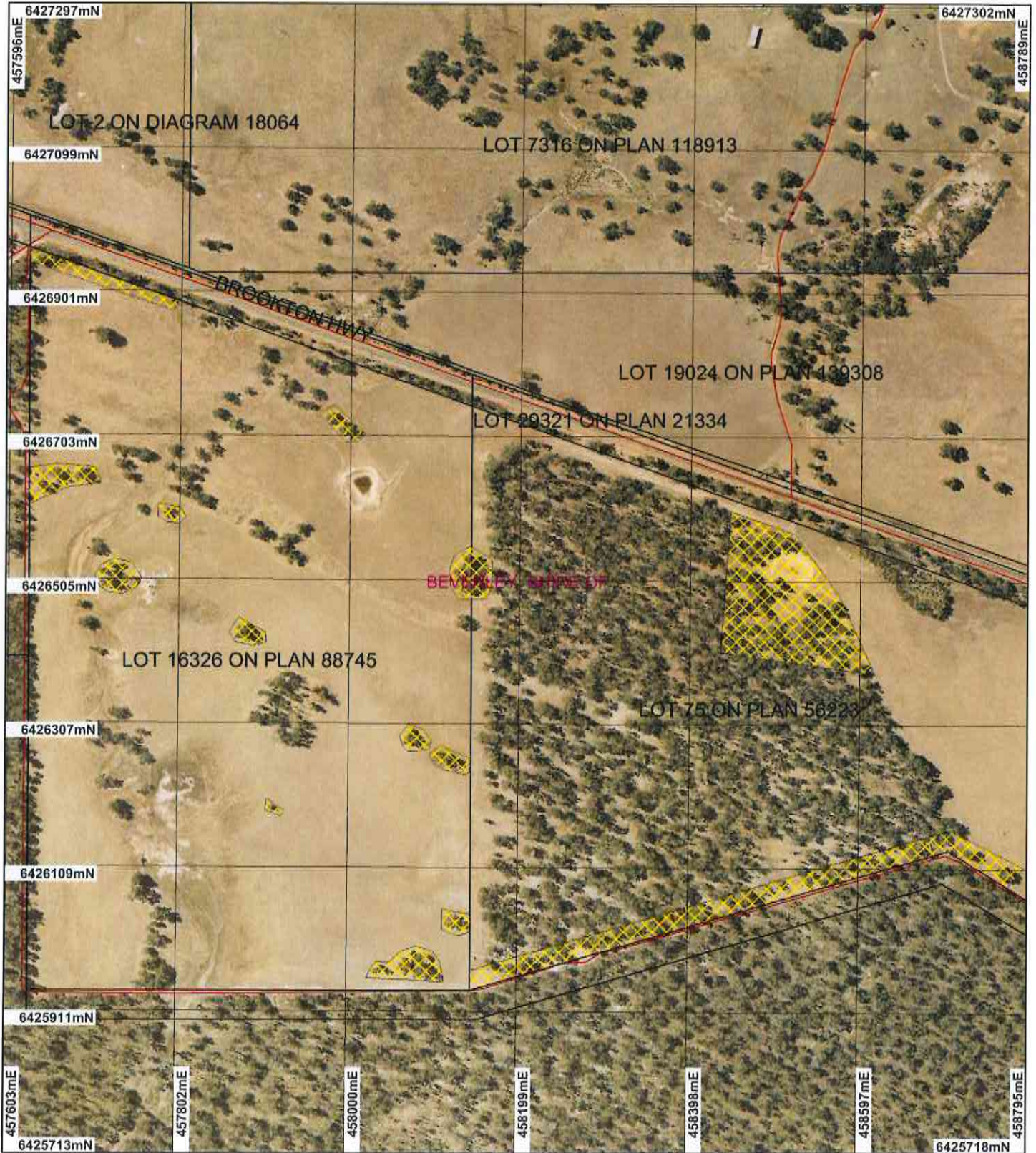


M Warnock
MANAGER
NATIVE VEGETATION CONSERVATION BRANCH

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

12 September 2013

Plan 5700/1



LEGEND

- Road Centrelines
- Cadastre
- Local Government Authorities_1
- Clearing Instruments
- Areas Approved to Clear

Beverley 50cm Orthomosaic - Landgate 2006



0 200 m

Scale 1:7000

(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 12/9/13

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.: 5700/1
Permit type: Area Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: The Rocky Property Nominees Pty Ltd

1.3. Property details

Property: LOT 16326 ON PLAN 88745 (WESTDALE 6304)
LOT 75 ON PLAN 56223 (Lot No. 75 BROOKTON WESTDALE 6304)
Local Government Area: Shire of Beverley
Colloquial name:

1.4. Application

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

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Grant
Decision Date: 12 September 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 associations (Shepherd et al 2001):	The application is to clear 2 hectares and 50 native trees of native vegetation within Lot 75 on Plan 56223 and Lot 16326 on Plan 88745, Westdale, for the purpose of increasing run-off into an existing dam, fenceline maintenance, firebreak maintenance and improving agricultural efficiency.	Completely Degraded: No longer intact; completely/almost completely without native species (Keighery 1994).	The vegetation condition was established by an inspection of the application area on 6 September 2013 by Department of Environment Regulation (2013) staff.
3: Described as medium forest, jarrah-marri.			
4: Medium woodland; marri & wandoo.			
Mattiske vegetation complex (Mattiske et al 1998):			
Yalanbee (Y6): Woodland of Eucalyptus wandoo-Eucalyptus accedens, less consistently open forest of Eucalyptus marginata fs24 subsp. thalassica-Corymbia calophylla on lateritic uplands and breakaway landscapes in arid and perarid zones (Mattiske et al 1998).			The vegetation under application consists of Wandoo and Marri trees over pasture species in a completely degraded (Keighery 1994) condition.
Mi (Michibin complex): Open woodland of Eucalyptus wandoo over Acacia acuminata with some Eucalyptus loxophleba on valley slopes, with low woodland of Allocasuarina huegelliana on or near shallow granite outcrops in arid and perarid zones.			
Coolakin complex: Woodland of Eucalyptus wandoo with mixtures of Eucalyptus patens, Eucalyptus marginata subsp. thalassica and Corymbia calophylla on the valley slopes in arid and perarid zones.			

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

The application is to clear 2 hectares of native vegetation and 50 native trees within Lot 75 on Plan 56223 and Lot 16326 on Plan 88745, Westdale, for the purpose of increasing run-off into an existing dam, fence line maintenance, firebreak maintenance and improving agricultural efficiency.

The vegetation under application consists of Wandoo (Eucalyptus wandoo) and Marri (Corymbia calophylla) trees over pasture weeds in a completely degraded (Keighery 1994) condition (DER, 2013).

Given the completely degraded condition of the vegetation it is not likely to provide habitat for priority flora, be representative of a threatened ecological community or represent a highly cleared vegetation community. As the vegetation is not growing in association with a watercourse the proposed clearing is not likely to lead to land degradation, deteriorate the quality of surface or ground water or increase the likelihood of flooding.

The application area falls adjacent to a C class timber reserve however the proposed clearing is not likely to impact any conservation reserves.

Calyptorhynchus banksii subsp. *naso* (forest red-tailed black-cockatoo), *Calyptorhynchus baudinii* (Baudin's Cockatoo) and *Calyptorhynchus latirostris* (Carnaby's cockatoo) are listed as vulnerable and endangered on the Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 and have been recorded in the local area (10 kilometre radius). These species nest in large hollows of eucalyptus trees and forage on the seeds, nuts and flowers of a large variety of plants including *Eucalyptus* and *Corymbia* species (Shah, 2006).

A site inspection of the application area undertaken by Department of Environment Regulation staff (DER, 2013) observed hollows that may be suitable as breeding sites for black cockatoos. The application therefore may be significant habitat for these species if they are utilising the hollows for breeding. Checking the vegetation for black cockatoo breeding prior to clearing will assist in mitigating the potential impact to these species.

The assessment of the application identified that the clearing may be at variance to principle (b) and is not likely to be at variance to the remaining clearing principles.

Methodology References
Keighery (1994)
DER (2013)
Shah (2006)

GIS databases:
- Hydrography, linear
- Matiske Vegetation Complexes
- Pre-European vegetation
- SAC Biodatasets (September 2013)
- DEC Managed Lands
- Beverley 50cm Orthomosaic - Landgate 2006

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

Comments

No submissions from the public have been received.

No Aboriginal Sites of Significance have been mapped within the application area.

The application area is zoned farming under the Local Town Planning Scheme.

The Department of Water had no comment on the clearing application.

Methodology GIS Databases
- Town Planning Scheme Zones
- Aboriginal Sites of Significance

4. References

- DER (2013) Site Inspection Report for Clearing Permit Application CPS 5694/1 and 5700/1, Lot 75 on Plan 56223 and Lot 16326 on Plan 88745, Westdale. Site inspection undertaken 6/09 /2013. Department of Environment Regulation, Western Australia (DER Ref A672127).
- 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.
- Matiske, 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.
- Shah, B. (2006) Conservation of Carnaby's Black-Cockatoo on the Swan Coastal Plain, Western Australia. December 2006. Carnaby's Black-Cockatoo Recovery Project. Birds Australia, Western 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.