



## CLEARING PERMIT

*Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986*

### PERMIT DETAILS

Area Permit Number: 5785/1  
File Number: 2011/006820-1  
Duration of Permit: 7 December 2013 to 7 December 2020

### PERMIT HOLDER

Shire of Carnarvon

### LAND ON WHICH CLEARING IS TO BE DONE

Lot 1210 on Deposited Plan 183666, Brown Range

### AUTHORISED ACTIVITY

The Permit Holder shall not clear more than 3.43 hectares of native vegetation within the area hatched yellow on attached Plan 5785/1.

### CONDITIONS

#### 1. Type of clearing authorised

The Permit Holder shall not clear any native vegetation after 7 December 2015.

#### 2. Weed 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 the introduction and spread of *weeds*:

- (a) clean earth-moving machinery of soil and vegetation prior to entering and leaving the area to be cleared;
- (b) ensure that no *weed*-affected soil, *mulch*, *fill* or other material is brought into the area to be cleared;
- (c) restrict the movement of machines and other vehicles to the limits of the areas to be cleared.

#### 3. Retain vegetative material and topsoil, revegetation and rehabilitation

The Permit Holder shall:

- (a) retain the vegetative material and topsoil removed by clearing authorised under this Permit and stockpile the vegetative material and topsoil in an area that has already been cleared.
- (b) within 3 months following completion of the extraction of cover material, *revegetate* and *rehabilitate* the areas that are no longer required for the purpose for which they were cleared under this Permit by:
  - (i) re-shaping the surface of the land so that it is consistent with the surrounding 5 metres of uncleared land; and
  - (ii) laying the vegetative material and topsoil retained under condition 3(a) on the cleared area(s).
- (c) within 24 months of laying the vegetative material and topsoil on the cleared area in accordance with condition 3(b) of this Permit:
  - (i) engage an *environmental specialist* to determine the species composition, structure and density of the area *revegetated* and *rehabilitated*; and
  - (ii) where, in the opinion of an *environmental specialist*, the composition structure and density determined under condition 3(c)(i) of this Permit will not result in a similar species composition, structure and density to that of pre-clearing vegetation types in that area, *revegetate* the area by deliberately *planting* and/or *direct seeding* native vegetation that will result in a similar species composition, structure and density of native vegetation to pre-clearing vegetation types in that area and ensuring only *local provenance* seeds and propagating material are used.



- (d) Where additional *planting* or *direct seeding* of native vegetation is undertaken in accordance with condition 3(c)(ii) of this permit, the Permit Holder shall repeat condition 3(c)(i) and 3(c)(ii) within 24 months of undertaking the additional *planting* or *direct seeding* of native vegetation.
- (e) Where a determination by an *environmental specialist* that the composition, structure and density within areas *revegetated* and *rehabilitated* will result in a similar species composition, structure and density to that of pre-clearing vegetation types in that area, as determined in condition 3(c)(i) and (ii) of this permit, that determination shall be submitted for the CEO's consideration. If the CEO does not agree with the determination made under condition 3(c)(ii), the CEO may require the Permit Holder to undertake additional *planting* and *direct seeding* in accordance with the requirements under condition 3(c)(ii).

#### 4. Records to be kept

The Permit Holder must maintain the following records for activities done pursuant to this Permit:

- (a) In relation to the clearing of native vegetation authorised under this Permit:
  - (i) the species composition, structure and density of the cleared area;
  - (ii) the location where the clearing occurred, 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;
  - (iii) the date that the area was cleared;
  - (iv) the size of the area cleared (in hectares); and
- (b) In relation to the revegetation and rehabilitation of areas pursuant to condition 3 of this Permit:
  - (i) the location of any areas revegetated and rehabilitated, 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) a description of the revegetation and rehabilitation activities undertaken; and
  - (iii) the size of the area revegetated and rehabilitated (in hectares).

#### 5. Reporting

- (a) The Permit Holder must provide to the CEO on or before 30 June of each year, a written report:
  - (i) of records required under condition 4 of this Permit; and
  - (ii) concerning activities done by the Permit Holder under this Permit between 1 January to 31 December of the preceding calendar year.
- (b) If no clearing authorised under this Permit was undertaken between 1 January to 31 December of the preceding calendar, a written report confirming that no clearing under this permit has been carried out, must be provided to the CEO on or before 30 June of each year.
- (c) Prior to 7 September 2020, the Permit Holder must provide to the CEO a written report of records required under condition 4 of this Permit where these records have not already been provided under condition 5(a) of this Permit.

#### DEFINITIONS

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

***direct seeding*** means a method of re-establishing vegetation through the establishment of a seed bed and the introduction of seeds of the desired plant species;

***environmental specialist***: means a person who holds a tertiary qualification in environmental science or equivalent, and has experience relevant to the type of environmental advice that an environmental specialist is required to provide under this Permit, or who is approved by the CEO as a suitable environmental specialist.

***fill*** means material used to increase the ground level, or fill a hollow;

***local provenance*** means native vegetation seeds and propagating material from natural sources within 20 kilometres and within the same Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation for Australia (IBRA) subregion of the area cleared.

***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;

**planting** means the re-establishment of vegetation by creating favourable soil conditions and planting seedlings of the desired species;

**regenerate/ed/ion** means re-establishment of vegetation from in situ seed banks and propagating material (such as lignotubers, bulbs, rhizomes) contained either within the topsoil or seed-bearing *mulch*;

**rehabilitate/ed/ion** means actively managing an area containing native vegetation in order to improve the ecological function of that area;

**revegetate/ed/ion** means the re-establishment of a cover of *local provenance* native vegetation in an area using methods such as natural *regeneration*, *direct seeding* and/or *planting*, so that the species composition, structure and density is similar to pre-clearing vegetation types in that area;

**weed/s** means any plant -

- (a) that is a declared pest under section 22 of the *Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act 2007*; or
- (b) published in the former Department of Environment and Conservation Regional Weed Assessments, regardless of ranking; or
- (c) not indigenous to the area concerned.



M Warnock  
MANAGER  
NATIVE VEGETATION CONSERVATION BRANCH

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

7 November 2013



# Plan 5785/1



## LEGEND

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

Carnarvon 1.4m Orthomosaic - Landgate 2002



Scale 1:7231  
(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 7/11/13  
M. Warnock

Officer with delegated authority under Section 20 of the Environmental Protection Act 1988

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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## 1. Application details

### 1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 5785/1  
Permit type: Area Permit

### 1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Shire of Carnarvon

### 1.3. Property details

Property: LOT 1210 ON PLAN 183666 ( BROWN RANGE 6701)  
Local Government Area: Shire of Carnarvon

### 1.4. Application

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

### 1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Grant  
Decision Date: 7 November 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 205 is described as Shrublands comprised of Acacia sclerosperma and bowgada scrub (Shepherd et al, 2001).	The proposed clearing is for 3.43 hectares of native vegetation within Lot 1210 on Deposited Plan 183666 (Reserve 36467), Brown Range, for the purpose obtaining cover material for tip operations.	Very Good: Vegetation structure altered; obvious signs of disturbance (Keighery 1994)	The condition of the vegetation was determined via aerial imagery (Carnarvon 1.4m Orthomosaic - Landgate).

## 3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

### Comments

This application proposes to clear 3.43 hectares of native vegetation within Lot 1210 on Deposited Plan 183666 (Reserve 36467), Brown Range, for the purpose of obtaining cover material for tip operations. The vegetation under application is in a very good (Keighery, 1994) condition.

There are several priority flora species mapped within the local area (20 kilometre radius). None of these occurrences are mapped on the same soil and vegetation type as the application area, therefore it is not likely that the proposed clearing will impact upon the conservation status of these species.

There are no priority or threatened ecological communities mapped within the local area (20 kilometre radius).

Several conservation significant fauna species have been recorded within the local area, however the fauna habitats within the application area are well represented elsewhere within the local and regional area, therefore it is unlikely that the vegetation under application provides significant habitat for fauna indigenous to Western Australia.

There is no rare flora mapped within the local area (20 kilometre radius).

The national objectives and targets for biodiversity conservation in Australia has a target to prevent clearance of ecological communities with an extent below 30 per cent of that present pre-1750, below which species loss appears to accelerate exponentially at an ecosystem level (Commonwealth of Australia, 2001). There is approximately 99 per cent native vegetation remaining in the Shire of Carnarvon and the Carnarvon Bioregion (Government of Western Australia, 2013), therefore the vegetation under application is not a significant remnant in an extensively cleared area.

No wetlands or watercourses occur within the application area, therefore the proposed clearing will not cause appreciable land degradation, impact water quality, consist of riparian vegetation or cause or exacerbate the intensity or incidence of flooding.



The closest conservation area to the proposed clearing is Chinaman's Pool Nature Reserve, located approximately 4.5 kilometres east. Given the distance to this Reserve the proposed clearing will not impact upon this conservation area.

The disturbance caused by the proposed clearing will increase the likelihood of weeds spreading into adjacent vegetated areas. Weed management practices will assist in mitigating the risk of spreading weeds.

Given the above, the proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance principles (a), (b), (c) and (d) and is not at variance to the remaining clearing Principles.

#### Methodology

##### References:

- Keighery (1994)
- Government of Western Australia (2013)
- Commonwealth of Australia (2001)

##### GIS Databases:

- SAC Bio Datasets (Accessed October 2013)
- Hydrography, linear
- Hydrography, hierachy
- DEC Tenure

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

#### Comments

This application proposes to clear 3.43 hectares of native vegetation within Lot 1210 on Deposited Plan 183666 (Reserve 36467), Brown Range, for the purpose of obtaining cover material for tip operations. The Shire of Carnarvon has advised that the proposed clearing is within the Shire's existing gazetted land fill area. It is advised that an extension of the land fill site is planned for an area further south whereby Works Approval and a change in zoning will be required (Shire of Carnarvon, 2013).

The proposed clearing falls within the Gascoyne Groundwater and Gascoyne River and Tributaries Surface Water Area, proclaimed under the Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914. The Department of Water were notified of the proposed clearing and have not provided comment.

The Carnarvon Land Conservation District Committee (LCDC) has advised that they do not object to the proposed clearing (Carnarvon LCDC, 2013).

The application area is within the Gnulli Native Title Claimant Area. The Gnulli Native Title claimants were notified of the proposed clearing and have not provided comment.

#### Methodology

##### References:

- Carnarvon LCDC (2013)
- Shire of Carnarvon (2013)

##### GIS Databases:

- RIWI Act, Surface Water Areas
- RIWI Act, Groundwater Areas
- Town Planning Scheme Zones

## 4. References

- Carnarvon LCDC (2013) Direct Interest Submission for Clearing Permit Application CPS 5785/1. Carnarvon Land Conservation District Committee. DER Ref A681048.
- Commonwealth of Australia (2001) National Objectives and Targets for Biodiversity Conservation 2001-2005, Canberra.
- 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.
- 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 Carnarvon (2013) Additional Information for Clearing Permit Application CPS 5785/1. DER Ref A688090.