



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

PERMIT DETAILS

Area Permit Number: 5872/1
File Number: DER2013/001080-1
Duration of Permit: From 28 June 2014 to 28 June 2016

PERMIT HOLDER

Michael Guthrie
Marilyn Kaye Guthrie

LAND ON WHICH CLEARING IS TO BE DONE

Lot 1 on Plan 15482 (Coonabidgee)

AUTHORISED ACTIVITY

The Permit Holder shall not clear more than 9.3 hectares of native vegetation within the areas cross hatched yellow on attached Plan 5872/1.

CONDITIONS

Nil.

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

M Warnock
SENIOR MANAGER
CLEARING REGULATION

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

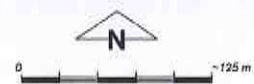
29 May 2014

Plan 5872/1



LEGEND

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Clearing Instruments | Perth Metropolitan Area
North 15cm Orthomosaic -
Landgate 2012 |
| Areas Approved to Clear | Road Centrelines |
| Cadastre | Local Government Authorities |
| Towns | |



Scale 1:4789
(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 29/5/14

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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* Project Data is denoted by asterisk. This data has not been quality assured. Please contact map author for details.



Clearing Permit Decision Report

Government of Western Australia
Department of Environment Regulation

1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 5872/1
Permit type: Area Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Michael and Marilyn Kaye Guthrie

1.3. Property details

Property: LOT 1 ON PLAN 15482 (House No. 462 COONABIDGEE COONABIDGEE 6503)
Local Government Area: Shire of Gingin
Colloquial name:

1.4. Application

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

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Grant
Decision Date: 29 May 2014

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 37: Shrublands; teatree thicket (Shepherd et al, 2001)	Clearing 9.7 hectares of native vegetation within Lot 1 on Plan 15482, Coonabidgee, Shire of Gingin, for the purpose of pasture.	Completely Degraded: No longer intact; completely/almost completely without native species (Keighery 1994)	The vegetation under application consists of Xanthorrhoea preissii over a ground cover of weeds. The soils present within this area consisted of yellow sands (DER, 2013).
Mapped Beard Vegetation Association 1014: Mosaic: Low woodland; banksia / Shrublands; teatree thicket (Shepherd et al, 2001)			The proposed clearing area has been subject to past disturbances such as clearing and grazing with a large proportion of vegetation in the applied areas consisting of regrowth.
Hedde Vegetation Complex Yanga Complex: Predominantly a closed scrub of Melaleuca species and low open forest of Casuarina obesa (Swamp Sheoak) on the flats subject to inundation. On drier sites the vegetation reflects the adjacent vegetation complexes of Bassendean and Coonabidgee (Hedde et al, 1980).			The vegetation under application is in a completely degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition (DER, 2013).
Hedde Vegetation Complex Bassendean Complex- North: Predominantly low open forest and low woodland of Banksia species E-Eucalyptus todtiana (Pricklybark), less consistently open forest of Eucalyptus			The condition and description of the vegetation under application was determined from a site inspection undertaken by the Department of Environment Regulation on 12 November 2013.

gomphocephala (Tuart) -
Eucalyptus todiana
(Pricklybark) - Banksia
species (Hedde et al,
1980).

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

Comments

The application is to clear 9.7 hectares of native vegetation within Lot 1, for the purpose of pasture. The application area is approximately seven kilometres from the Gingin town site.

The application area consists predominately of *Xanthorrhoea preissii*. The vegetation under application is in a completely degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition (DER, 2013).

Several priority flora and one rare flora species have been recorded within 10 kilometres of the area under application. It is unlikely that suitable habitat for these priority and rare flora species exist within the application area given the historical grazing and clearing activities associated with the proposed clearing areas.

Several fauna species of conservation significance have been recorded within 10 kilometres of the proposed clearing areas. This includes *Calyptorhynchus latirostris* (Carnaby's cockatoo), *Dasyurus geoffroii* (Bilby), *Pseudocheirus occidentalis* (Western Ringtail Possum) and *Pseudomys shortridgei* (Heath Mouse) (DEC, 2007-). The proposed clearing is to remove *Xanthorrhoea preissii* over a ground cover of weeds (DER, 2013). The proposed clearing is unlikely to provide habitat for fauna species of conservation significance.

Within 10 kilometres of the areas under application two threatened ecological communities (TEC) have been recorded. The identified TEC's are SCP07, herb rich saline shrublands in clay pans; and SCP15, forests and woodlands of deep seasonal wetlands of the Swan Coastal Plain. The vegetation of the application area is in a completely degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition (DER, 2013) and does not represent these communities.

The area under application is represented by Beard vegetation associations 37 and 1014 and Hedde vegetation complexes Yanga and Bassendean Complex-North. The National Objectives and Targets for Biodiversity Conservation include a target that prevents the clearance of ecological communities with an extent below 30 per cent of that present pre-European settlement (Commonwealth of Australia, 2001). Of the mapped vegetation types the Hedde vegetation complex Yanga falls below this 30 percent threshold level. However, the proposed clearing is for *Xanthorrhoea preissii* over a ground cover of weeds (DER, 2013) and does not represent Hedde vegetation complex Yanga or any of the other vegetation types mapped within the proposed clearing area.

A multiple use wetland and a conservation category wetland has been mapped as occurring within the property with a small section of the mapped wetlands intersecting with the proposed clearing areas. A minor tributary of the Gingin Brook and two drains also run through the property. The vegetation under application consists of *Xanthorrhoea preissii* and is in a completely degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition (DER, 2013) and is unlikely to impact on the wetlands or watercourses or impact on their water quality.

The closest conservation area to the application areas is the Yeal Nature Reserve which is located approximately three kilometres away. The Bambanup Nature Reserve has been recorded approximately 6.3 kilometres away from the application areas and the Nullilla Nature Reserve approximately seven kilometres away. Given the distance between the clearing areas and nature reserves, the proposed clearing is unlikely to have any direct impacts to any conservation areas.

Taking into consideration the condition of the vegetation under application, the proposed clearing is unlikely to contain a high level of biodiversity, significant fauna habitat, or cause or exacerbate land degradation, flooding or impact on water quality.

The assessment of the application identified that the clearing is not likely to be at variance to any of the clearing principles.

Methodology

References

- Commonwealth of Australia (2001)
- DEC (2007-)
- DER (2013)
- Keighery (1994)
- GIS Databases:
 - DPaW Tenure
 - Pre European Vegetation
 - SAC Bio Datasets November 2013

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

Comments

The Department of Water (2014) supports the clearing application, as the waterway on the property is not going to be cleared. Groundwater is not available in the area, however the DoW cannot provide further advice as no information has been provided on the irrigation of the cleared area (DoW, 2014).

The application was originally for the clearing of 20 hectares of native vegetation. An assessment of this area identified a number of significant environmental impacts. The application has been amended to avoid the areas of concern.

Methodology References
- DOW (2014)

4. References

- 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 December 2013
- DER (2013) Site Inspection Report for Clearing Permit Application CPS 5872/1, Lot 1, Coonabidgee. Site inspection undertaken 12/11/2013. Department of Environment Regulation, Western Australia (DER Ref:A723696).
- 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.
- Heddle, E. M., Loneragan, O. W., and Havel, J. J. (1980) Vegetation Complexes of the Darling System, Western Australia. In 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.
- 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.