



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Purpose Permit number:	CPS 5972/1
Permit Holder:	Department of Agriculture and Food Western Australia
Duration of Permit:	14 June 2014 – 14 June 2019

The Permit Holder is authorised to clear native vegetation subject to the following conditions of this Permit.

PART I – CLEARING AUTHORISED

- 1. Purpose for which clearing may be done**
Clearing for the purpose of exploration and establishment of new water bore sources, access tracks, power lines and associated infrastructure.
- 2. Land on which clearing is to be done**
Lot 415 on Deposited Plan 220782, Inggarda.
- 3. Area of Clearing**
The Permit Holder must not clear more than 30 hectares of native vegetation within the area hatched yellow on attached Plan 5972/1.
- 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.
- 5. Period in which clearing is authorised**
The Permit Holder shall not clear any native vegetation after 14 June 2016.

PART II – MANAGEMENT CONDITIONS

- 6. Avoid and minimise clearing**
In determining the amount of native vegetation to be cleared authorised under this Permit, the Permit Holder must have regard to the following principles, set out in order of preference:
 - (a) avoid the clearing of native vegetation;
 - (b) minimise the amount of native vegetation to be cleared; and
 - (c) reduce the impact of clearing on any environmental value.

7. 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; and
- (c) Restrict the movement of machines and other vehicles to the limits of the areas to be cleared.

8. 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) At an optimal time within 12 months following completion of works, *revegetate* and *rehabilitate* areas not required for future scheduled and approved development, by:
 - (i) ripping the ground on the contour to remove soil compaction; and
 - (ii) laying the vegetative material and topsoil retained under condition 8(a) on the cleared area(s).
- (c) Within 12 months of laying the vegetative material and topsoil on the cleared area in accordance with condition 8(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 8(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.

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 50 kilometres and 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 a Department of Parks and Wildlife Regional Weed Rankings Summary, regardless of ranking; or
- (c) not indigenous to the area concerned.

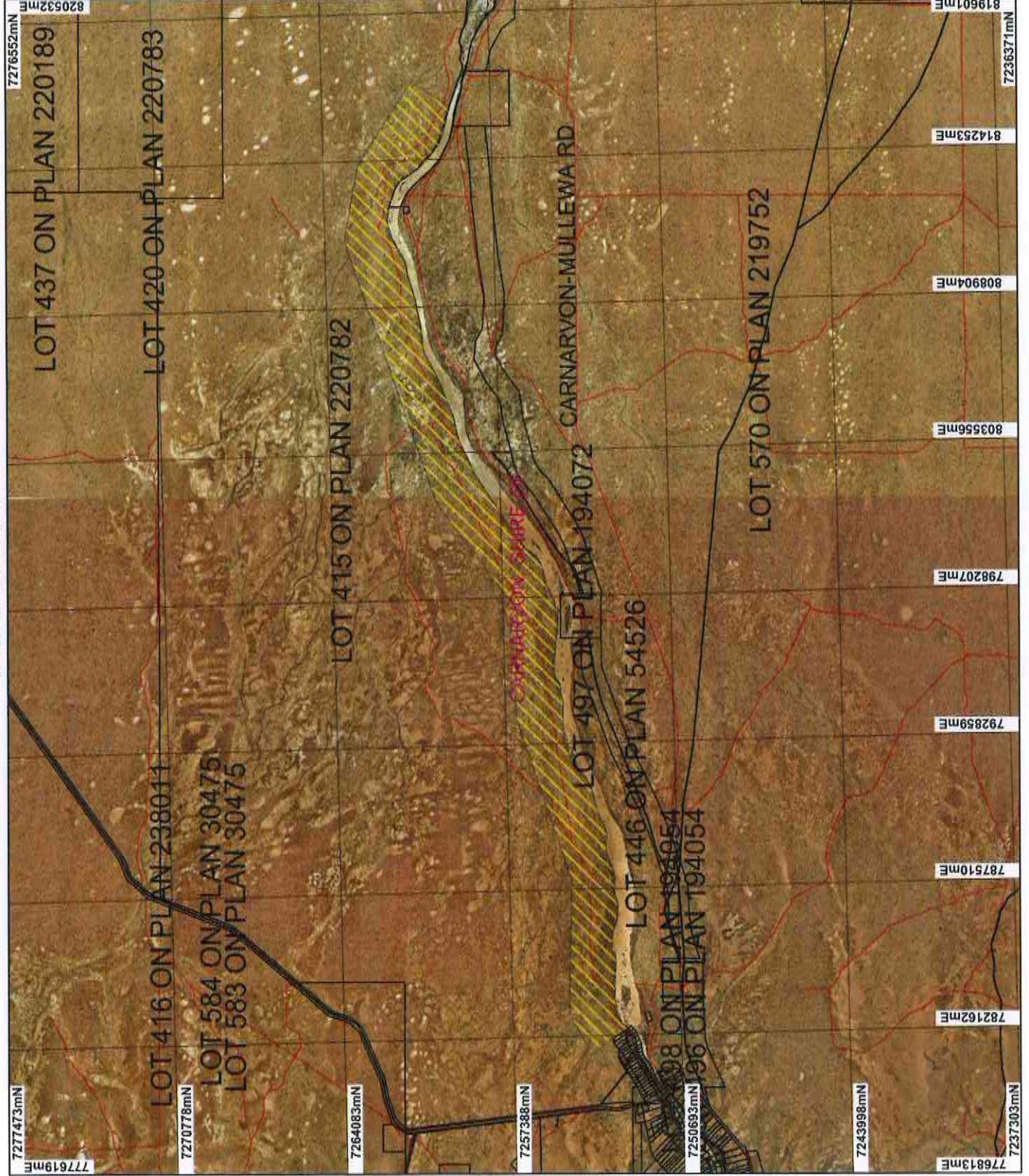


M Warnock
SENIOR MANAGER
CLEARING REGULATION

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

15 May 2014

Plan 5972/1



LEGEND

- Road Centrelines
- Local Government Authorities
- Clearing Instruments
- Areas Approved to Clear
- Carnarvon 1.4m Orthomosaic - Landgate 2002
- Doornwarrah 1.4m Orthomosaic - Landgate 2002

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



Scale 1:200000
 (Approximate when reproduced at A4)

Geocentric Datum Australia 1994
 Note: the date in this map have not been projected. This may result in geometric distortion or measurement inaccuracies.

M Waincock Date **15/5/14**

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.



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 Department of Environment Regulation
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Clearing Permit Decision Report

1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 5972/1
Permit type: Purpose Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Department of Agriculture and Food Western Australia

1.3. Property details

Property: LOT 415 ON PLAN 220782 (House No. 415 NORTH WEST COASTAL INGGARDA 6701)

Local Government Area: Shire of Carnarvon

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
30		Mechanical Removal	Geotechnical investigations and infrastructure installation

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Grant
Decision Date: 15 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
The vegetation under application is mapped as Beard vegetation association's (Shepherd et. al., 2001):	The clearing of 30 hectares of native vegetation within a larger footprint of 6526 hectares for the establishment of approximately 360 bore sites and associated infrastructure.	Very Good: Vegetation structure altered; obvious signs of disturbance (Keighery 1994)	The vegetation condition was determined through aerial photography (Carnarvon 1.4m Orthomosaic - Landgate 2002 and Doorawarra 1.4m Orthomosaic - Landgate 2002).
129: Described as bare areas; dune sand.			
308: Mosaic; Shrublands, Acacia sclerosperma sparse scrub / Succulent steppe, saltbush and bluebush.			

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

Comments The application is to clear up to 30 hectare of native vegetation within a larger footprint of 6526 hectares for the establishment of approximately 360 bore sites and associated infrastructure.

There are no rare flora species, priority ecological communities or threatened ecological communities in the vicinity of the project. As the clearing will be dispersed over numerous sites and the local area (20 kilometre radius) is highly vegetated (99 percent), it is unlikely to have a detrimental impact on fauna habitat, impact on conservation areas, cause or exacerbate land degradation or exacerbate flooding. Given the limited number of priority flora records from the local area and minimal clearing undertaken at each site, the application is not likely to impact on priority flora.

The application area falls adjacent to the Gascoyne River, classified as a major river. Given this, riparian vegetation may be impacted by the proposed works.

The assessment of the application identified that the clearing may be at variance to principle (f) and is not likely to be at variance to the remaining clearing principles. Revegetation of temporarily cleared areas will assist in mitigating the environmental impacts of the clearing.

Methodology GIS databases:
- Hydrography, linear
- Pre-European vegetation
- SAC Bio datasets (Accessed March 2014)

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

Comments The application forms part of the Gascoyne Food Bowl project, a \$20 million Royalties for Regions funded initiative aimed at doubling the amount of accessible land for horticulture in the Carnarvon area.

A section 91 licence has been granted by the Department of Lands in order for the applicant to access the land.

The Department of Water (DoW) has granted a licence to construct the bores within the application area (DoW, 2014). The DoW has also advised that:

- As the application area falls within a proclaimed area under the Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914. A bed and banks permit may be required if disturbance to watercourses is proposed.
- All works should be undertaken in line with water quality protection notes 60 and 44 in order to limit potential impacts to the drinking water source.

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

Native Title notification letters were sent to the Yamatji Marple Aboriginal Corporation as the application area falls within their registered area of interest. To date no response has been received.

No submissions from the public have been received.

Methodology References
-DoW, 2014

GIS databases:
- Aboriginal Sites of Significance

4. References

- Department of Water (2014) Advice received in relation to Clearing Permit Application 5972/1. Received 26 February 2014.
Department of Water
- 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.