



GOVERNMENT OF
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Purpose Permit number:	CPS 5973/1
Permit Holder:	Minister for Education
Duration of Permit:	26 July 2014 – 26 July 2019

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

- 1. Purpose for which clearing may be done**
Clearing for the purpose of bulk earthworks.
- 2. Land on which clearing is to be done**
Lot 804 on Deposited Plan 73960 (Baldivis 6171)
- 3. Area of Clearing**
The Permit Holder must not clear more than 1.1 hectares of native vegetation within the area hatched yellow on attached Plan 5973/1.
- 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.

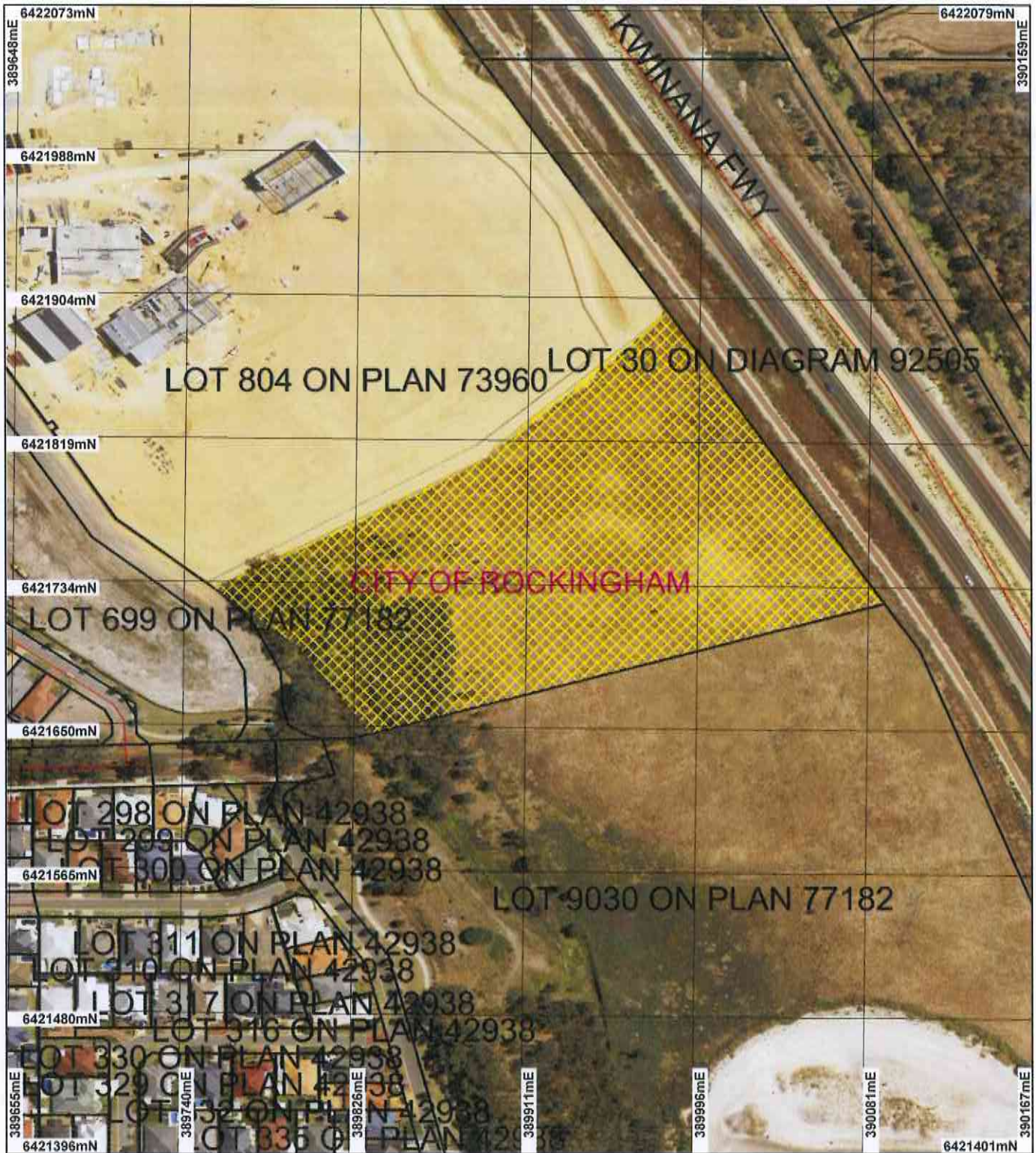
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M Warnock', written over a horizontal line.

M Warnock
SENIOR MANAGER
CLEARING REGULATION

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

26 June 2014

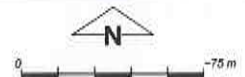
Plan 5973/1



LEGEND

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

Perth Metropolitan Area
Central 15cm Orthomosaic -
Landgate 2012



Scale 1:3000
(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 *26/6/14*

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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Clearing Permit Decision Report

1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 5973/1
Permit type: Purpose Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Minister for Education

1.3. Property details

Property: LOT 804 ON PLAN 73960 (BALDIVIS 6171)
Local Government Area: City of Rockingham

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
1.1		Mechanical Removal	Stockpile / Bulk earthworks

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Grant
Decision Date: 26 June 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 is described as medium woodland; jarrah, marri & wandoo (Shepherd et al 2001).	The application is to clear up to 1.1 hectares of native vegetation within Lot 804 on Plan 73960, Baldivis for the purpose of bulk earthworks for a future primary school.	Completely Degraded: No longer intact; completely/almost completely without native species (Keighery 1994) To Degraded: Structure severely disturbed; regeneration to good condition requires intensive management (Keighery 1994)	The vegetation condition and description was determined by a site inspection undertaken by the Department of Environment Regulation (DER 2014). The area under application has been subject to past clearing with the majority of the footprint area consisting predominantly of grass weeds (DER 2014). The most eastern portion of the area under application has been impacted by the dumping of sandy soils and consists of juvenile stands of <i>Eucalyptus rudis</i> , scattered mature <i>Eucalyptus</i> sp. and some <i>Eucalyptus todtiana</i> with degraded understorey. Sedges align the northern boundary (DER 2014).

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

Comments

The application is for the proposed clearing of 1.1 hectares of native vegetation within Lot 804 on Plan 73960, Baldivis for the purpose of bulk earthworks for a future primary school.

The application area is in a completely degraded to degraded (Keighery 1994) condition. The majority of the application area has been historically cleared. The most eastern portion of the application area consists of juvenile stands of *Eucalyptus rudis*, *Eucalyptus* sp. and some *Eucalyptus todtiana*. The understorey consists predominately of weeds.

A number of rare and priority flora have been recorded within the local area (10 kilometre radius), the closest being a rare flora species located approximately 3.2 kilometres south east of the proposed clearing area. This species is found in open sites and grows in deep sandy soil in banksia woodland, in low-lying areas alongside winter-wet swamps (Brown et al 1998). Suitable habitat for this species is not located within the application area. Given the completely degraded to degraded (Keighery 1994) condition of the vegetation under application, the proposed clearing is not likely to contain priority or rare flora species.

No threatened ecological communities have been recorded within close proximity to the area under application.

Numerous fauna species listed as rare or likely to become extinct under the Wildlife Conservation Act 1950 have been recorded within the local area (10 kilometre radius) including: *Calyptorhynchus banksii* subsp. *naso* (Forest Red-tailed Black-Cockatoo), *Calyptorhynchus latirostris* (Carnaby's Cockatoo) and *Dasyurus geoffroii* (Chuditch) (DEC 2007-). The application area consists predominately of juvenile *Eucalyptus rudis* and *Eucalyptus* sp. therefore the vegetation under application is not likely to contain significant habitat for black cockatoo species. The understorey consists predominately of weeds and is therefore not likely to provide significant habitat for ground dwelling fauna.

The application area is mapped within a Multiple Use wetland and wetland vegetation (sedges) was recorded along the northern boundary of the application area. Therefore the vegetation proposed to be cleared is considered to be growing in association with a wetland. However given the small area under application and the completely degraded to degraded (Keighery 1994) condition of the vegetation, the impact upon the wetland is considered to be minimal.

There is approximately 20 per cent native vegetation remaining in the local area (10 kilometre radius). The area under application is located within the Swan Coastal Plain Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation of Australia (IBRA) bioregion and is mapped as Beard Vegetation Association 7 which has seven per cent of its pre European vegetation extent remaining (Government of Western Australia 2013).

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). However, the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) recognises the Perth Metropolitan Region as a constrained area, which provides for the reduction of vegetation complexes to a minimum of 10 per cent of the pre-European extent (EPA, 2006). Beard Vegetation Association 7 retains less than the threshold level for constrained areas. However, the vegetation proposed to be cleared is not representative of Beard Vegetation Association 7 and given the small area under application and the completely degraded to degraded (Keighery 1994) condition of the vegetation, it is unlikely the vegetation proposed to be cleared is a significant remnant.

Given the relatively small area (1.1 hectares) under application and the completely degraded to degraded (Keighery 1994) condition of the vegetation, it is unlikely for the proposed clearing to contain a high level of biological diversity, impact on nearby conservation areas, impact on surface or groundwater quality or cause or exacerbate land degradation or flooding.

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

Methodology

References:

- Brown et al (1998)
- Commonwealth of Australia (2001)
- DEC (2007-)
- DER (2014)
- EPA (2006)
- Government of Western Australia (2013)
- Keighery (1994)

GIS Databases:

- DEC, Tenure
- Geomorphic Wetlands, Swan Coastal Plain
- Hydrology, linear
- Pre-European vegetation
- SAC Bio datasets (Accessed December 2013)
- Soils, statewide

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

Comments

The City of Rockingham (2014) has advised that prior approval from the City is not required for the development of land vested in a Public Authority, for any purpose for which such land may be lawfully used by that authority.

The subject property is indicated for the development of a primary school under the approved 'The Rivergums (East)' Local Structure Plan. The Structure Plan does not make reference to any vegetation to be retained on the subject property and therefore the City of Rockingham has no objection to the clearing of native vegetation within Lot 804 (City of Rockingham 2014).

The Department of Finance has issued the applicant 'Approval to Commence Development' within Lot 804 on behalf of the Western Australian Planning Commission.

No aboriginal sites of significance have been mapped over the application area.

Methodology

References:

- City of Rockingham (2014)

4. References

- Brown A., Thomson-Dans C. and Marchant N.(1998). Western Australia's Threatened Flora, Department of Conservation and Land Management, Western Australia.
- City of Rockingham (2014) Application to Clear Native Vegetation - Lot 804 Baldivis (Future Baldivis Primary School. DER Ref: A732187
- 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 February 2014.
- DER (2014) Site Inspection Report for Clearing Permit Application CPS 5973/1, Lot 804 on Plan 73960, Baldivis. Site inspection undertaken 24 February 2014. Department of Environment and Conservation, Western Australia. DER Ref: A736020
- EPA (2006) Guidance for the Assessment of Environmental Factors - Level of Assessment for Proposals Affecting Natural Areas Within the System 6 Region and Swan Coastal Plain Portion of the System 1 Region. Guidance Statement No 10. Environmental Protection Authority, Western Australia.
- 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.