



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

PERMIT DETAILS

Area Permit Number: 602 / 3

File Number: 20283

Duration of Permit: From 22 July 2007 to 21 July 2015

PERMIT HOLDER

Co-operative Bulk Handling Limited

LAND ON WHICH CLEARING IS TO BE DONE

LOT 4300 ON PLAN 30175 MOORA

AUTHORISED ACTIVITY

1. Clearing of up to 1.2 hectares of native vegetation within the area crosshatched yellow on attached Plan 602/3 for the purpose of expansion of grain storage facility.

CONDITIONS

1. Weeds

When undertaking any clearing and revegetation, or other activity pursuant to 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 *road building materials, 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.

2. Offsets

(a) Determination of offsets

- (i) If part or all of the clearing to be done is or may be at variance with one or more of the clearing principles, then the permit holder must implement an *offset* in accordance with Conditions 2(a) and 2(b) of this Permit with respect to that native vegetation.
- (ii) In determining the *offset* to be implemented with respect to a particular area of native vegetation proposed to be cleared under this Permit, the permit holder must have regard to the offset principles contained in condition 2(b) of this Permit.
- (iii) Once the permit holder has developed an offset proposal, the permit holder must provide that offset proposal to the CEO for the CEO's approval, prior to undertaking any clearing to which the offset relates, and prior to implementing the offset.
- (iv) Clearing may not commence until and unless the CEO has approved the offset proposal.
- (v) The permit holder shall implement the offset proposal approved under condition 2(a)(iii).
- (vi) Each offset proposal shall include a direct offset, timing for implementation of the offset proposal and may additionally include contributing offsets.

(b) Offset principles

For the purpose of this Part, the offset principles are as follows:

- (i) *direct offsets* should directly counterbalance the loss of the native vegetation;
- (ii) *contributing offsets* should complement and enhance the *direct offset*;
- (iii) *offsets* are implemented only once all avenues to avoid, minimise, rectify or reduce environmental impacts have been exhausted;
- (iv) the environmental values, habitat, species, ecological community, physical area, ecosystem, landscape, and hydrology of the *offset* should be the same as, or better than, that of the area of native vegetation being *offset*;
- (v) a ratio greater than 1:1 should be applied to the size of the area of *native vegetation* that is offset to compensate for the risk that the *offset* may fail;
- (vi) *offsets* must entail a robust and consistent assessment process;
- (vii) in determining an appropriate *offset*, consideration should be given to ecosystem function, rarity and type of *ecological community*, *vegetation condition*, habitat quality and area of native vegetation cleared;
- (viii) the *offset* should either result in no net loss of native vegetation, or lead to a net gain in native vegetation and improve the condition of the natural environment;
- (ix) *offsets* must satisfy all statutory requirements;
- (x) *offsets* must be clearly defined, documented and audited;
- (xi) *offsets* must ensure a long-term (10-30 year) benefit; and
- (xii) an *environmental specialist* must be involved in the design, assessment and monitoring of *offsets*.

3. Reporting

The Permit Holder must maintain the following records in relation to the offsets of areas pursuant to condition 2:

- (a) The location of any area of offsets recorded using Geocentric Datum Australia 1994;
- (b) A description of the *offset* activities undertaken; and
- (c) The size of the *offset* area (in hectares).

4. The Permit Holder must provide to the CEO, on or before 31 March of each year, a written report of records required under condition 3 and activities done by the Permit Holder under this Permit between 1 January and 31 December of the preceding year.

DEFINITIONS

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

condition means the rating given to native vegetation using the *Keighery scale* and refers to the degree of change in the structure, density and species present in the particular vegetation in comparison to undisturbed vegetation of the same type;

contributing offsets has the same meaning as is given to that term in the Environmental Protection Authority's *Position Statement No.9 Environmental Offsets*, January 2006;

direct offsets has the same meaning as is given to that term in the Environmental Protection Authority's *Position Statement No.9 Environmental Offsets*, January 2006;

ecological community means a naturally occurring biological assemblage that occurs in a particular type of habitat (English and Blythe, 1997; 1999). The scale at which ecological communities are defined will depend on the level of detail in the information source, therefore no particular scale is specified. An ecological community is a naturally occurring biological assemblage that occurs in a particular type of habitat.

environmental specialist means a person who is engaged by the permit holder for the purpose of providing environmental advice, 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;

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

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;

offset means an offset required to be implemented under Condition 2 of this Permit;

road building materials means rock, gravel, soil, stone, timber, boulders and water;

weed means a species listed in Appendix 3 of the "Environmental Weed Strategy" published by the Department of Conservation and Land Management (1999), and plants declared under section 37 of the Agricultural and Related Resources Protection Act 1976.

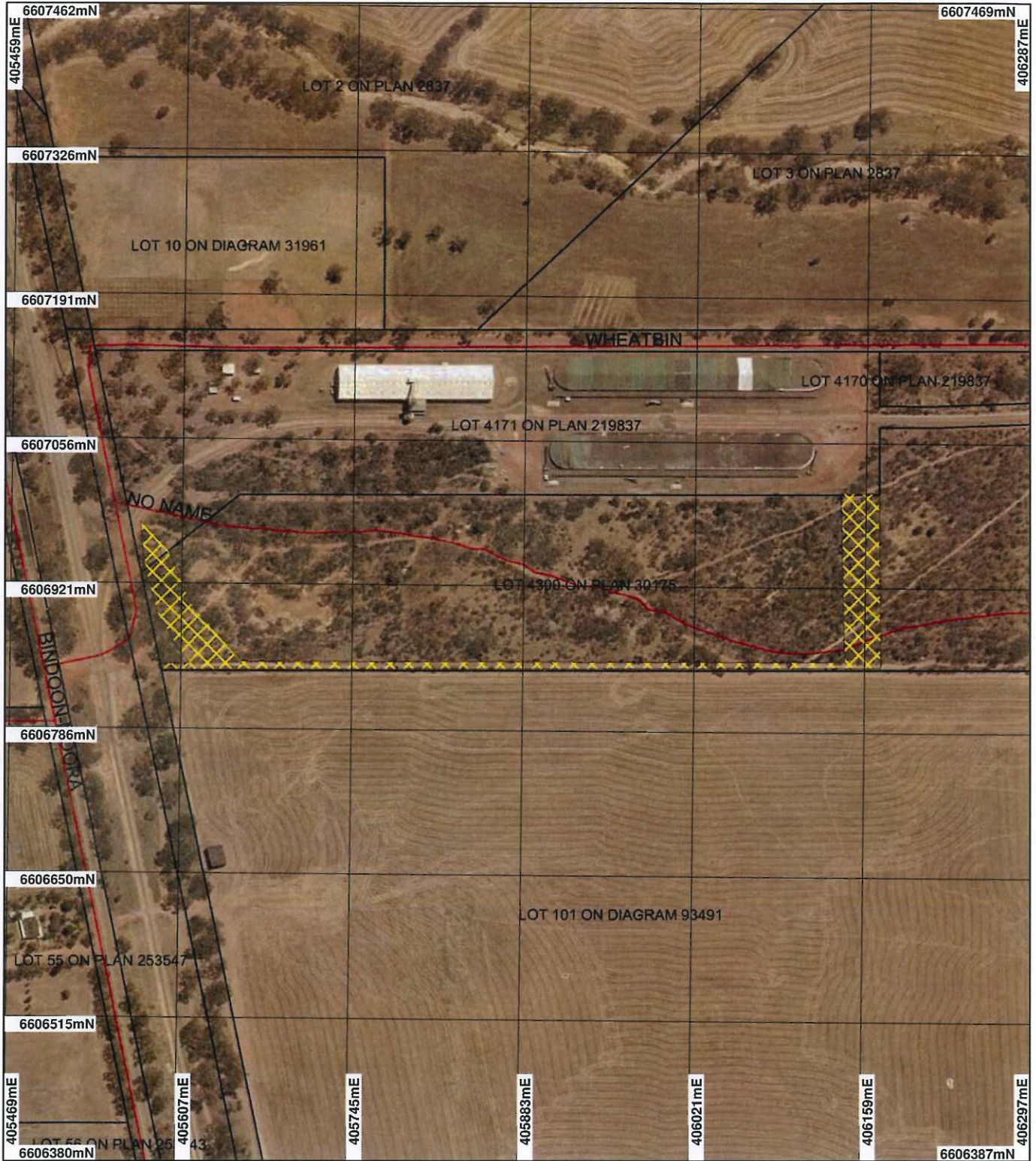


Kelly Faulkner
MANAGER
NATIVE VEGETATION CONSERVATION BRANCH

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

25 August 2011

Plan 602/3



LEGEND

- Road Centrelines - DLI 1/5/04
- Dandaragan 50cm Orthomosaic - DL104
- Cadastre - DLI
- Cadastre for labelling - DLI
- Clearing Instruments
- Areas Approved to Clear



Scale 1:4809
(Approximate when reproduced at A4)

Geocentric Datum Australia 1994

Note: the data in this map have not been protected. This may result in geometric distortion or measurement inaccuracies.

Date 25/8/11
K Faulkner

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.



1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 602/3

Permit type: Area Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Co-operative Bulk Handling Limited

1.3. Property details

Property: LOT 4300 ON PLAN 30175 (Lot No. 4300 WHEATBIN MOORA 6510)

Local Government Area: Shire of Moora

Colloquial name:

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
1.2		Mechanical Removal	Road construction or maintenance

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Grant

Decision Date: 25 August 2011

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
Beard vegetation association 142: Medium woodland; York gum and salmon gum (Hopkins et al. 2001, Shepherd et al. 2001).	Native flora species that will be affected by this proposal include Hakea sp., Eucalyptus loxophleba and E. salmonophloia, Acacia sp., Xanthorrhoea sp., Allocasuarina sp. and Solanum lasiophyllum with some areas of dense understorey and others with extensive weed invasion.	Very Good: Vegetation structure altered; obvious signs of disturbance (Keighery 1994)	Observed during site visit: the area covered by clearing permit 602 consisted of highly biodiverse vegetation including Hakea sp., Eucalyptus loxophleba and E. salmonophloia, Acacia sp., Xanthorrhoea sp., Allocasuarina sp. and Solanum lasiophyllum with some areas of dense understorey and others with extensive weed invasion. The mix of red and yellow sandy soils supported many communities of lichen, moss and fungus and some of these were growing on overstorey species or in areas that were visibly wet. The vegetation was quite dense in places despite some obvious signs of disturbance in some parts. The presence of wet areas and numerous hollows suggests that the site would represent a significant habitat for flora and fauna in the local area. A number of avian species were noted during the site visit. The inspection was carried out by vehicle and on foot and took approximately 1 hour. Photographs were taken of the site (TRIM Ref: GD495).

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

Comments **Proposal is at variance to this Principle**

CBH's permit CPS 602/2 to clear 1.2 ha in Moora was found to be at variance to Principles a, e, g, i and j. An offset was approved by DEC on 6 May 2008. The assessment against the clearing principles has not changed and can be found in the Clearing Permit Decision Report CPS 602/1.

As part of the effectiveness review project it was identified that no offset actions had been undertaken because CBH had lost their contractor. CBH advised that they would start works again in 2011. However the permit is due to expire in July 2012 which will not provide enough time for the offset actions to be undertaken. Consequently the permit duration is to be extended by 3 years to provide adequate time for CBH to undertake the required offset activities.

Methodology

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

Comments

CBH made no comment on the proposed amendment.

Methodology

4. References

- Hopkins, A.J.M., Beeston, G.R. and Harvey J.M. (2001) A database on the vegetation of Western Australia. Stage 1. CALMScience after J. S. Beard, late 1960's to early 1980's Vegetation Survey of Western Australia, UWA Press.
- 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. (2009) Adapted from: 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.
- Shepherd, D.P., Beeston, G.R. and Hopkins, A.J.M. (2001) Native Vegetation in Western Australia, Extent, Type and Status. Resource Management Technical Report 249. Department of Agriculture, Western Australia.

5. Glossary

Term	Meaning
BCS	Biodiversity Coordination Section of DEC
CALM	Department of Conservation and Land Management (now BCS)
DAFWA	Department of Agriculture and Food
DEC	Department of Environment and Conservation
DEP	Department of Environmental Protection (now DEC)
DoE	Department of Environment
DoIR	Department of Industry and Resources
DRF	Declared Rare Flora
EPP	Environmental Protection Policy
GIS	Geographical Information System
ha	Hectare (10,000 square metres)
TEC	Threatened Ecological Community
WRC	Water and Rivers Commission (now DEC)