



GOVERNMENT OF  
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

## **CLEARING PERMIT**

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

### **PERMIT DETAILS**

Area Permit Number: 6067/1  
File Number: DER2014/000831-1  
Duration of Permit: From 12 July 2014 to 12 July 2018

### **PERMIT HOLDER**

Jeanian Pastoral Co. Pty Ltd

### **LAND ON WHICH CLEARING IS TO BE DONE**

Lot 10891 on Deposited Plan 210786 (Eneabba)

### **AUTHORISED ACTIVITY**

The Permit Holder shall not clear more than 900 native trees within the areas cross hatched yellow on attached Plan 6067/1.

### **CONDITIONS**

Nil.

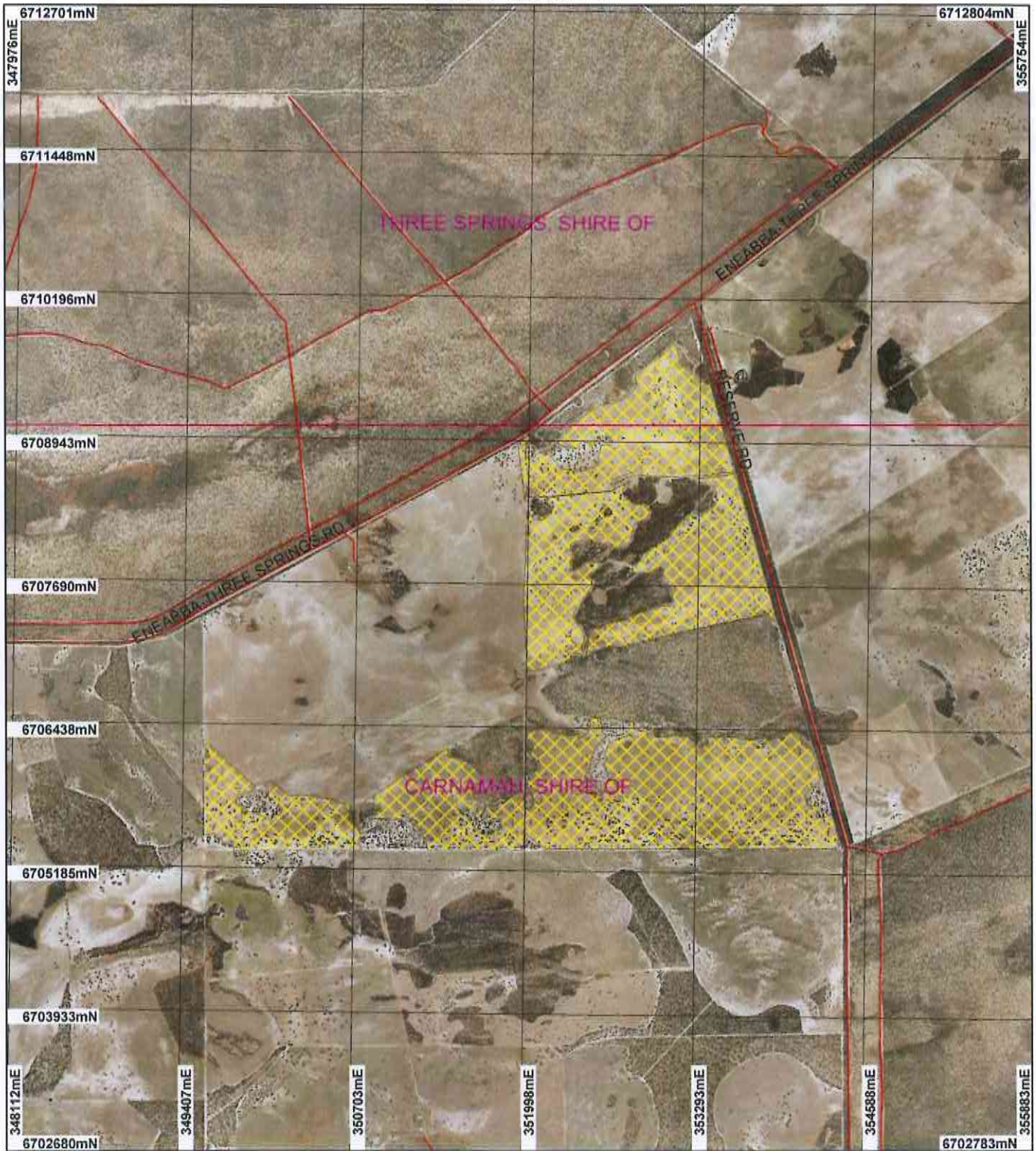
A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'M Warnock', written over a horizontal line.

M Warnock  
SENIOR MANAGER  
CLEARING REGULATION

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

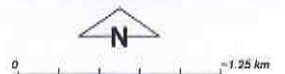
12 June 2014

# Plan 6067/1



## LEGEND

- |                              |  |
|------------------------------|--|
| <b>Clearing Instruments</b>  | <b>Arrowsmith 50cm<br/>Orthomosaic - Landgate<br/>2006</b> |
| Areas Approved to Clear      |  |
| Road Centrelines             |  |
| Cadastre                     |  |
| Local Government Authorities |  |



Scale 1:44834  
(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* 12/6/14  
Date

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

## 1. Application details

### 1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 6067/1  
Permit type: Area Permit

### 1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Jeanian Pastoral Co Pty Ltd

### 1.3. Property details

Property: LOT 10891 ON PLAN 210786 ( ENEABBA 6518)  
Local Government Area: Shire of Carnamah and Shire of Three Springs  
Colloquial name:

### 1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
	900	Mechanical Removal	Cropping

### 1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Grant  
Decision Date: 12 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 379: Shrublands; scrub-heath on lateritic sandplain in the central Geraldton Sandplain Region (Shepherd et al, 2001).	Clearing 900 native trees within Lot 10891 on Deposited Plan 210786, Eneabba, Shire of Carnamah and Three Springs to improve agricultural efficiency.	Completely Degraded: No longer intact; completely/almost completely without native species (Keighery 1994)	The vegetation under application comprises of Eucalyptus accendens woodlands with patches of heaths with occasional Eucalyptus tottiana on the lower slopes of the property (Commissioner of Soil and Land Conservation, 2014).
Mapped Beard vegetation association 49: Shrublands; mixed heath (Shepherd et al, 2001).		To	The vegetation under application is in a degraded to completely degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition with current and historical cattle grazing occurring on the property.
		Degraded: Structure severely disturbed; regeneration to good condition requires intensive management (Keighery 1994)	The condition and structure of the vegetation under application was obtained via aerial imagery and a site inspection of the property undertaken by the Commissioner of Soils and Land Conservation 2014.

## 3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

### (a) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises a high level of biological diversity.

#### Comments Proposal is not likely to be at variance to this Principle

The application is to clear 900 native trees within a footprint area of approximately 600 hectares within Lot 10891 on Deposited Plan 210786, Eneabba, for the purpose of improving agricultural efficiency.

The vegetation under application consists of Eucalyptus accendens and tottiana trees and in a degraded to completely degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition. The application area has been subject to historical grazing with no native mid storey of ground cover species.

Numerous priority flora species have been recorded within 10 kilometres of the areas under application, eight of these species have been recorded within the same soil and vegetation type identified in the proposed clearing areas. The mapped priority flora species comprise of compact, erect, slender shrubs and not trees. The area under application is considered to be in a degraded to completely degraded (Keighery 1994) condition, has been subject to grazing and contains only trees, the area under application is not likely to support priority flora.

There have been no priority ecological communities mapped within 10 kilometres of the areas under application.

Given the above the clearing as proposed is not likely to comprise a high level of biological diversity and is therefore not likely to be at variance to this principle.

**Methodology** References:  
Keighery (1994)  
GIS Databases:  
- SAC Bio datasets May 2014

**(b) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises the whole or a part of, or is necessary for the maintenance of, a significant habitat for fauna indigenous to Western Australia.**

**Comments** **Proposal is not likely to be at variance to this Principle**  
Two fauna species of conservation significance have been recorded within a 10 kilometre radius of the application area, being; *Calyptorhynchus latirostris* (Carnaby's cockatoo) and *Hylaeus globuliferus* (Bee) (DEC, 2007-).

The proposed clearing area falls within the known breeding range of Carnaby's cockatoo. The closest confirmed breeding site for Carnaby's cockatoo has been recorded approximately 12 kilometres from the applied areas. There have been no confirmed roosting sites within 10 kilometres of the proposed clearing areas. The vegetation under application consists of *Eucalyptus accendens* and *todiana* trees. Within the Midwest Region, Carnaby's cockatoos nest in the hollows of live or dead eucalypts, primarily the smooth-barked Salmon Gum and Wandoo (DEC, 2012). It is unlikely the trees present within the proposed clearing area would provide breeding habitat for this species. Photos provided from a site inspection undertaken by the Commissioner of Soil and Land Conservation (2014) indicates that the trees under application are not of a size suitable for breeding purposes for Carnaby's cockatoo.

Black cockatoos forage on the seeds, nuts and flowers of a large variety of plants primarily from the Proteaceae and Myrtaceae families (Shah, 2006). The area under application is not likely to contain roosting or nesting for Carnaby's cockatoos. However, given the mapped and observed vegetation under application, and location of the clearing area being within the defined breeding area (DEC, 2012), the application area may contain feeding habitat for this species.

The Carnaby's cockatoo recovery plan states, 'Success in breeding is dependent on the quality and proximity of feeding habitat within 12 kilometres of nesting sites' (DEC, 2012). The closest known breeding site is at the limit of 12 kilometres thus possibly may not be a factor on the breeding success at the confirmed breeding site. Additionally, there is approximately 45 per cent of pre-European vegetation remaining within 10 kilometres of the area under application, this includes large remnants within conservation areas in close proximity to the applied area. The Tathra National Park and Wotto Nature Reserve are within 200 metres of the proposed clearing areas. The two conservation areas have a combined total of approximately 8000 hectares of native vegetation in better condition than the vegetation under application.

Given the location of the closest confirmed breeding site to the area under application and the amount of vegetation remaining within 10 kilometres of the application area, the area under application is not likely to provide significant foraging habitat for this species.

The vegetation under application is in a degraded to completely degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition comprising of no native midstorey or groundcover and is unlikely to provide suitable habitat for *Hylaeus globuliferus*.

The proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to this principle.

**Methodology** References  
- DEC (2007-)  
- DEC (2012)  
- Keighery (1994)  
- Shah (2006)

GIS Datasets:  
Carnaby Cockatoo breeding sites  
- DEC Tenure

**(c) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it includes, or is necessary for the continued existence of, rare flora.**

**Comments** **Proposal is not at variance to this Principle**  
Several rare flora species have been recorded within a ten kilometre radius of the applied area. Of the recorded rare flora species two have been mapped as occurring within the same soil and vegetation type as

the application area. The identified rare flora species are shrubs.

The proposed clearing is to remove 900 trees which consist of Eucalyptus accendens and tottiana trees and does not contain shrub vegetation therefore will not impact on the recorded rare flora species.

The application is not at variance to this principle.

**Methodology** GIS Databases:  
- SAC Bio datasets May 2014

**(d) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises the whole or a part of, or is necessary for the maintenance of a threatened ecological community.**

**Comments** **Proposal is not likely to be at variance to this Principle**  
Within 10 kilometres of the area under application two threatened ecological communities (TEC's) have been mapped.  
- Assemblages of organic mound springs of the Three Springs area  
- Ferricrete floristic community (Rocky Springs type)

The vegetation under application comprises of Eucalyptus accendens and tottiana trees and is in a degraded to completely degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition. The vegetation under application is not a representation of the nearby TEC's, nor is the clearing likely to impact on the TEC's.

The application is not likely to be at variance to this principle.

**Methodology** GIS Databases:  
- SAC Bio datasets May 2014

**(e) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it is significant as a remnant of native vegetation in an area that has been extensively cleared.**

**Comments** **Proposal is not likely to be at variance to this Principle**  
The area under application is represented by Beard vegetation associations 49 and 379 which have 36 and 24 per cent respectively of their pre-European vegetation remaining in the Geraldton Sandplains IBRA Bioregion (Government of Western Australia, 2013).

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).

There is approximately 45 per cent of pre-European vegetation remaining within 10 kilometres of the area under application, this includes large remnants within conservation areas in close proximity to the applied area.

Beard vegetation association 379 falls below the 30 per cent threshold level. However, the vegetation under application is in a degraded to completely degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition, is no longer a representation of the mapped vegetation type and is therefore not likely to be a significant remnant.

The proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to this principle.

	Pre-European (ha)	Current Extent (ha)	Remaining (%)	Extent in DEC Managed Lands (%)
IBRA Bioregion				
Geraldton Sandplains	3,136,037	1,408,729	44	40
Shire				
Shire of Carnamah (95%)	287,234	118,547	41	42
Shire of Three Springs (5%)	265,741	59,190	22	8.5
Beard Vegetation Association in Bioregion				
49	39,718	14,446	36	24
379	546,507	130,245	24	22

**Methodology** References:  
- Government of Western Australia (2013)  
- Commonwealth of Australia (2001)  
- Keighery (1994)  
GIS Databases:  
- Pre-European Vegetation

**(f) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it is growing in, or in association with, an environment associated with a watercourse or wetland.**

**Comments Proposal is not at variance to this Principle**

There have been no watercourses or wetlands mapped as occurring within the areas under application. There have been two significant streams recorded either side of the property.

Given the proposed clearing areas does not intersect with any hydrological features, the vegetation under application is not considered to be growing in, or in association with, an environment associated with a watercourse or wetland.

The application is not at variance to this principle.

**Methodology** GIS Databases:  
- Hydrography, linear

**(g) Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause appreciable land degradation.**

**Comments Proposal is not likely to be at variance to this Principle**

Two land forms and soil types are mapped over the application area, Map unit 22Co\_3b (Coalara 3) and Map unit 222Co\_7 (Coalara Subsystem) (Commissioner of Soil and Land Conservation, 2014).

The Coalara 3 unit occurs on gently inclined upper hillslopes and crest consisting sandy and shallow gravel with pale sands (Commissioner of Soil and Land Conservation, 2014).

The Coalara subsystem unit occurs on upland sandplains, consisting of pale yellow sands and gravelly pale sands (Commissioner of Soil and Land Conservation, 2014).

The Commissioner of Soil and Land Conservation (2014) advises that no salinity was observed within the area under application and the proposed clearing of single and small clumps of trees is unlikely to contribute to wind erosion on the types of soils present within the applied area. Additionally, given the soil types present, the proposed clearing is unlikely to result in land degradation in the form of eutrophication, water erosion, flooding or waterlogging (Commissioner of Soil and Land Conservation, 2014).

Considering this, the application is not likely to be at variance to this principle.

**Methodology** References  
- Commissioner of Soil and Land Conservation (2014)

**(h) Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to have an impact on the environmental values of any adjacent or nearby conservation area.**

**Comments Proposal is not likely to be at variance to this Principle**

The north west border of the Tathra National Park is approximately 120 metres from the proposed clearing area, the national park is approximately 4322 hectares in size. The southern border of the Wotto Nature Reserve is approximately 210 metres from the proposed clearing area, the reserve is approximately 3670 hectares in size.

The proposed clearing is unlikely to act as a corridor or linkage to facilitate the movement of fauna between the conservation areas as large areas of remnant vegetation in an equal or better condition than the area under application will remain on the property. Additionally the vegetation under application is in a degraded to completely degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition, has been subject to historical grazing and is unlikely the proposed clearing will impact on the environmental values of the nearby reserves.

The application is not likely to be at variance to this principle.

**Methodology** References  
- Keighery (1994)  
GIS Datasets:  
- DEC Tenure

**(i) Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause deterioration in the quality of surface or underground water.**

**Comments Proposal is not likely to be at variance to this Principle**

There have been no watercourses or wetlands mapped within the application areas.

The Commissioner of Soil and Land Conservation (2014) advises the proposed clearing is unlikely to contribute to nutrient enrichment of surface and/or groundwater bodies in the applied area given the soil types present within the property.

The groundwater salinity within the application area ranges between 500 - 1000 total dissolved solids per milligram per litre. The Commissioner of Soil and Land Conservation (2013) advised that there were no signs of salinity on site or in the general area and no significant changes to groundwater salinity is expected from the clearing.

The application is not likely be at variance to this principle

**Methodology**    References  
- Commissioner of Soil and Land Conservation (2014)  
GIS Databases:  
- Hydrography, linear

**(j) Native vegetation should not be cleared if clearing the vegetation is likely to cause, or exacerbate, the incidence or intensity of flooding.**

**Comments      Proposal is not likely to be at variance to this Principle**

There have been no watercourses or wetlands mapped within the areas under application.

The proposed clearing of 900 trees within a footprint of approximately 600 hectares is unlikely to significantly increase surface water runoff, which would contribute to stream flows (Commissioner of Soil and Land Conservation, 2014).

The proposed clearing is not likely to increase the frequency or intensity of flooding.

The application is not likely to be at variance to this principle.

**Methodology**    References  
- Commissioner of Soil and Land Conservation (2014)  
GIS Databases:  
- Hydrography, linear

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

**Comments**  
No Aboriginal sites of significance are present within the application area.

No submissions from the public have been received in relation to this application.

**Methodology**

**4. References**

- Commissioner of Soil and Land Conservation (2014); Land Degradation Advice and Assessment Report for clearing permit application CPS 6067/1 received 28 May 2014; Department of Agriculture and Food Western Australia (TRIM Ref. DOC:A763548).
- 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 May 2014
- DEC (2012) Carnaby's cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus latirostris*) Recovery Plan. Department of Environment and Conservation, Perth, Western Australia. Department of Conservation and Land Management (2002) A Biodiversity Audit of Western Australia's 53 Biogeographical Subregions.
- 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.
- Shah, B. (2006) Conservation of Carnaby's Black-Cockatoo on the Swan Coastal Plain, Western Australia. December 2006. Carnaby's Black-Cockatoo Recovery Project. Birds Australia, 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.