



## CLEARING PERMIT

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

### PERMIT DETAILS

Area Permit Number: 6086/1

File Number: 2011/006890

Duration of Permit: From 6 September 2014 to 6 September 2016

### PERMIT HOLDER

Shire of Ravensthorpe

### LAND ON WHICH CLEARING IS TO BE DONE

Lot 829 on Deposited Plan 221206 (Ravensthorpe)

### AUTHORISED ACTIVITY

The Permit Holder shall not clear more than 1.5 hectares of native vegetation within the area shaded yellow on attached Plan 6086/1

### CONDITIONS

#### 1. Dieback and weed control

- (a) 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* and *dieback*:
- (i) clean earth-moving machinery of soil and vegetation prior to entering and leaving the area to be cleared;
  - (ii) ensure that no *dieback* or *weed*-affected soil, *mulch*, *fill* or other material is brought into the area to be cleared; and
  - (iii) restrict the movement of machines and other vehicles to the limits of the areas to be cleared.
- (b) At least once in each 12 month period for the term of this Permit, the Permit Holder must remove or kill any *weeds* growing within areas cleared under this Permit.

### DEFINITIONS

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

*dieback* means the effect of *Phytophthora* species on native vegetation;

*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; and

*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.

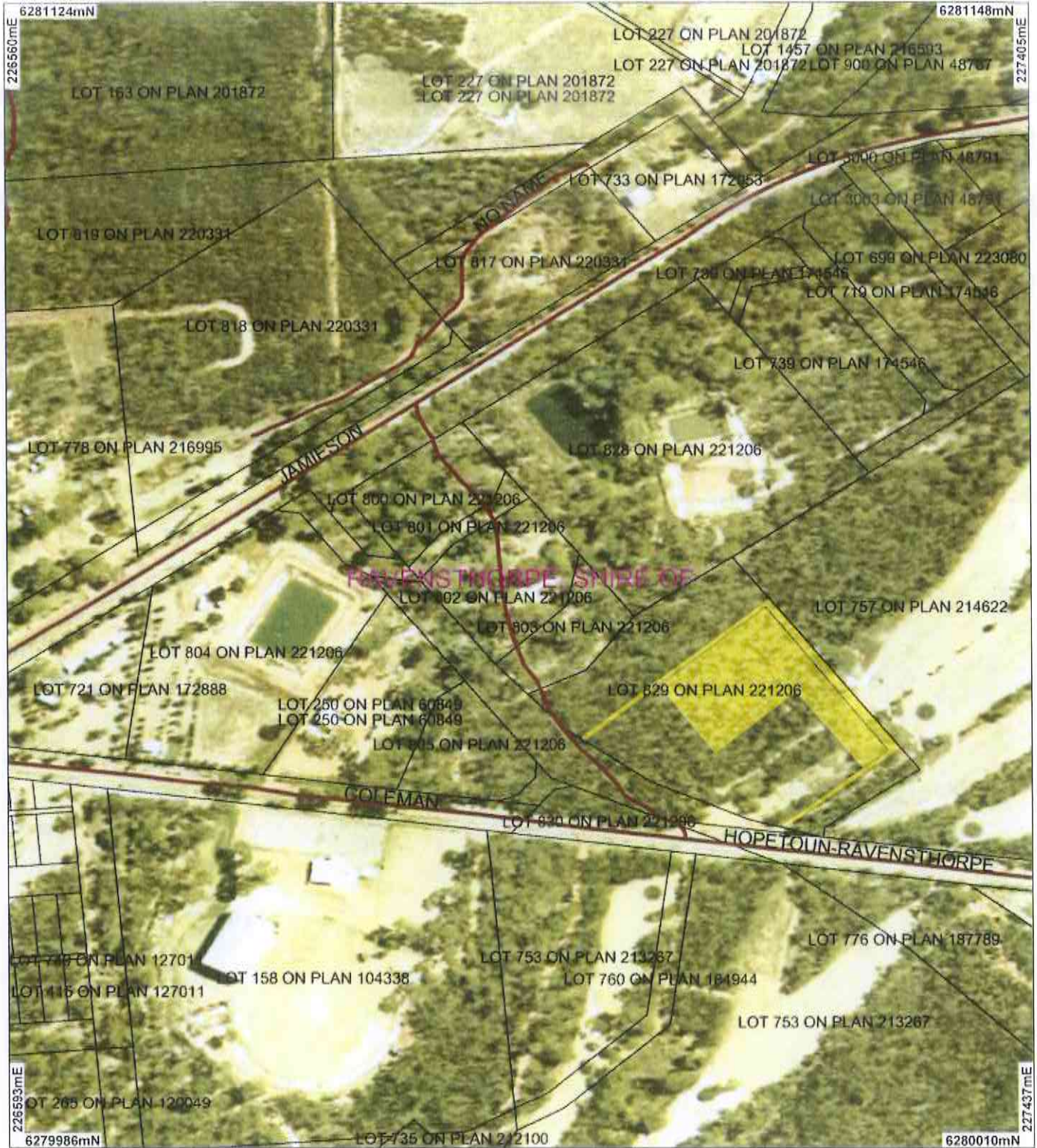


M Warnock  
SENIOR MANAGER  
CLEARING REGULATION

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

7 August 2014

# Plan 6086/1



**LEGEND**

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

Scale 1:5000  
(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 7/8/14

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.: 6086/1  
Permit type: Area Permit

### 1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Shire of Ravensthorpe

### 1.3. Property details

Property: Lot 829 on Deposited Plan 221206 (Ravensthorpe)  
Local Government Area: Shire of Ravensthorpe

### 1.4. Application

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

### 1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Grant  
Decision Date: 7 August 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 516 is described as shrublands; mallee scrub, black marlock (Shepherd et al 2001).	The application is to clear up to 1.5 hectares of native vegetation for the purpose of hazard reduction and constructing an access track and car park within Lot 829 on Deposited Plan 221206, Ravensthorpe, within the Shire of Ravensthorpe.	Very Good: Vegetation structure altered; obvious signs of disturbance (Keighery 1994)	Vegetation description and condition was determined through a flora survey (Craig 2014).
Mapped Beard vegetation association 142 is described as medium woodland; York gum & salmon gum (Shepherd et al 2001).			

## 3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

**Comments** The application is to clear 1.5 hectares of native vegetation for hazard reduction and to provide an access track and car park for the Ravensthorpe Equestrian Club. Approximately 0.8 hectares of this area will be parkland cleared.

The Shire of Ravensthorpe retains approximately 61 per cent (Government of Western Australia 2013) of the original vegetation extent and mapped Beard vegetation association 516 (Shepherd et al 2001) retains approximately 69 per cent (Government of Western Australia 2013) of the original vegetation extent, within the Esperance Plains IBRA Bioregion. A flora survey, conducted in July 2014, reports that Beard vegetation association 142 is a more appropriate description for the vegetation in the applied area (Craig, 2014). Beard vegetation association 142 retains approximately 15 per cent (Government of Western Australia 2013) of the original vegetation extent, within the Esperance Plains IBRA Bioregion. The local area retains approximately 60 per cent native vegetation.

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). Although, Beard vegetation association 142 contains less than the recommended threshold level, the application area does not contain a high level of biodiversity or significant fauna habitat therefore is not likely to be a significant remnant in a highly cleared area.

Three 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), being; *Dasyurus geoffroii* (chuditch), *Leipoa ocellata* (malleefowl) and *Myrmecobius fasciatus* (numbat). The proposed clearing is not likely to cause a significant impact on these species, given their highly mobile nature.

The application area is 200 meters from the nearest mapped watercourse and therefore is not likely to contain any riparian vegetation. Given the small size of the application area, it is unlikely for the proposed clearing to impact on nearby conservation areas, cause or exacerbate land degradation or flooding or impact on water quality.

There are four priority ecological communities (PEC) in the local area. The closest PEC is five kilometres north east of the application area. All PECs occur, and are restricted, to the Ravensthorpe Range. Therefore, the applied clearing, five kilometres from the Ravensthorpe Range is not likely to impact on these PECs.

There are numerous records of rare and priority flora within the local area (10 kilometre radius). A flora survey conducted over the application area found a single plant of a priority three flora species (Craig, 2014). Priority three species are generally known from collections from several different localities not under imminent threat, therefore the loss of a single priority three plant is not likely to impact on the conservation status of this species.

The disturbance cause by the proposed clearing will increase the likelihood of weeds and die back being spread into adjacent areas of native vegetation. Weed and dieback management practices will assist in mitigating this risk.

Considering the above, the assessment has found that the applied clearing is not likely to be at variance to any of the clearing principles.

**Methodology** Reference:  
Commonwealth of Australia (2001)  
Craig (2014)

GIS Databases:  
Aerial imagery  
Hydrography, Linear  
Pre-European Vegetation  
IBRA WA (Regions - Sub Regions)  
Aboriginal Sites of Significance  
SAC Biodatasets

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

**Comments** There are no Aboriginal Sites of Significance mapped within the application area.

Under the Town Planning Scheme Zones, the application area is zoned as 'recreation'.

**Methodology** No public submissions have been received.  
Aboriginal Sites of Significance  
Town Planning Scheme Zones

#### **4. References**

- Commonwealth of Australia (2001) National Objectives and Targets for Biodiversity Conservation 2001-2005. Canberra.
- Craig (2014) Ravensthorpe Equestrian Club Botanical Survey DER Ref: A787227
- 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.