



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

PERMIT DETAILS

Area Permit Number: 6091/1
File Number: DER2014/000811-1
Duration of Permit: From 19 July 2014 to 19 July 2016

PERMIT HOLDER

Coast Pastoral Company Pty Ltd

LAND ON WHICH CLEARING IS TO BE DONE

Lot 2 on Diagram 36635 (Parkfield 6233)

AUTHORISED ACTIVITY

The Permit Holder shall not clear more than 1.21 hectares of native vegetation within the areas shaded yellow on attached Plan 6091/1.

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*

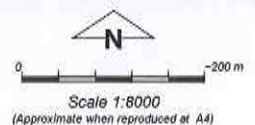
19 June 2014

Plan 6091/1



LEGEND

-  Road Centrelines
-  Clearing Instruments
-  Areas Approved to Clear
-  Cadastre
-  Local Government Authorities
- Bunbury 50cm Orthosaic - Landgate 2008**



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

M Warnock Date 19/6/14
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

Government of Western Australia
Department of Environment Regulation

1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 6091/1
Permit type: Area Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Coast Pastoral Company Pty Ltd

1.3. Property details

Property: LOT 2 ON DIAGRAM 36635 (House No. 10 SPRINGHILL PARKFIELD 6233)
Local Government Area: Shire of Harvey
Colloquial name:

1.4. Application

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

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Grant
Decision Date: 19 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: 998: Medium woodland; tuart (Shepherd et al. 2001).	The application is to clear 1.21 hectares of native vegetation within Lot 2 on Diagram 36635, Parkfield, for the purpose of expanding horticultural activities.	Degraded: Structure severely disturbed; regeneration to good condition requires intensive management (Keighery 1994)	Vegetation condition was determined by a site visit conducted by Department of Environment Regulation officers and supported by a report provided by the applicant (EcoEdge 2014).
Mapped Heddlle Vegetation Complex: Yoongarillup Complex: Woodland to tall woodland of Eucalyptus gomphocephala (Tuart) with Agonis flexuosa in the second storey. Less consistently an open forest of Eucalyptus gomphocephala (Tuart) - Eucalyptus marginata (Jarrah) - Corymbia calophylla (Marri) (Heddlle et al.1980).			

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

Comments

Application CPS 6091/1 is to clear 1.21 hectares of native vegetation within Lot 2 on Diagram 36635, Parkfield, for the purpose of expanding horticultural activities. The application area contains Eucalyptus marginata over a completely degraded understorey containing no native species (DER 2014).

Several priority flora have been mapped within the local area (10 kilometre radius). Only one, a Priority 4 species, is situated within the same vegetation association and soil type as the application area. This species has been mapped approximately seven kilometres from the application area. Priority 4 species are considered to have been adequately surveyed and not in need of special protection but could be if circumstances change (Smith 2012). Several rare flora are also mapped within the local area, however, only one is mapped within the same vegetation association and soil type as the application area, approximately 10 kilometres from the application area. Given the completely degraded state of the understorey of the application area, the conservation status of this species is unlikely to be further impacted by the proposed clearing.

The nearest Priority and Threatened Ecological Communities are mapped approximately four and eight kilometres, respectively, from the application area. Both are within different soil classifications and vegetation associations to those of the application area.

The application area may provide foraging habitat for the black cockatoo species. However, there are significant areas of preferred foraging habitat within the general area. The proposal involves the removal of 38 Jarrah trees with a diameter at breast height greater than 500 millimetres. No hollows or other signs of black cockatoo nesting were noted during a habitat survey (EcoEdge 2014).

There is approximately 50 per cent of native vegetation remaining in the local area. The vegetation under application is located within close proximity to a mapped South West Regional Ecological Linkage. These linkages are recognised for their significance in facilitating indigenous fauna movement across the landscape (Molloy et al 2009). The proposed clearing will not result in fragmentation of this linkage and is unlikely to significantly impact fauna movement across the landscape.

Given the above, the proposed clearing is not likely to comprise a high level of biodiversity, impact on the conservation status of threatened flora or impact on threatened ecological communities. The application area is not a significant remnant in a highly cleared landscape and its clearing is not likely to have a detrimental effect on fauna habitat.

The closest conservation area is situated approximately 800 metres from the application area, therefore the small extent of the proposed clearing is not likely to impact on its environmental values.

Given that there are no wetlands or watercourses mapped within the application area, the flat terrain associated with the proposed clearing and its small extent, impacts on surface water, ground water or land degradation are likely to be minimal. It is not likely to cause or exacerbate flooding.

Considering the above, the application is not likely to be at variance to the clearing principles.

Methodology

References:

- DER (2014)
- EcoEdge (2014)
- Molloy et al. (2009)
- Smith (2012)

GIS Datasets:

- DPaW tenure
- Geomorphic Wetlands, Swan Coastal Plain
- Hydrography, linear
- Geomorphic Wetlands, Swan Coastal Plain
- Mattiske Vegetation
- NWLRA, Extent of Native Vegetation
- Pre-European vegetation
- SAC Biodatasets - accessed June 2014

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

Comments

The application area is within the zone of 'General Farming' under the Town Planning Scheme. The Shire of Harvey has approved the proposed activity, stipulating the incorporation of a 20 metre buffer zone along the northern and eastern boundaries of Lot 2 in which endemic vegetation must be planted prior to horticultural expansion (Shire of Harvey 2014).

The application area falls within a declared 'Waterways Management Area' under the Waterways Conservation Act 1976, declared for the specific purpose of protecting the Leschenault Estuary and its associated waterways. Clearing of the trees may result in greater spray drift in this area (DoW 2014). The vegetated buffer strip required by the Shire of Harvey can be expected to ameliorate this impact.

The subject land is located within the South West Coastal Groundwater Area as proclaimed under the Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914. The landowner has current ground water license/s (DoW 2014).

A Notification of Referral Decision from the Department of the Environment indicates that the combined clearing activities on Lot 2 (i.e. CPS 6058/1 and CPS 6091/1) does not constitute a controlled action under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (DotE 2014).

Methodology

References:

- DoW (2014)
- DotE (2014)
- Shire of Harvey (2014)

GIS Datasets:

- Town Planning Scheme Zones

4. References

- DER (2014) Site visit report for clearing permit application CPS 6091/1, 12 June 2014. Department of Environment Regulation, Western Australia (DER Ref: A769903).
- DotE (2014) Notification of Referral Decision. 28 May 2014. Department of the Environment, Canberra (DER Ref: A767439).
- DoW (2014) Advice received in relation to clearing permit application CPS 6096/1, received 30 May 2014. Department of Water, Western Australia (DER Ref: A759386).
- EcoEdge (2014) Letter received re. Black Cockatoo Habitat Survey of Jarrahs on Lot 2 Springhill Road, Parkfield. Ecoedge (DER Ref: A754165).
- 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.
- Hedde, E. M., Loneragan, O. W., and Havel, J. J. (1980) Vegetation Complexes of the Darling System, Western Australia. In Department of Conservation and Environment, Atlas of Natural Resources, Darling System, Western Australia.
- Keighery, B.J. (1994) Bushland Plant Survey: A Guide to Plant Community Survey for the Community. Wildflower Society of WA (Inc). Nedlands, Western Australia.
- Molloy, S., Wood, J., Hall, S., Wallrod, S. and Whisson, G. (2009) South West Regional Ecological Linkages Technical Report. DEC, WALGA and Planning South West.
- 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.
- Shire of Harvey (2014) District Planning Scheme No. 1: Notice of Planning Permission. Shire of Harvey (DER Ref: A754169).
- Smith, M.G. (2012) Threatened and Priority Flora List for Western Australia. WA Department of Environment and Conservation, Perth.