



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

PERMIT DETAILS

Area Permit Number: 6105/1
File Number: DER2014/001061-1
Duration of Permit: From 17 January 2015 to 17 January 2017

PERMIT HOLDER

Western Australian Land Authority TA Landcorp

LAND ON WHICH CLEARING IS TO BE DONE

Lot 720 on Deposited Plan 400253, Onslow

AUTHORISED ACTIVITY

The Permit Holder shall not clear more than 7.41 hectares of native vegetation within the area hatched yellow on attached Plan 6105/1.

CONDITIONS

1. Weed control

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*:

- 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 soil, *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.

DEFINITIONS

The following meanings are given to terms used in 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;

weeds 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.

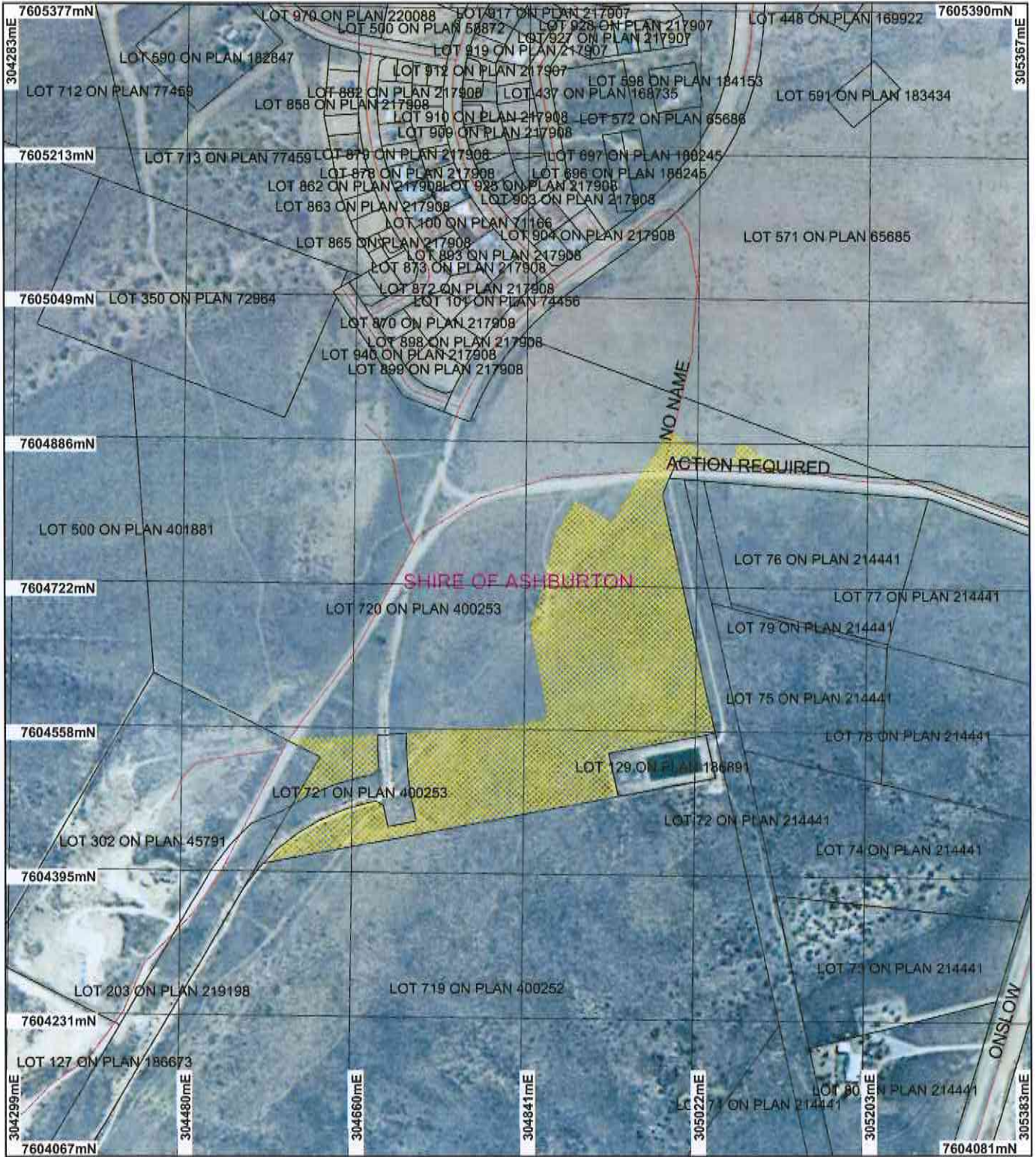
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M Warnock", written over a horizontal line.

M Warnock
SENIOR MANAGER
CLEARING REGULATION

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

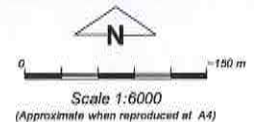
18 December 2014

Plan 6105/1



LEGEND

- Road Centrelines
- Clearing Instruments
- Areas Approved to Clear
- Cadastre
- Local Government Authorities
- Onslow 1.4m Orthomosaic - Landgate 2001



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 18/12/14
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.: 6105/1
Permit type: Area Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Western Australian Land Authority (Landcorp)

1.3. Property details

Property: LOT 720 ON PLAN 400253 (ONSLOW 6710)
Local Government Area: Shire of Ashburton
Colloquial name:

1.4. Application

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

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Grant
Decision Date: 18 December 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 associations: 676 (95%): Succulent steppe; samphire 127 (5%): Bare areas; mud flats (Shepherd et al. (2001)).	The application is to clear 7.41 hectares of native vegetation within Lot 720 on Deposited Plan 400253, Onslow, for the purpose of assisting in the construction of Stage 1 subdivision by providing an area for the storage of excess fill.	Degraded: Structure severely disturbed; regeneration to good condition requires intensive management (Keighery 1994)	The vegetation condition was based on aerial imagery and advice from the Department of Parks and Wildlife (2014).

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

Comments

Application CPS 6105/1 is to clear 7.41 hectares of native vegetation within Lot 720 on Deposited Plan 400253, Onslow, for the purpose of assisting in the construction of Stage 1 subdivision by providing an area for the storage of excess fill.

No rare flora species, priority flora species, priority or threatened ecological communities or environmentally sensitive areas have been mapped in the local area (ten kilometre radius). A Level Two Flora and Vegetation and a Level One Fauna assessment were undertaken by Env Australia (2011). The study area comprised approximately 333 hectares and encompassed the application area of 7.41 hectares. The report states that the survey 'has not identified any species, communities or habitats of conservation significance which would constitute a statutory constraint to development.'

The current condition of the application area is likely to be degraded, with multiple off-road vehicle tracks evident on the site (Department of Parks and Wildlife 2014). The vegetation proposed to be cleared is well represented in the local area (95 per cent). With best-practice environmental management measures, with particular regard to maintaining a high level of weed hygiene and management, impacts during clearing can be minimised (Department of Parks and Wildlife 2014).

Given the above, the application area is unlikely to consist of an area of high biodiversity or impact significantly on fauna habitat, the conservation status of threatened flora or any threatened ecological community. It is not considered to be a significant remnant in an extensively cleared area.

No watercourses or wetlands are mapped within the application area. The area does not appear to be within the immediate vicinity of any salt flats, drainage lines or tidal areas (Department of Parks and Wildlife 2014). Annual rainfall for the local area is 400 millimetres. The proposed clearing, therefore, is not likely to contain

riparian vegetation, cause or exacerbate the incidence of flooding or cause deterioration in the quality of surface or underground water.

Given the extent of the clearing (7.41 hectares) there is a potential for land degradation. However, given the low annual rainfall, the predominance of loams with shelly sands (Northcote et al. 1960 - 1968) and the absence of watercourses in the immediate vicinity, wind and water erosion are not expected to be significant. For these reasons also, waterlogging, as a consequence of the proposed clearing, is likely to be minimal.

There are no conservation areas within the local area, therefore the proposed clearing is not likely to impact on the environmental values of any conservation area.

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

Methodology

References:

- Department of Parks and Wildlife (2014)
- Env Australia (2011)
- Northcote et al. (1960 - 1968)

GIS Datasets:

- DPaW tenure
- Hydrography, linear
- RIWI Act, Rivers
- SAC Biodatasets - accessed November 2014
- Pre-European Vegetation

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

Comments

The application area falls within the proclaimed Pilbara Groundwater Area and Pilbara Surface Water Area. The proponent is advised to liaise with the Department of Water regarding any permits required under the Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914.

The Water Corporation has provided its consent for the clearing permit to be issued in relation to the easement within Lot 720. This is subject to a minimum of 120 days' notice being provided by the proponent to the Water Corporation prior to clearing (Water Corporation 2014).

The northern most and southwestern portions, respectively, encroach on registered Indigenous Heritage Sites. It is the responsibility of the proponent to ensure that no Aboriginal Sites of Significance are damaged through the clearing process. The proponent is required to liaise with the Department of Aboriginal Affairs regarding their obligations under the Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972.

The application area is within the land use of 'Urban Development' according to the Town Planning Scheme Zones.

Methodology

Reference:

- Water Corporation (2014)

GIS Datasets:

- Aboriginal Sites of Significance
- Town Planning Scheme Zones
- RIWI Act, Groundwater Areas

4. References

- Department of Parks and Wildlife (2014) Advice received in relation to clearing permit application CPS 6105/1, received 3 June 2014. Department of Parks and Wildlife, Western Australia (DER Ref: A765733).
- Env Australia Pty Ltd (2011) Onslow Townsite Strategy: Flora, Vegetation and Fauna Assessment. ENV Australia Pty Ltd. Perth, Western Australia (DER Ref: A757378).
- Keighery, B.J. (1994) Bushland Plant Survey: A Guide to Plant Community Survey for the Community. Wildflower Society of WA (Inc). Nedlands, Western Australia.
- Northcote, K. H. with Beckmann G G, Bettenay E., Churchward H. M., van Dijk D. C., Dimmock G. M., Hubble G. D., Isbell R. F., McArthur W. M., Murtha G. G., Nicolls K. D., Paton T. R., Thompson C. H., Webb A. A. and Wright M. J. (1960-68): 'Atlas of Australian Soils, Sheets 1 to 10, with explanatory data'. CSIRO and Melbourne University Press: Melbourne.
- 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.
- Water Corporation (2014) Advice received in relation to clearing permit application CPS 6105/1, received 10 December 2014. Water Corporation, Western Australia (DER Ref: A843038).