

CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Purpose Permit number: CPS 6177/1

Permit Holder: Shire of Broome

Duration of Permit: 18 October 2014 to 18 October 2019

The Permit Holder is authorised to clear native vegetation subject to the following conditions of this Permit.

PART I-CLEARING AUTHORISED

1. Purpose for which clearing may be done

Clearing for the purpose of road construction

2. Land on which clearing is to be done

Broome Road reserve (PIN 11479495 and PIN 115100367), Djugun Lorikeet Drive road reserve, Djugun

3. Area of Clearing

The Permit Holder must not clear more than one hectare of native vegetation within the area shaded yellow on attached Plan 6177/1.

4. Application

This Permit allows the Permit Holder to authorise persons, including employees, contractors and agents of the Permit Holder, to clear native vegetation for the purposes of this Permit subject to compliance with the conditions of this Permit and approval from the Permit Holder.

PART II - MANAGEMENT CONDITIONS

5. 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;

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

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CLEARING REGULATION

Officer delegated under Section 20 of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

18 September 2014

Plan 6177/1







Clearing Permit Decision Report

Government of Western Australia Department of Environment Regulation

1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.:

6177/1

Permit type:

Purpose Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name:

Shire of Broome

1.3. Property details

ROAD RESERVE (DJUGUN 6725)

ROAD RESERVE (DJUGUN 6725)

Local Government Area: Colloquial name:

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Shire of Broome

Broome Road and Lorikeet Drive

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)

No. Trees

Method of Clearing

For the purpose of:

Mechanical Removal

Road construction or maintenance

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application:

Decision Date:

Grant

18 September 2014

2. Site Information

2.1. Existing environment and information

2.1.1. Description of the native vegetation under application

Vegetation Description

Mapped Beard Vegetation Association 750 is described as Shrublands, pindan; Acacia tumida shrubland with grey box & cabbage gum medium woodland over ribbon grass & curly spinifex (Shepherd et al., 2001). Clearing Description

The clearing of one hectare of native vegetation is for the purpose of road construction.

Vegetation Condition

Degraded: Structure severely disturbed; regeneration to good condition requires intensive management (Keighery 1994) Comment

The vegetation condition was assessed through a site inspection conducted by Department of Parks and Wildlife (DPaW, 2014).

The site inspection determined that the majority of the vegetation under application is in a good condition (Keighery, 1994). Certain areas within the application area have been impacted by weeds and previous earthworks and are considered to be in a degraded condition (Keighery, 1994; DPaW, 2014).

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

Comments

The application is for the proposed clearing of one hectare of native vegetation within Broome Road reserve and Lorikeet Drive road reserve, Djugun, for the purpose of road construction.

A site inspection undertaken by the Department of Parks and Wildlife described the overall condition of the vegetation proposed for clearing as good (Keighery, 2014; Parks and Wildlife, 2014). Certain areas within the application area are considered to be in a degraded condition due to disturbance from weeds, previous earthworks (power line construction) and the nearby Roebuck Estate development. Weeds that were identified during a site inspection include Wild Passion Fruit which occurred predominantly throughout the application area and Calotropis which occurred sporadically (Parks and Wildlife, 2014).

There are several records of priority and rare flora species mapped within a 10 kilometre radius of the area under application. A priority one and a priority three species share the same soil type and vegetation association, however, given there were no observations of either species during a site inspection, it is unlikely these species are present in the application area.

One fauna species, the Bilby (Macrotis lagotis), listed as rare or likely to become extinct under the Wildlife Conservation Act 1950 has been recorded within the local area (10 kilometre radius). The area under application may provide habitat suitable for this species. However, given the vegetation is well represented within the local and regional area, it is unlikely the application area would represent significant habitat for this species.

The closest Threatened Ecological Community (TEC) to the application area is located 60 metres east of the application area and is known as "Species-rich faunal community of the intertidal mudflats of Roebuck Bay". Given the majority of the application area is on the west side of Broome Road reserve, and only 0.08 hectares is on the west side, the impacts of the proposed clearing to this TEC are likely to be relatively minimal by comparison to the adjacent urban development and infrastructure.

The vegetation types under application are well represented locally and regionally, with mapped Beard vegetation complex 750 retaining 99 per cent of its pre-European extent, approximately 99 per cent remaining within the Shire of Broome (Government of Western Australia, 2013) and 99 per cent of native vegetation remaining in the local area (10 kilometre radius). Given this, the vegetation under application is not considered to be a significant remnant in an extensively cleared area.

The application area is mapped 100 metres east of the Roebuck Bay ANCA wetlands. The eastern portion of the clearing that runs along the east side of Broome Road reserve is subject to inundation due to a minor non-perennial watercourse that runs off the coastal waterline located within 500 metres south east of the application area. Given this, the eastern portion of the application area is considered to be growing in association with a watercourse. However, given the size of the eastern portion of vegetation proposed for clearing (0.08 hectares), impacts to watercourse are likely to be minimal.

The closest conservation reserve to the application area is the "Yawuru ILUA Conservation Estate" which falls within 10 metres south of the area under application. The disturbance caused by the proposed clearing will increase the risk of weeds being spread into the adjacent conservation reserve. Weed management practices will assist in mitigating this risk. In addition, the applicant has proposed to install a rural fence between the proposed road and conservation reserve which will help to reduce the impacts of the proposed clearing on the environmental values of this reserve. The Roebuck Bay ANCA wetlands are also mapped 100 metres east of the application area. Given the distance to this reserve and the small size of the application area, the proposed clearing is not likely to impact upon the environmental values of this wetland.

Given the small size of the application area, it is unlikely that the proposed clearing will cause or exacerbate land degradation, flooding or impact upon water quality.

Therefore the proposed clearing is at variance to principle (f), may be at variance to principle (h) and is not likely to be at variance to the remaining clearing principles.

Methodology

References

- Parks and Wildlife (2014)
- Keighery (1994)
- Government of Western Australia (2013)

GIS Databases

- DPaW tenure
- Hydrography, linear DOW
- NWLRA, Extent of Native Vegetation
- Pre-European vegetation
- SAC Biodatasets accessed August 2014

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

Comments

The application is to clear one hectare of native vegetation for the purpose of road construction.

The Department of Parks and Wildlife (2014) has advised that the applicant should develop mitigation strategies in order to protect the TEC that is in close proximity to the clearing against water contamination, sediment runoff and weed dispersal that may result from the proposed roadwork's. The Department of Parks and Wildlife (2014) recommends that the applicant refers to the mitigation strategies outlined in the Environmental Protection Authority's 'Guidance Statement 33 Environmental Guidance for Planning and Development' document.

The application area falls adjacent to a Native Title determination area. A letter was received from the Yawuru Native Title Holders Aboriginal Corporation (Yawuru RNTBC) on the 14 August 2014 outlining a number of concerns regarding the potential impacts to the adjacent Yawuru Reserve (26516) resulting from the proposed roadwork's.

The Shire of Broome (2014) has advised that they have met with senior traditional owners and Yawuru officers to discuss any issues they may have with the proposed roadwork's and associated clearing.

The Shire of Broome (2014) has advised of a number of propositions in order to address these concerns. These include; the installation of a rural fence with appropriate gates to prevent access to Reserve 26516, ensuring the proposed clearing will only be carried out to limits required to install road infrastructure, constructing the road and footpath as far north as possible within the road reserve to maximise distance from the boundary of Reserve 26516 and ensuring Yawuru cultural monitors are on site during the excavation works for road

construction.

The excision of Lorikeet Drive Road reserve from Lot 2242 on Deposited Plan 216949, Lot 3099 on Deposited Plan 220233 and Broome Road reserve, Djugan, has recently been completed by the Department of Lands.

The application area is mapped within a 'Mythological' and 'Ceremonial' Aboriginal Site of Significance. The applicant should contact the Department of Aboriginal Affairs to discuss their obligations under the Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972.

The application area is mapped as 'settlement' and an 'important road' under the Town Planning Scheme.

No submissions from the public have been received for the proposed clearing.

Methodology

References

- Shire of Broome (2014)
- Parks and Wildlife (2014)

GIS Databases

- Aboriginal Sites of Significance
- Town Planning Scheme Zones

4. References

- DPaW (2014) Regional advice for Clearing Permit CPS 6177/1. Department of Parks and Wildlife. Western Australia. DER Ref: A795597
- 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.
- Shire of Broome (2014) Advice for Clearing Permit CPS 6177/1. Western Australia. (DER Ref: A798661)