



## CLEARING PERMIT

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

<b>Purpose Permit number:</b>	CPS 6261/1
<b>Permit Holder:</b>	Keymill Holdings Pty Ltd trading as BW Hastings & Co
<b>Duration of Permit:</b>	6 December 2014 to 6 December 2016

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 cropping.

**2. Land on which clearing is to be done**

Lot 6609 on Deposited Plan 115120, East Pingelly

**3. Area of Clearing**

The Permit Holder must not clear more than 2.5 hectares of native vegetation within the area shaded yellow on attached Plan 6261/1.

**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*:

- clean earth-moving machinery of soil and vegetation prior to entering and leaving the area to be cleared;
- ensure that no *weed*-affected soil, *mulch*, *fill* or other material is brought into the area to be cleared; and
- 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; 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

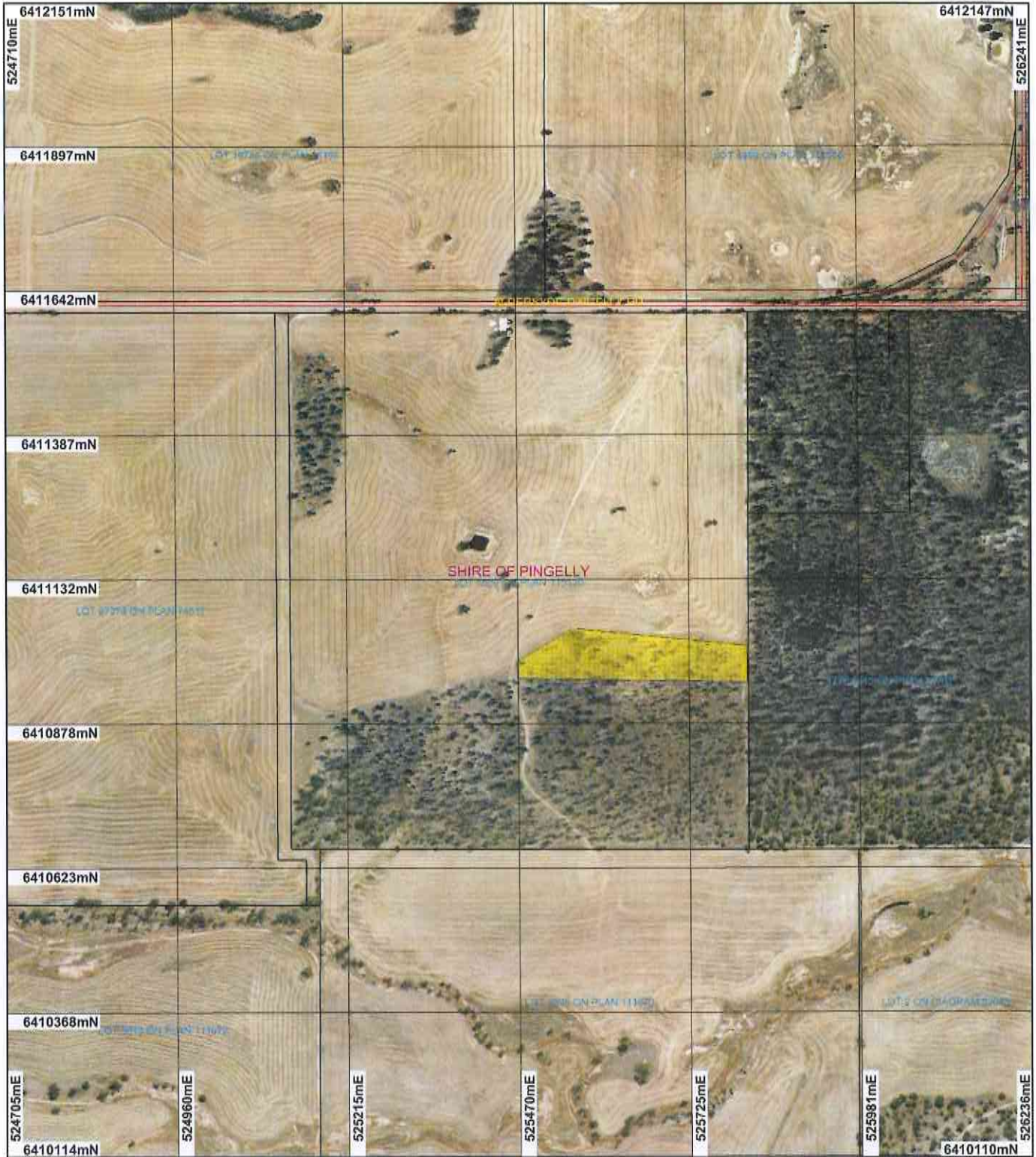


M Warnock  
SENIOR MANAGER  
CLEARING REGULATION

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

6 November 2014

# Plan 6261/1



## LEGEND

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

Brookton 80cm Orthomosaic -  
Landgate 2005



0 ————— 250 m

Scale 1:9000

(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 6-11-14  
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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\* Project Data is denoted by asterisk. This data has not been quality assured. Please contact map author for details.





# Clearing Permit Decision Report

Government of Western Australia  
Department of Environment Regulation

## 1. Application details

### 1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 6261/1  
Permit type: Purpose Permit

### 1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Keymill Holdings Pty Ltd TA BW Hastings & Co

### 1.3. Property details

Property: LOT 6609 ON PLAN 115120 ( EAST PINGELLY 6308)  
Local Government Area: Shire of Pingelly  
Colloquial name:

### 1.4. Application

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

### 1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Grant  
Decision Date: 6 November 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 1023 is described as medium woodland; York gum, wandoo & salmon gum (Eucalyptus salmonophloia) (Shepherd et al, 2001).	The clearing of 2.5 hectares of native vegetation is for the purpose of cropping.	Completely Degraded: No longer intact; completely/almost completely without native species (Keighery, 1994)  To  Degraded: Structure severely disturbed; regeneration to good condition requires intensive management (Keighery, 1994)	The vegetation condition was determined through a site inspection report submitted by the Commissioner of Soil and Land Conservation (2014) and aerial imagery.

## 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 2.5 hectares of native vegetation within Lot 6609 on Deposited Plan 115120, East Pingelly, for the purpose of cropping.

The application area is considered to be in a completely degraded to degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition. A site inspection undertaken by the Department of Agriculture and Food of Western Australia (DAFWA) determined there was limited understorey within the application area due to extensive grazing over the years, weed invasion and the area not being fenced off from livestock (Commissioner of Soil and Land Conservation, 2014).

The application area falls within Beard vegetation association 1023 which retains approximately 10 per cent native vegetation within the Avon Wheatbelt IBRA bioregion (Government of Western Australia, 2013). The local area (10 kilometre radius) retains approximately 10 per cent native vegetation. Given this, the application falls within a highly cleared landscape.

Numerous priority flora species have been recorded within the local area (10 kilometre radius). The closest record of priority flora occurs approximately five kilometres south of the area under application. This species is found on sandy loam or sand over laterite (Western Australian Herbarium 1998-). Given the soil type identified in the application area consists of yellow mottled soils containing ironstone gravels, it is unlikely that this species occurs within the application area.

Four species of fauna listed under the Wildlife Conservation Act as 'rare or likely to become extinct' have been recorded within the local area (10 kilometre radius). These species include the Woylie (*Bettongia penicillata* subsp.ogilbyi), Bilby (*Macrotis lagotis*), Numbat (*Myrmecobius fasciatus*) and the Red-tailed Phascogale (*Phascogale calura*) (DEC, 2007-). The application area may contain suitable habitat for all four species, however given the completely degraded to degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition of the vegetation, the exposure to disturbance from current and historical land use practices and the adjacent remnant vegetation in very good condition, it is unlikely the vegetation proposed to be cleared contains significant habitat for conservation significant fauna.

The proposed clearing may indirectly impact the remnant vegetation located adjacent to the application area through the spread of weeds. Weed management practices will assist in mitigating this risk.

There are no priority ecological communities (PEC) or threatened ecological communities mapped within a 10 kilometre radius.

The closest species of rare flora is located approximately 150 metres south of the application area. This species is found on gravelly sandy or clayey soils on flats and road verges (Western Australian Herbarium 1998-). Suitable habitat for this species is not located within the application area.

Given the above, the proposed clearing is not likely to hold a high level of biological diversity and is not likely to be at variance to this Principle.

#### Methodology

##### References:

- Keighery (1994)
- Government of Western Australia (2013)
- Western Australian Herbarium (1998-)
- DEC (2007-)
- Commissioner of Soil and Land Conservation (2014)

##### GIS Databases:

- SAC Bio Datasets (Accessed November 2014)
- NLWRA, Vegetation Remaining
- Hydrography , linear
- Hydrography, hierachy
- DPaW Tenure

### **(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**

Four fauna species, the Woylie (*Bettongia penicillata* subsp.ogilbyi), Bilby (*Macrotis lagotis*), Numbat (*Myrmecobius fasciatus*) and the Red-tailed Phascogale (*Phascogale calura*) listed as rare or likely to become extinct under the Wildlife Conservation Act 1950 have been recorded within the local area (10 kilometre radius).

The vegetation under application is described as; medium woodland; York gum, wandoo and salmon gum (*Eucalyptus salmonophloia*) (Shepherd et al, 2001). The vegetation type under application may provide suitable habitat for these species. However, given the completely degraded to degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition of the vegetation under application and the large remnant of vegetation in a very good condition adjacent to the site, it is unlikely the area will contain significant fauna habitat.

Given the above, the proposal is not likely to be at variance to this principle.

#### Methodology

##### References:

- Shepherd et al (2001)

##### GIS Databases:

- NLWRA, Current Extent of Native Vegetation
- SAC Bio Datasets (Accessed September 2014)

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

**Comments** **Proposal is not likely to be at variance to this Principle**  
 The closest mapped rare flora to the application area is a small erect shrub that occurs approximately 150 metres south of the application area (Brown et al, 1998-) This species preferred habitat is on gravelly sandy or clayey soils on flats and road verges (Western Australian Herbarium 1998-). Given the application area has been impacted by extensive historical grazing, the vegetation proposed for clearing has a limited understorey. Given this record of rare flora is a shrub species; it is not likely this species would occur within the application area.

Therefore, the proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to this principle.

**Methodology** References:  
 - Western Australian Herbarium (1998-)  
 - Brown et al (1998-)

GIS Databases:  
 - SAC Bio Datasets (Accessed November 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**  
 There are no threatened ecological communities (TEC) mapped within the local area (10 kilometre radius).

Therefore, the proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to this principle.

**Methodology** GIS Databases:  
 -SAC Bio Datasets (Accessed November 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 may be at variance to this Principle**  
 The application area falls within an area that has been highly cleared for the purpose of agriculture. The local area (10 kilometre radius) retains approximately 10 per cent of native vegetation.

The area under application is located within the Shire of Pingelly within which there is approximately 17 per of the pre-European extent remaining.

The vegetation under application is mapped as Beard vegetation association 1023 of which there is approximately 10 per cent of its pre-European extent remaining within the Avon Wheatbelt IBRA region.

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).

The application area is in a completely degraded to degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition, does not contain a high level of biodiversity or significant fauna habitat, therefore it is not considered to be a significant remnant. The local area, shire and vegetation association have, however, been extensively cleared and therefore the proposed clearing may be at variance to this principle.

	Pre-European (ha)	Current Extent (ha)	Remaining (%)	Extent in DPaW Managed Lands (%)
<b>IBRA Bioregion*</b>				
Avon Wheatbelt	9,517,109	1,778,407	18	9
<b>Shire*</b>				
Shire of Pingelly	129,443	22,282	17	33
<b>Beard Vegetation Association in Bioregion*</b>				
1023	1,522,676	166,817	10	10

\* Government of Western Australia (2013)

- Methodology**    **References:**
- Government of Western Australia (2013)
  - Commonwealth of Australia (2001)
  - Keighery (1994)
- GIS Databases:
- NLWRA, Current Extent of Native Vegetation
  - 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**  
Three minor non-perennial watercourses are mapped 100 metres west, 230 metres east and 600 metres south of the area under application. These watercourses are tributaries of Petercarring Brook located three kilometres east of the application area.

Given the distance from these watercourses the application area does not contain riparian vegetation.

Given the above, the proposed clearing is not at variance to this principle.

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

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

**Comments**    **Proposal not likely to be at variance to this Principle**  
Advice received from the Commissioner of Soil and Land Conservation (2014) has described the soil type under application as sandy and loamy duplexes.

The Commissioner of Soil and Land Conservation (2014) has advised that the proposed clearing is unlikely to cause wind erosion given the soil types present.

The risk of waterlogging causing land degradation from the clearing as proposed is considered to be low (Commissioner of Soil and Land Conservation (2014)).

Land monitor salinity risk mapping indicates a moderate risk of salinity following clearing. The Commissioner of Soil and Land Conservation (2014) has advised that whilst salinity is unlikely to occur on the land proposed to be cleared, it is evident in the waterways draining the catchment. It is likely that further clearing would result in an incremental increase in salinity in the local area (Commissioner of Soil and Land Conservation, 2014).

Given the above, the current clearing proposal is not likely to result in increased salinity and is therefore not likely to be at variance to this principle.

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

**(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**  
There are four conservation reserves located within the local area (10 kilometre radius), with the closest reserve known as "Murnanying Nature Reserve" (Class A) located approximately two kilometres north west of the application area. Given the current land use practices that already occur between the application area and the reserve it is unlikely that the proposed clearing impact upon the environmental values of the conservation area.

Therefore the proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to this principle

- Methodology**    **GIS Databases:**
- Parks and Wildlife, 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 not likely to be at variance to this Principle**

Three minor non-perennial watercourses are mapped 100 metres west, 230 metres east and 600 metres south of the area under application. These watercourses are tributaries of Petercarring Brook located three kilometres east of the application area. Given the distance to these watercourses, the proposed clearing is not likely to impact upon surface water.

The Commissioner of Soil and Land Conservation (2014) identified that salinity is occurring off-site in water ways associated with drainage lines however the risk of the proposed clearing causing salinity is low.

Given the above, the proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to this principle.

**Methodology References:**

- Commissioner of Soil and Land Conservation (2014)

GIS Database:

- Groundwater salinity

**(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**

The Commissioner of Soil and Land Conservation (2014) has advised that the risk of flooding from the proposed clearing is low.

Therefore, the clearing as proposed is not likely to be at variance to this principle.

**Methodology References:**

- Commissioner of Soil and Land Conservation (2014)

GIS Datasets:

- Hydrography linear

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

**Comments** The application proposes to clear 2.5 hectares of native vegetation for the purpose of cropping.

No Aboriginal Sites of Significance have been mapped over the application area.

The application area is mapped as 'General Agriculture' under the Local Town Planning Scheme.

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

**Methodology GIS Databases**

- Aboriginal Sites of Significance

- Town Planning Scheme Zones

**4. References**

Commissioner of Soil and Land Conservation (2014); Land Degradation Advice and Assessment Report for clearing permit application CPS 6261/1 received 03/10/2014; Department of Agriculture and Food Western Australia (TRIM Ref. A825374).

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 04/10/2014

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.

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.

Western Australian Herbarium (1998-) FloraBase - The Western Australian Flora. Department of Parks and Wildlife. <http://florabase.dpaw.wa.gov.au/> (Accessed 04/10/2014).