

#### **CLEARING PERMIT**

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Purpose Permit number:

CPS 6268/2

Permit Holder:

Main Roads Western Australia

**Duration of Permit:** 

13 December 2014 to 13 December 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 and bridge widening.

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

Roe Highway Road reserve (PIN 11569685, PIN 11571550, PIN 11572438 and PIN 11572439), Wattle Grove and Kewdale

Bayberry Road reserve (PIN 11797880), Wattle Grove

Lot 4251 on Plan 3478, Welshpool

# 3. Area of Clearing

The Permit Holder must not clear more than 0.6 hectares of native vegetation and two native trees within the areas cross hatched yellow on attached Plan 6268/2.

#### 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. Dieback and 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 and dieback:

- (a) clean earth-moving machinery of soil and vegetation prior to entering and leaving the area to be cleared;
- (b) ensure that no *dieback* or *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:

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;

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.

Emma Bramwell A/ MANAGER

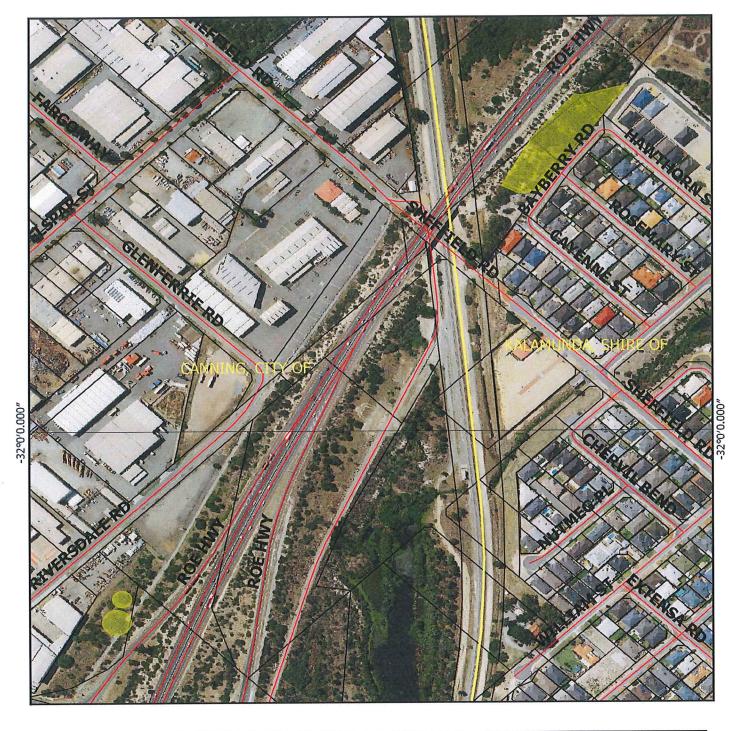
**CLEARING REGULATION** 

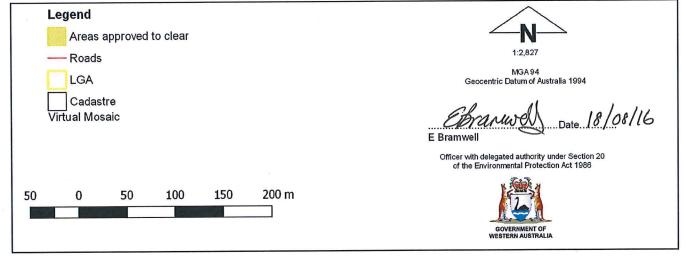
EBranuel

Officer delegated under Section 20 of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

18 August 2016

# Plan 6268/2







# **Clearing Permit Decision Report**

#### 1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.:

6268/2

Permit type:

Purpose Permit

1.2. Applicant details

Applicant's name:

Main Roads Western Australia

1.3. Property details

Property:

LOT 4251 ON PLAN 3478, WELSHPOOL LOT 2 ON DIAGRAM 23982, WATTLE GROVE ROAD RESERVE - 11569685, WATTLE GROVE ROAD RESERVE - 11571550, WATTLE GROVE ROAD RESERVE - 11572438, WATTLE GROVE ROAD RESERVE - 11572438, WATTLE GROVE ROAD RESERVE - 11572439, KEWDALE

Colloquial name:

**Local Government Authority:** 

Roe Highway and Bayberry Road Shire of Kalamunda

City of Canning

DER Region: DPaW District:

LCDC: Localities:

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)

No. Trees

Method of Clearing Mechanical Removal For the purpose of:

Road construction or upgrades

1.5. Decision on application

**Decision on Permit Application:** 

**Decision Date:** 

Reasons for Decision:

Granted

18 August 2016

The clearing permit application has been assessed against the clearing principles, planning instruments and other matters in accordance with section 51O of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*, and has concluded that the proposed clearing may be at variance to principles (f) and (h) and is not likely to be at variance to the remaining principles, consistent with the findings from the previous assessment for CPS 6268/1.

The Delegated Officer determined that the proposed clearing is unlikely to have any significant environmental impacts. State policies and other relevant policies have been taken into consideration in the decision to grant a clearing permit.

#### 2. Site Information

## 2.1. Existing environment and information

2.1.1. Description of the native vegetation under application

Vegetation Description
The application area contains
the following mapped Beard
vegetation associations
(Shepherd et al., 2001):

- 968 is described as medium woodland; jarrah, marri & wandoo; and
- 1009 is described as medium woodland; marri & river gum.

Clearing Description
The clearing of 0.6

The clearing of 0.6 hectares of native vegetation and two trees is for the purpose road and bridge widening.

Vegetation Condition

Good: Structure significantly altered by multiple disturbance; retains basic structure/ability to regenerate (Keighery, 1994)

To

Excellent: Vegetation structure intact; disturbance affecting individual species, weeds non-aggressive (Keighery, 1994)

Comment

The condition of the vegetation within the 0.6 hectare portion of the application area was determined through a site inspection undertaken by GHD (2014).

The condition of the vegetation within the two trees portion of the application area was determined using available aerial imagery.

# 3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

#### Comments

This amendment has been made to increase the size of the clearing from 0.6 hectares to 0.6 hectares and two trees within Roe Highway Bayberry Road reserves, Wattle Grove and Welshpool, for the purpose of road and bridge widening. The proposed widening is an extension of the works being undertaken by the Gateway WA project further to the north, which involves widening a section of Roe Highway.

A biological survey was undertaken by GHD (2014) for application CPS 6268/1. The biological survey identified two native vegetation types within the 0.6 hectare portion of the amended application area which consisted of mixed woodland of marri (*Corymbia calophylla*), jarrah (*Eucalyptus marginata*), *Banksia menziesii* and *Melaleuca preissiana* over scattered tall shrubs of *Acacia pulchella* and *Jacksonia furcellata* over herbs and sedges, and *Kunzea glabrescens* thicket with scattered *Banksia menziesii* over low shrubs and sedges. These two vegetation types showed little evidence of disturbance and intact vegetation structure, and were therefore considered to be in a good to excellent (Keighery, 1994) condition.

The applicant advised that the additional two trees were retained during the construction of the Roe Highway in the 1990s, and consist of mature marri with no obvious hollows over approximately 0.0505 hectares.

A number of flora and fauna species of conservation significance have been recorded within the local area (10 kilometre radius) (Parks and Wildlife, 2007-). No rare or priority flora species were recorded during a biological assessment undertaken by GHD (2014) or during previous flora surveys undertaken for the Gateway WA Stage 1 application (Gateway Vision, 2011), and on this basis it is considered that the amended application area is unlikely to comprise significant habitat for rare or priority flora. Approximately 0.34 hectares of mixed jarrah/marri/banksia woodland within the 0.6 hectare portion of the amended application area and the additional two marri trees provide suitable foraging habitat for threatened fauna Carnaby's cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus latirostris*), Baudin's black cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus baudinii*) and forest red-tailed black cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus banksii* subsp. *naso*), however given the size of the amended application area and the presence of suitable foraging and breeding habitat for these species in nearby Bush Forever sites, it is considered that the amended application area is unlikely to comprise significant habitat for fauna.

The closest threatened ecological community (TEC) is 'Southern wet shrublands, Swan Coastal Plain', located approximately 1.2 kilometres north-east of the amended application area. The vegetation type within the amended application area is not analogous to this TEC, and it is considered unlikely that the amended application area is necessary for the maintenance of this TEC.

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). Within constrained areas on the Swan Coastal Plain, the target for representation of the pre-clearing extent of a particular native vegetation complex is 10 per cent (EPA, 2008). The application area is zoned within the Metropolitan Regional Scheme and is therefore considered to be located within a constrained area. The local area retains approximately 20 per cent native vegetation cover. The amended application area is located within the Shire of Kalamunda and the City of Canning which retain approximately 72.2 per cent and 6.5 per cent of their pre-European vegetation extents respectively (Government of Western Australia, 2015). The amended application area is mapped as Beard vegetation associations 968 and 1009 (Shepherd et al., 2001) which retain approximately 6.6 per cent and 16.3 per cent of their pre-European extents within the Swan Coastal Plain Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation of Australia (IBRA) Bioregion respectively (Government of Western Australia, 2015). On this basis it is considered that one of the local government areas and one of the mapped vegetation associations are extensively cleared, however given the size of the amended application area and the disturbance resulting from the adjacent road and surrounding urban development it is considered that the amended application area is unlikely to comprise a significant remnant in an extensively cleared area.

The nearest waterbodies are a minor tributary of the Woodlupine Brook and 'Tomah Road Swamp', located approximately 40 metres east and 90 metres north of the 0.6 hectare portion of the amended application area respectively. GHD (2014) identified the presence of approximately 0.25 hectares of *Kunzea glabrescens* thicket and scattered plants of *Melaleuca preissiana* vegetation within the 0.6 hectare portion of the amended application area, however given the size of the amended application area it is considered that the proposed clearing is unlikely to significantly impact on vegetation growing in association with a watercourse or wetland.

The 0.6 hectare portion of the amended application area is located approximately 30 metres south-west of Bush Forever Site No. 282 'Tomah Road Bushland'. It is considered that the proposed clearing is unlikely to directly impact this Bush Forever site, however indirect impacts through the spread of weeds and dieback may occur. Weed and dieback management practices will assist in mitigating this risk.

Noting the size of the amended application area, it is considered unlikely that the proposed clearing will cause land degradation or deterioration in the quality of surface or underground water, or exacerbate flooding.

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

The assessment against the clearing principles has not changed since the previous assessment of CPS 6286/1. The findings from the previous assessment are still relevant and can be found in Clearing Permit Decision Report CPS 6763/1.

#### Methodology

References:

Commonwealth of Australia (2001)

EPA (2008)

Gateway Vision (2011)

GHD (2014)

Government of Western Australia (2015)

Keighery (1994)

Parks and Wildlife (2007-) Shepherd et al. (2001)

#### **GIS Databases**

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

# Planning instruments and other relevant matters.

#### Comments

The amended application is to clear 0.6 hectares of native vegetation and two trees for the purpose of road and bridge widening which is an extension of the works being undertaken by the Gateway WA project.

Both portions of the amended application area are mapped within Aboriginal Site of Significances. The applicant will be notified of their obligations under the Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972.

The amended application was advertised in The West Australian newspaper on 1 August 2016 for a seven-day submission period. No public submissions have been received.

The assessment against planning instruments and other matters has not changed since the previous assessment of CPS 6286/1. The findings from the previous assessment are still relevant and can be found in Clearing Permit Decision Report CPS 6763/1.

#### Methodology

**GIS Databases** 

- Aboriginal Sites of Significance
- Town Planning Scheme Zones

#### 4. References

Commonwealth of Australia (2001) National Objectives and Targets for Biodiversity Conservation 2001-2005, Canberra. Department of Parks and Wildlife (Parks and Wildlife) (2007-) NatureMap: Mapping Western Australia's Biodiversity. Department of Environment and Conservation. URL: http://naturemap.dec.wa.gov.au/.

Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) (2008) Environmental Guidance for Planning and Development. Guidance Statement No. 33. Government of Western Australia.

Gateway Vision (2011) Flora and Vegetation Survey Gateway WA Project. Document No; GVWA-16.00-RP-EN-0033 Revision A, December 2011. DER Ref. A542462

GHD (2014) Gateway WA Alliance. Roe Highway West Clearing Permit Supporting Document. GHD, Perth, Western Australia. Government of Western Australia (2015) 2015 Statewide Vegetation Statistics incorporating the CAR Reserve Analysis (Full Report). Current as of June 2015. 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.