



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Purpose Permit number:	CPS 6394/1
Permit Holder:	South East Regional Centre for Urban Landcare
Duration of Permit:	28 February 2015 – 28 February 2020

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 redesigning an urban drain to a living stream

2. Land on which clearing is to be done

Canning Location 2337 - Crown Reserve 30646, Brentwood

3. Area of Clearing

The Permit Holder must not clear more than 0.09 hectares of native vegetation within the area hatched yellow on attached Plan 6394/1.

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. Avoid, minimise etc clearing

In determining the amount of native vegetation to be cleared authorised under this Permit, the Permit Holder must have regard to the following principles, set out in order of preference:

- avoid the clearing of native vegetation;
- minimise the amount of native vegetation to be cleared; and
- reduce the impact of clearing on any environmental value.

6. 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*:

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



M Warnock
SENIOR MANAGER
CLEARING REGULATION

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

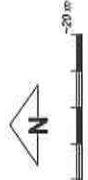
29 January 2015

Plan 6394/1



LEGEND

- Road Centrelines
- Clearing Instruments
- Areas Approved to Clear
- Cadastre
- Local Government Authorities
- Perth Metropolitan Central 15cm Orthomosaic - Landgate 2011



Scale 1:800
 (Approximate when reproduced at A4)
 Geocentric Datum Australia 1984
 Note: the data in this map have not been projected. This may result in geometric distortion or measurement inaccuracies.

M Waincock Date 29/1/15

Office 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.: 6394/1
Permit type: Purpose Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: South East Regional Centre for Urban Landcare

1.3. Property details

Property: CANNING LOCATION 2337 (House No. 1992 LEACH BRENTWOOD 6153)
Local Government Area: City of Melville
Colloquial name:

1.4. Application

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

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Grant
Decision Date: 29 January 2015

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
The vegetation under application has been mapped as: Mapped Beard vegetation association 1001: Medium very sparse woodland; jarrah, with low woodland; banksia & casuarina (Shepherd et al. 2001).	The application is to clear 0.09 hectares of native vegetation within Crown Reserve 30646, Brentwood, for the purpose of redesigning an urban drain to a living stream.	Degraded: Structure severely disturbed; regeneration to good condition requires intensive management (Keighery 1994) to Completely Degraded: No longer intact; completely/almost completely without native species (Keighery 1994)	The vegetation description was determined by a site inspection undertaken by Department of Environment Regulation officers (DER 2015).

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

Comments

Application CPS 6394/1 is to clear 0.09 hectares of native vegetation within Crown Reserve 30646, Brentwood, for the purpose of redesigning an urban drain into a living stream. Most of the vegetation within the application area is completely degraded to degraded (Keighery 1994, DER 2015). The understorey is virtually devoid of native species. Larger species include scattered *Melaleuca raphiophylla*, *Eucalyptus rudis*, *Banksia littoralis* and *Acacia saligna* (DER 2015). The applicant has stated that it plans to remove the vegetation alongside the existing drain to enable its grading and subsequent revegetation and that as many large trees as possible on site will be retained (South East Regional Centre for Urban Landcare [SERCUL] 2014).

Several priority and one rare flora species are mapped within the local area (five kilometre radius) within the same vegetation association and soil type as the application area. The closest of these are approximately 500 metres (a Priority 1 species) and 2.5 kilometres, respectively, from the application area. The presence of priority or rare flora species within the application area is unlikely given the degraded to completely degraded (Keighery 1994) condition of the vegetation (DER 2015).

A priority ecological community is located approximately 50 metres northeast of the application area, described as 'coastal saltmarsh'. No threatened ecological communities are mapped within the local area. Given the degraded to completely degraded (Keighery 1994) condition of the vegetation within the application area (DER 2015), the proposed clearing is not likely to impact on the priority ecological community.

Given the degraded to completely degraded (Keighery 1994) condition of the vegetation, the proposed clearing is unlikely to comprise a high level of biological diversity or have a detrimental impact on indigenous fauna habitat.

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 (areas of urban development in cities and major towns) on the Swan Coastal Plain, the threshold for representation of the pre-clearing extent of a particular native vegetation complex is 10 per cent (EPA 2006).

The local area and the City of Melville retain approximately ten and six per cent, respectively, of the pre-European vegetation (Government of Western Australia 2013). The mapped vegetation type within the application area (Beard Vegetation Association 1001) retains approximately 24 per cent. Given the degraded to completely degraded (Keighery 1994) condition of the vegetation (DER 2015), the application area is not considered a significant remnant in a highly cleared landscape.

The eastern part of the application area encroaches on a Conservation management wetland i.e. a perennial swamp. A Resource Enhancement wetland (a perennial lake) is located approximately 100 metres south of the application area. It is the intention of the applicant to facilitate the improved condition of the riparian vegetation as part of the redesign of the drain to a living stream. Any negative impact the proposed clearing may have on surface water is likely to be attributed to increased sedimentation. This is expected to be minimal and short-term given the small extent of the clearing (0.09 hectares) and its intended purpose which is likely to yield a positive environmental outcome in the longer-term.

For the reasons stated above, impacts on nearby conservation areas are likely to be minimal and short-term with positive outcomes expected as the characteristics of the drain progress towards those of a living stream. The close proximity of conservation areas to the application area warrants practices to minimise the spread of weeds and dieback into these conservation areas.

Given its small extent, the proposed clearing is not likely to cause, or exacerbate, the incidence of flooding. Neither is it likely to cause appreciable land degradation.

Considering the above, the application is at variance to clearing principle (f) and is not likely to be at variance to the remaining clearing principles.

Methodology

References:

- Commonwealth of Australia (2001)
- DER (2015)
- EPA (2006)
- Government of Western Australia (2013)
- Keighery (1994)
- SERCUL (2014)

GIS Datasets:

- Bush Forever
- Clearing Regulation - ESAs
- DPaW tenure
- Geomorphic Wetlands
- Hydrography, linear
- NLWRA
- Pre-European Vegetation
- SAC Biodatasets - accessed January 2015

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

Comments

The project, the Brentwood Living Stream Restoration Project, is a partnership between the City of Melville, Swan River Trust, Water Corporation and Main Roads Western Australia (SERCUL 2014).

The application area is within the Perth Groundwater Area.

No public submissions have been received.

No Aboriginal Sites of Significance have been identified within the application area.

Methodology Reference:
- SERCUL (2014)

GIS Datasets:
- Aboriginal Sites of Significance
- RIWI

4. References

- Commonwealth of Australia (2001) National Objectives and Targets for Biodiversity Conservation 2001-2005, Canberra.
- DER (2015) Site visit report for clearing permit application CPS 6394/1, 23 January 2015. Department of Environment Regulation, Western Australia (DER Ref: A856981).
- EPA (2006) Guidance for the Assessment of Environmental Factors - Level of Assessment for Proposals Affecting Natural Areas Within the System 6 Region and Swan Coastal Plain Portion of the System 1 Region. Guidance Statement No 10. Environmental Protection Authority, Western Australia.
- 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.
- SERCUL (2014) Application for clearing permit CPS 6394/1 (DER Ref: A846511).
- 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.