

CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Purpose Permit number: CPS 6399/1

Permit Holder: Urban Resources Pty Ltd

Duration of Permit: 7 February 2015 to 7 February 2017

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

1. Purpose for which clearing may be done

Clearing for the purpose of road widening, upgrades and hazard reduction.

2. Land on which clearing is to be done

Lakes Road reserve, Nambeelup (PIN 11605937) Unnamed Road reserve, Nambeelup (PIN 11750571)

3. Area of Clearing

The Permit Holder must not clear more than 0.477 hectares of native vegetation within the area hatched yellow on attached Plan 6399/1.

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.

M Warnock

SENIOR MANAGER

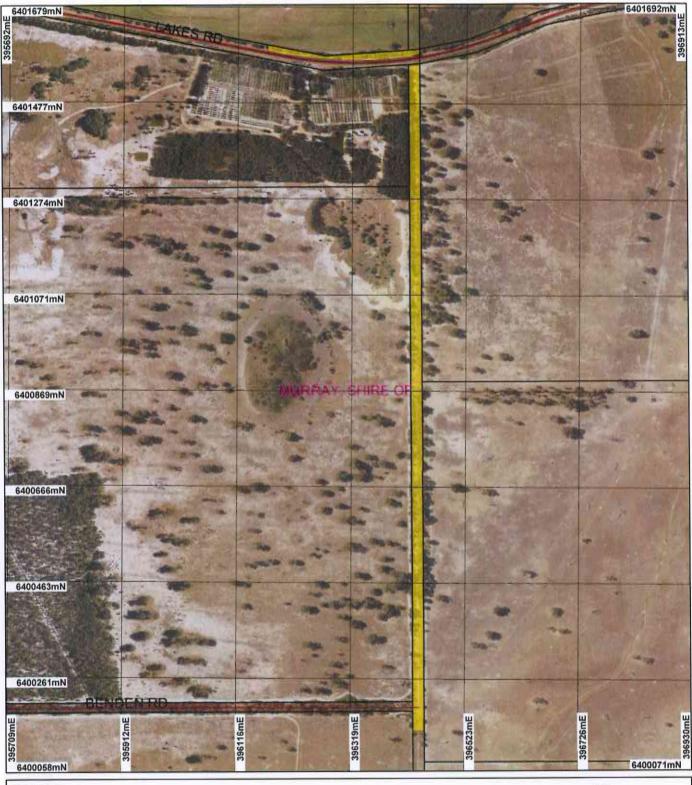
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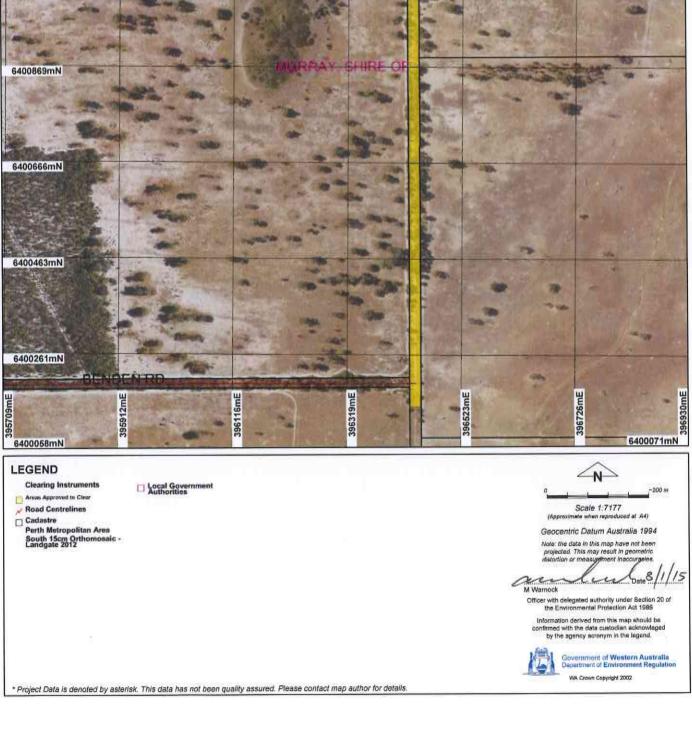
CLEARING REGULATION

Officer delegated under Section 20 of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

8 January 2015

Plan 6399/1







Clearing Permit Decision Report

Government of Western Australia Department of Environment Regulation

1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.:

6399/1

Permit type:

Purpose Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name:

Urban Resources Pty Ltd

1.3. Property details

Property:

ROAD RESERVE (NAMBEELUP 6207)

Local Government Area:

Colloquial name:

Shire of Murray

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)

No. Trees

Method of Clearing

For the purpose of:

0.477

Mechanical Removal

Road construction or maintenance

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application:

Grant

Decision Date:

8 January 2015

2. Site Information

2.1. Existing environment and information

2.1.1. Description of the native vegetation under application

Vegetation Description

Beard Vegetation Association 1000: Mosaic: Medium forest, jarrah-marri / Low woodland; banksia / Low forest; teatree (Melaleuca spp.) (Shepherd et al, 2001).

Beard Vegetation Association 968: Medium woodland; jarrah, marri & wandoo (Shepherd et al, 2001).

Heddle Vegetation Complex Southern River: Open woodland of Corymbia calophylla (Marri) -Eucalyptus marginata (Jarrah) -Banksia species with fringing woodland of Eucalyptus rudis (Flooded Gum) - Melaleuca rhaphiophylla (Swamp Paperbark) along creek beds (Heddle et al, 1980).

Heddle Vegetation Complex Guildford: A mixture of open forest to tall open forest of E. calophylla - E. wandoo - E. marginata and woodland of E. wandoo (with rare occurrences of E. lane-poolei). Minor components include E. rudis - M. rhaphiophylla (Heddle et al, 1980).

Clearing Description

Clearing 0.477 hectares of native vegetation within Lakes Raod reserve and an unnamed road reserve, Nambeelup, Shire of Murray for the purposes of road widening, upgrades and hazard reduction.

Vegetation Condition

Completely Degraded: No longer intact; completely/almost completely without native species (Keighery 1994)

То

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

Comment

The vegetation under application along Lakes Road consists of a Paperbark woodland with the dominant species consisting predominately of Melaleuca and Kunzea species (Australasian Ecological Services, 2014).

The vegetation under application within the unnamed road consists of a Jarrah-Marri Woodland with the dominant species being Corymbia calophylla, Eucalyptus marginata, Allocasuarina fraseriana over Banksia, Adenanthos and Kunzea species (Australasian Ecological Services, 2014).

The vegetation under application is in a good to completely degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition (Australasian Ecological Services, 2014).

The structure and condition of the vegetation under application was obtained from a Flora and Vegetation Assessment undertaken by Australasian Ecological Services in December 2014.

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

Comments

The application is to clear 0.477 hectares of native vegetation within Lakes Road reserve and an unnamed road reserve. Nambeelup, for the purposes of road widening, upgrades and hazard reduction.

Two vegetation types have been identified within the application area, a Jarrah-Marri Woodland and a Paperbark Woodland. The vegetation under application is in a completely degraded to good (Keighery, 1994) condition (Australasian Ecological Services, 2014). The application area contains numerous weed species, rubbish dumping and physical disruptions (road and tracks) (Australasian Ecological Services, 2014).

Several priority and rare flora species have been recorded within five kilometres of the application area. A flora and vegetation assessment of the area under application recorded 80 native species, none of the species were of conservation significance (Australasian Ecological Services, 2014).

There have been no threatened or priority ecological communities identified within five kilometres of the area under application.

Several fauna species of conservation significance have been recorded within five kilometres of the applied area. This includes Carnaby's cockatoo (Calyptorhynchus latirostris), Forest Red-tailed black cockatoo (Calyptorhynchus banksii naso) and Baudin's cockatoo (Calyptorhynchus baudinii) (DEC, 2007-). A flora and vegetation assessment of the unnamed road reserve identified five trees with hollows and other mature trees that may have hollows not visible from the ground (Australasian Ecological Services, 2014). The applicant has advised that larger trees will be retained and not impacted upon from the proposed clearing (Urban Resources, 2014). Given the size and linear nature of the proposed clearing it is unlikely the proposed clearing area will provide significant habitat for ground dwelling fauna.

The vegetation under application is represented by Beard vegetation associations 1000 and 968 which have 26 and 7 per cent respectively of their pre-European vegetation extent remaining within the Swan Coastal Plain IBRA Bioregion (Government of Western Australia, 2013). The vegetation under application is also represented by Heddle vegetation complex Southern River and Guildford which have 21 and 5 per cent respectively of their pre-European extant remaining (Heddle et al, 1980).

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 vegetation types represented within the proposed clearing area are all below the 30 per cent threshold level. As the application area has been subjected to past disturbances it is unlikely the mapped vegetation types are represented within the application area. Considering this along with the relatively small amount of clearing required, the proposed clearing is unlikely to have significant impacts on the recorded vegetation types.

The application area is within an extensively cleared landscape with approximately 15 per cent of pre-European vegetation remaining within five kilometres of the proposed clearing area. However, the vegetation under application is unlikely to provide habitat for conservation significant flora or fauna therefore is not considered significant as a remnant.

A small section of the proposed clearing (Lakes Road) has been mapped within a multiple use wetland. The area under application within Lakes Road is subject seasonal water inundation (Australasian Ecological Services, 2014). Therefore the proposed clearing will impact on vegetation growing in association with a wetland however, considering the relatively small size of the proposed clearing it is unlikely to significantly impact on the wetland.

There have been no conservation areas recorded within five kilometres of the proposed clearing area.

Given the small size of the application area, degraded condition of the native vegetation and the linear nature of the proposed clearing, it is unlikely that the proposed clearing will cause or exacerbate land degradation, flooding or impact upon water quality.

The assessment of the proposed clearing identified that the clearing is at variance to principle (f) and is not likely to be at variance to the remaining clearing principles.

Methodology

- Australassian Ecological Services (2014)
- Commonwealth of Australia (2001)
- DEC (2007)
- Government of Western Australia (2013)
- Keighery (1994)
- Heddle et al (1980)
- Urban Resources (2014)

GIS Database:

- DPaW Tenure
- Hydrography, linear
- Pre-European Vegetation
- SAC Bio datasets accessed January 2015

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

Comments

The Shire of Murray (2014) supports the application to clear native vegetation within the subject areas to facilitate the development of (sand) extractive industry. The support is conditional on the proponent obtaining a new development application to the Shire to vary the conditions of planning approval P139/2014 (Shire of Murray, 2014).

No submissions have been received for this application.

Methodology Shire of Murray (2014)

4. References

Australasian Ecological Services (2014) Flora and Vegetation Assessment. Additional information received within Clearing Permit Application CPS 6399/1 - Urban Resources Pty Ltd (DER Ref:A844917)

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 January 2015

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.

Heddle, E. M., Loneragan, O. W., and Havel, J. J. (1980) Vegetation Complexes of the Darling System, Western Australia. In Department of Conservation and Environment, Atlas of Natural Resources, Darling System, Western Australia.

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 Murray (2014) Additional information received within Clearing Permit Application CPS 6399/1 - Urban Resources Pty Ltd (DER Ref:A844917)

Urban Resources (2014) Additional information received within Clearing Permit Application CPS 6399/1 - Urban Resources Pty Ltd (DER Ref.A844917)