



GOVERNMENT OF
WESTERN AUSTRALIA
CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

PERMIT DETAILS

Area Permit Number: 6405/1
File Number: DER2014/003196-1
Duration of Permit: From 4 April 2015 to 4 April 2017

PERMIT HOLDER

Terence George Pinker

LAND ON WHICH CLEARING IS TO BE DONE

Lot 1539 on Plan 3314, Gosnells

AUTHORISED ACTIVITY

The Permit Holder shall not clear more than 1.4 hectares of native vegetation within the area cross hatched yellow on the attached Plan 6405/1.

CONDITIONS

1. 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 clearing 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;

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.

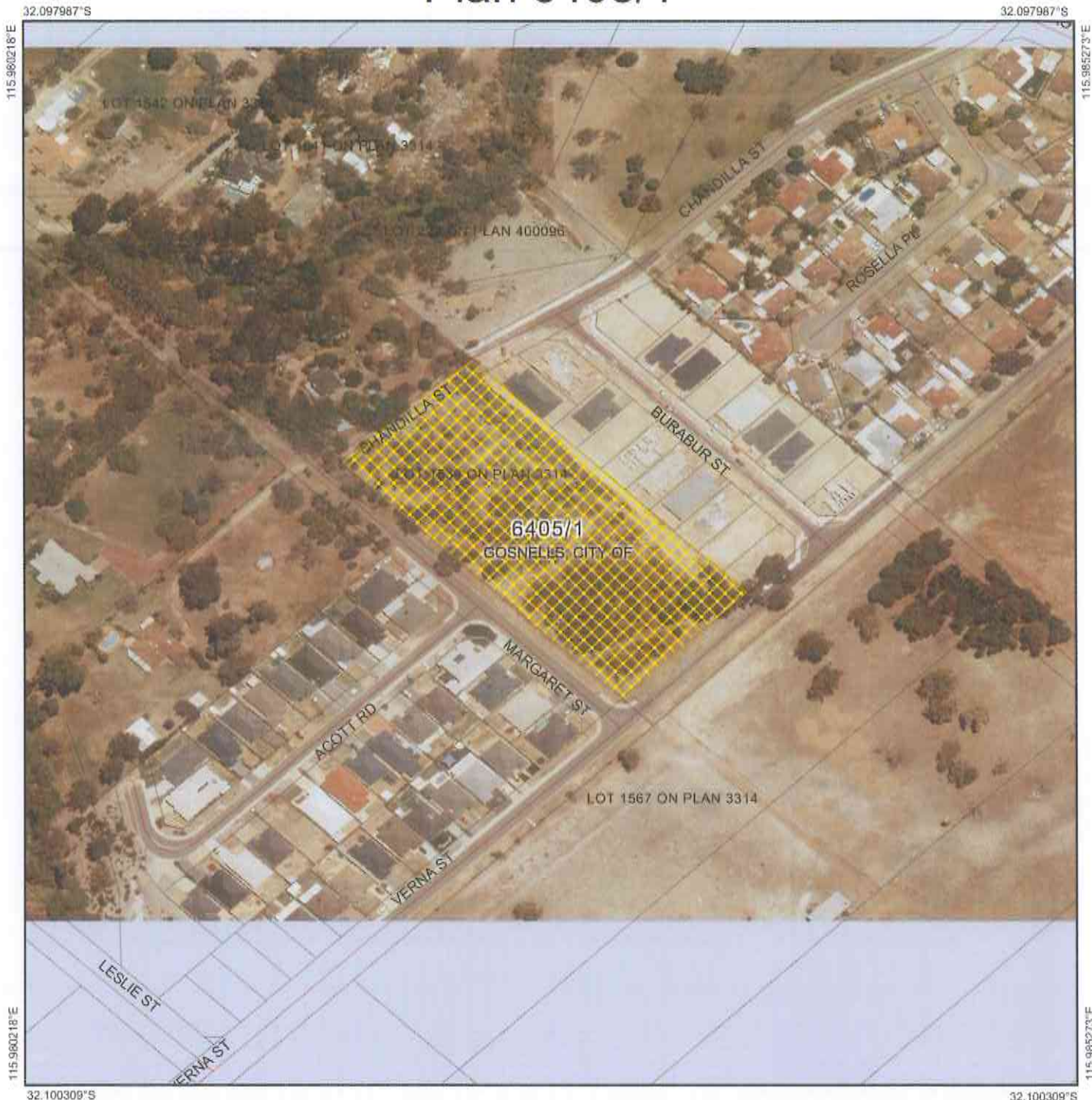
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M Warnock', written over a horizontal line.

M Warnock
SENIOR MANAGER
CLEARING REGULATION

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

5 March 2015

Plan 6405/1



Legend

-  Imagery
-  Clearing Instruments Activities
-  Local Government Authority
-  Cadastre



1:2,528

(Approximate when reproduced at A4)

GDA 94 (Lat/Long)

Geocentric Datum of Australia 1994

M Wamock Date 5/3/15

M Wamock

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



GOVERNMENT OF
WESTERN AUSTRALIA
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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.: 6405/1
Permit type: Area Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Terence George Pinker

1.3. Property details

Property: LOT 1539 ON DEPOSITED PLAN 3314

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
1.4		Mechanical Removal	Bushfire and hazard reduction

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Grant
Decision Date: 5 March 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
Mapped Beard vegetation association 1001: Medium very sparse woodland; jarrah, with low woodland; banksia & casuarina (Shepherd et al 2001).	The clearing of 1.4 hectares of native vegetation within Lot 1539 on Plan 3314, Gosnells, is for the purpose of bushfire and hazard reduction.	Completely Degraded: No longer intact; completely/almost completely without native species (Keighery 1994)	The structure and condition of the vegetation under application was obtained via a site inspection undertaken by Department of Environment Regulation Officers (DER, 2015).
Hedde Vegetation Southern River Complex consists of open woodland of <i>Corymbia calophylla</i> (Marri) - <i>Eucalyptus marginata</i> (Jarrah) - <i>Banksia</i> species with fringing woodland of <i>Eucalyptus rudis</i> (Flooded Gum) - <i>Melaleuca raphiophylla</i> (Swamp Paperbark) along creek beds (Hedde et al 1980).		To Degraded: Structure severely disturbed; regeneration to good condition requires intensive management (Keighery 1994)	The vegetation under application comprises scattered <i>Allocasuarina fraseriana</i> , <i>Banksia</i> sp., <i>Nuytsia floribunda</i> , <i>Melaleuca</i> sp., juvenile <i>Eucalyptus marginata</i> , with pockets of <i>Kunzea glabrescens</i> and <i>Jacksonia</i> sp. The understorey vegetation is dominated by exotic grasses including veldt grass, with scattered sedges evident amongst an area of denser <i>Kunzea glabrescens</i> within the south east portion of the application area. The area has been impacted heavily by previous disturbance, including recent fire, tracks, rubbish dumping's and firebreaks (DER, 2015).

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

Comments

The application is to clear 1.4 hectares of native vegetation within Lot 1539 on Plan 3314, Gosnells, for the purpose of bushfire and hazard reduction.

The application area has been significantly impacted heavily by previous disturbances, including recent fires, tracks from unauthorised activities, rubbish dumping and firebreaks. As a result of this disturbance the application area is in a completely degraded to degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition (DER, 2015). The area includes a denser portion of *Kunzea glabrescens* thicket which occupies approximately 0.25 hectares within the south eastern portion of the application area (DER, 2015).

The vegetation consists of scattered *Allocasuarina fraseriana*, *Banksia* sp., *Nuytsia floribunda*, *Melaleuca* sp., juvenile *Eucalyptus marginata*, with pockets of *Kunzea glabrescens* and *Jacksonia* sp. The understorey vegetation is dominated by exotic grasses including veldt grass, with scattered sedges evident amongst the area of denser *Kunzea glabrescens* (DER, 2015).

Several priority and rare flora species have been recorded within ten kilometres of the proposed clearing. The relatively small application area has been subject to significant historical disturbance and the understorey is dominated by invasive exotic grasses. It is unlikely that the proposed clearing will impact on rare or priority flora species.

The closest priority ecological community (PEC) is known as 'Central Northern Darling Scarp Granite Shrubland Community' (Priority 4), and is located approximately 5.7 kilometres north east from the application area. The vegetation under application is not representative of this community.

The closest threatened ecological community (TEC) is known as "Banksia attenuata and/or Eucalyptus marginata woodlands of the Eastern side of the Swan Coastal Plain" and is located two kilometres south east of the application area. Although a few scattered banksia and Eucalyptus marginata were identified on site, the small, largely degraded area under application (DER, 2015) is not considered representative of this TEC.

The vegetation surrounding the application area (10 kilometre radius) retains approximately 30 per cent native vegetation. The vegetation types mapped on site, Southern River Complex and Beard Vegetation Association 1001, retain 21 and 24 per cent of their pre-European vegetation extents respectively within the Swan Coastal Plain Bioregion (Government of Western Australia, 2013 and Heddlé et al, 1980). The City of Gosnells retains approximately 29 per cent of its pre-European vegetation extent (Government of Western Australia, 2013).

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 area under application is classified as a constrained area.

Several fauna species of conservation significance have been recorded within ten kilometres of the applied area (Parks and Wildlife, 2007-). There are no large primary habitat trees within the application area, and given the largely degraded condition (Keighery, 1994) of the vegetation (DER, 2015), it is unlikely that the proposed clearing provides significant fauna habitat for local populations.

The application area is mapped within a resource enhancement dampland and Southern River is approximately 80 metres north of the application area. The application area contains vegetation commonly associated with wetlands, including Kunzea glabrescens, occasional Melaleuca sp., Jacksonia sp., and some sedges. The application area has undergone significant historical disturbance and is bordered by residential developments to the east and west. The proposed clearing of 1.4 hectares of vegetation largely in a degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition (DER, 2015) is not likely to impact on the ecological function of the mapped wetland or surrounding wetlands and is unlikely to result in any impacts to Southern River given the separation to this watercourse.

Given the relatively small degraded area proposed for clearing, and marginal groundwater salinity levels mapped on site (500 to 1000 milligrams per litre), it is not likely that the proposed clearing will result in appreciable land degradation or increase groundwater salinity levels.

The closest conservation reserve to the application area is an un-named Nature Reserve (Class A) located approximately three kilometres north west of the application area. Given the distance and lack of connectivity to this reserve, the proposed clearing is not likely to impact on this conservation area.

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

Methodology

References:

- Parks and Wildlife (2007-)
- DER (2015)
- Keighery (1994)
- Commonwealth of Australia (2001)
- Government of Western Australia (2013)
- EPA (2006)
- Heddlé et al (1980)

GIS Databases:

- DPaW Tenure
- Hydrography, linear
- Hydrography, hierachy
- NLWRA, Extent of Native Vegetation
- Geomorphic Wetlands, Swan Coastal Plain
- Groundwater Salinity, Statewide
- SAC Bio datasets accessed January 2015

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

Comments

The application is to clear 1.4 hectares of native vegetation within Lot 1539 on Plan 3314, Gosnells, for the purpose of bushfire and hazard reduction. It is noted that the subject vegetation is within close proximity to residential developments, which may be impacted in the event of a bushfire. The proponent has advised that the risk of bushfires in the area is high, and that an uncontrolled fire recently threatened the property. The proponent has advised that the proposed clearing will also help to minimise unauthorized activity and associated rubbish dumping within the property.

The City of Gosnells has advised that planning approval is not required for the proposed clearing.

There have been no public submissions received in response to the proposed clearing.

The application area is mapped within an Aboriginal Site of Significance'. It is the proponent's responsibility to comply with the Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972 and ensure that no Aboriginal Sites of Significance are damaged through the clearing process.

The area under application is mapped as 'Residential' under the Town Planning Scheme.

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.
- DER (2015) Site Inspection undertaken for Clearing Permit Application CPS 6405/1 undertaken 18 February 2015. Department of Environment Regulation (DER Ref A874476)
- 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) 2013 Statewide Vegetation Statistics incorporating the CAR Reserve Analysis (Full Report). Current as of March 2013. WA Department of Environment and Conservation, Perth.
- Hedde, 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.
- Parks and Wildlife (2007 -) NatureMap: Mapping Western Australia's Biodiversity. Department of Environment and Conservation. URL: <http://naturemap.dec.wa.gov.au/>. Accessed January 2015
- 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.