

# CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

# PERMIT DETAILS

Area Permit Number: 6434/1

File Number:

2011/006806-1

Duration of Permit: From 9 May 2015 to 9 May 2017

# PERMIT HOLDER

Shire of Beverley

# LAND ON WHICH CLEARING IS TO BE DONE

Lot 34 on Deposited Plan 222079, Beverley Edwards Street road reserve, Beverley (PIN 11462822)

# AUTHORISED ACTIVITY

The Permit Holder shall not clear more than 0.815 hectares of native vegetation within the areas cross hatched yellow on attached Plan 6434/1.

# CONDITIONS

Nil.

M Warnock

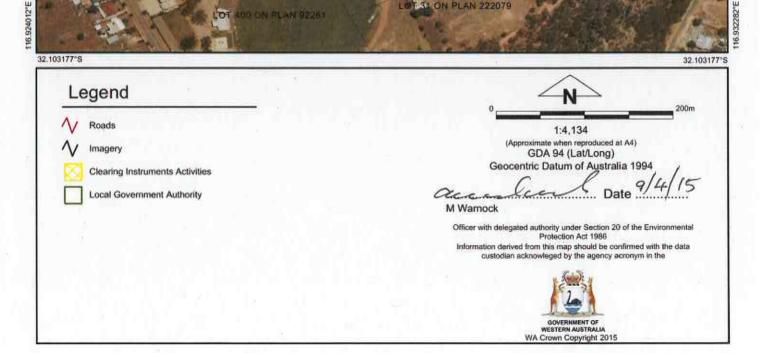
SENIOR MANAGER

CLEARING REGULATION

Officer delegated under Section 20 of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

9 April 2015





LOT 400 ON PLAN 92261



# **Clearing Permit Decision Report**

## 1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.:

6434/1

Permit type:

Area Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name:

Shire of Beverley

1.3. Property details

Property:

ROAD RESERVE - 11462822, BEVERLEY LOT 34 ON PLAN 222079, BEVERLEY

Local Government Authority:

BEVERLEY, SHIRE OF

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)

No. Trees

Method of Clearing Mechanical Removal For the purpose of:

Drainage

1.5. Decision on application

Decision:

0.815

Granted

**Decision Date:** 

09 April 2015

## 2. Site Information

# 2.1. Existing environment and information

## 2.1.1. Description of the native vegetation under application

#### Vegetation Description

Mapped Beard vegetation association 352 is described as Medium woodland; York gum (Shepherd et al, 2001)

## Clearing Description

Clearing 0.815
hectares of native
vegetation within Lot
34 on Deposited Plan
222079 and Edwards
Street road reserve,
Beverley for the
purpose of the
Beverley Water
Harvest Project.

## Vegetation Condition

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)

#### Comment

The area under application consists of a York Gum (Eucalyptus loxophleba Benth. Subsp. loxophleba) open woodland over weeds (DER, 2015).

The areas under application have been subject to disturbances from the many tracks which run through and on the outskirts of the proposed clearing areas.

The vegetation under application is in a degraded to completely degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition (DER, 2015).

The condition and structure of the vegetation under application was obtained via a site inspection undertaken by the Department of Environment Regulation on 3 February 2015.

## 3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

## Comments

The proposed clearing is for 0.815 hectares of native vegetation within Lot 34 and Edwards Street road reserve. Beverley for the purpose of the Beverley Water Harvest Project.

The vegetation under application consists of an open York Gum woodland in a degraded to completely degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition (DER, 2015).

There have been 11 priority and three rare flora species recorded within 10 kilometres of the areas under application. There has been no mapped priority or threatened ecological communities within 10 kilometres of the area under application. The areas under application consist of York Gum trees over weeds (DER, 2015) and are unlikely to support flora or vegetation communities of environmental significance.

Several fauna species of conservation significance have been recorded within 10 kilometres of the applied area. These include Woylie, (Bettongia penicillata subsp. ogilbyi), Chuditch (Dasyurus geoffroii) and Red-tailed Phascogale (Phascogale calura) (Parks and Wildlife, 2007-). Given the size and degraded to completely

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degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition (DER, 2015) of the vegetation under application, it is unlikely the proposed clearing area will provide significant habitat for fauna.

The vegetation under application is represented by Beard Vegetation Association 352 which has 17 per cent of its pre-European vegetation extent remaining within the Avon Wheatbelt IBRA Bioregion (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). The vegetation type represented within the proposed clearing areas is below the 30 per cent threshold level. As the application areas have been subjected to past disturbances it is unlikely the mapped vegetation type is extant within the application areas. Considering this along with the relatively small amount of clearing required, the proposed clearing is unlikely to significantly impact on the recorded vegetation type.

The application area is within an extensively cleared landscape with approximately 15 per cent of pre-European vegetation remaining within 10 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.

The closest watercourse to the proposed clearing areas is the Avon River, located approximately 80 metres away. A site inspection of the proposed clearing area determined that the vegetation under application is not associated with the Avon River (DER, 2015).

No conservation areas recorded are within 10 kilometres of the proposed clearing area.

Given the small size of the application area, degraded to completely degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition (DER, 2015) of the native vegetation proposed to be cleared, it is unlikely that the proposed clearing will cause or exacerbate land degradation, flooding or impact upon water quality.

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

#### Methodology

#### References

- Commonwealth of Australia (2001)
- DER (2015)
- Government of Western Australia (2013)
- Keighery (1994)
- Parks and Wildlife (2007-)

#### GIS Database:

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

# Planning instruments and other relevant matters.

#### Comments

The proposed clearing falls within the Avon River Catchment Rights in Water and Irrigation Act area. The Department of Water (DoW) was notified of the proposed clearing and advised that they had no comment (DoW, 2015).

No submissions have been received for this application.

The applicant has advised the proposed clearing is required for a water sustainability project within the town of Beverley. Two retention basins will be constructed to capture storm water from the town sites streets and pumped back to the town dam. The project is subject to funding approval from the Department of Water's Community Water Supply Grants Program.

#### Methodology

References:

- DoW (2015)

## 4. References

Commonwealth of Australia (2001) National Objectives and Targets for Biodiversity Conservation 2001-2005, Canberra. DER (2015) Site Inspection Report for Clearing Permit Application CPS 6434/1 — Shire of Beverley. Undertaken on 3 February 2015 (DER Ref:A890342).

DoW (2015) Advice received in relation to Clearing Permit Application CPS 6434/1, Shire of Beverley. Department of Water 2015 (DER Ref:A881880).

Government of Western Australia (2013) 2013 Statewide Vegetation Statistics incorporating the CAR Reserve Analysis (Full Report). Current as of June 2013. WA Department of Parks and Wildlife, 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.

Parks and Wildlife (2007- ) NatureMap: Mapping Western Australia's Biodiversity. Department of Parks and Wildlife. URL: http://naturemap.dpaw.wa.gov.au/. Accessed February 2015

Shepherd, D.P., Beeston, G.R. and Hopkins, A.J.M. (2001) Native Vegetation in Western Australia, Extent, Type and Status. Resource Management Technical Report 249. Department of Agriculture, Western Australia.