



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Purpose Permit number:	CPS 6458/1
Permit Holder:	Omaha Nominees Pty Ltd
Duration of Permit:	3 October 2015 to 14 May 2020

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 extracting sand and limestone.

2. Land on which clearing is to be done

Lot 1503 on Deposited Plan 112302 (Myalup)

3. Area of Clearing

The Permit Holder must not clear more than 0.25 hectares of native vegetation and 5 native trees within the areas cross hatched yellow on attached Plan 6458/1.

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.

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.

M Warnock
SENIOR MANAGER
CLEARING REGULATION

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

3 September 2015

Plan 6458/1



Legend

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



1:2,688

(Approximate when reproduced at A4)

GDA 94 (Lat/Long)

Geocentric Datum of Australia 1994

M Warnock Date *3/9/15*

M Warnock

Officer with delegated authority under Section 20 of the Environmental Protection Act 1986



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1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 6458/1
Permit type: Purpose Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Omaha Nominees Pty Ltd

1.3. Property details

Property: LOT 1503 ON PLAN 112302, MYALUP
Local Government Authority: HARVEY, SHIRE OF
DER Region: Greater Swan
DPaW District: WELLINGTON
LCDC: LAKE PRESTON
Localities: MYALUP

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
0.25	5	Mechanical Removal	Extractive industry

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Granted
Decision Date: 3 September 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 27 is described as low woodland comprising paperbark (Shepherd et al, 2001).	The application proposes to clear 0.25 hectares of native vegetation and 5 native trees within Lot 1503 on Deposited Plan 112302, Myalup, for the purpose of extracting sand and limestone.	Completely Degraded; No longer intact, completely/almost completely without native species (Keighery, 1994).	The condition of the vegetation was determined via aerial imagery and information provided by Lundstrom Environmental Consultants (2015).
Mapped Beard Vegetation Association 998 is described as shrublands comprising mallee scrub, bushy yate and Bald Island marlock (Shepherd et al, 2001).			
Mapped Heddle Vegetation Yoongarillup Complex comprises woodland to tall woodland of Eucalyptus gomphocephala (Tuart) with Agonis flexuosa in the second storey. Less consistently an open forest of Eucalyptus gomphocephala (Tuart) - Eucalyptus marginata (Jarrah) - Corymbia calophylla (Marri) (Heddle et al 1980).			

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

Comments The applicant proposes to clear 0.25 hectares of native vegetation and 5 large mature native trees within Lot 1503 on Deposited Plan 112302, Myalup, for the purpose of extracting sand and limestone. The 0.25 hectares of native vegetation is largely comprised of Tuart trees (Eucalyptus gomphocephala) over a completely degraded (Keighery, 1994) understorey (Lundstrom Environmental Consultants, 2015).

Several Priority flora species have been recorded in the local area (10 kilometre radius). The closest of these, is a slender, erect perennial, herb that grows to 0.4 metres high and has a preference for black sand or clay over limestone in winter-wet areas (Western Australian Herbarium, 1998-). This species is mapped 2.3 kilometres south west of the application area. The application area comprises little to no understorey (Lundstrom Environmental, 2015) and it is unlikely that the application area contains this or any other priority flora species.

There is one species of rare flora mapped within the local area, located 9.3 kilometres east. This species is a tuberous perennial herb growing to 0.15-0.35 metres high with a preference for moist grey-black sand within winter-wet swamps (Western Australian Herbarium, 1998-). The application area is within a cleared paddock, and therefore does not fit the description of the preferred habitat for this species.

The closest priority ecological community (PEC) to the application area is a Priority 2 PEC known as 'Living microbial mats in hypersaline ponds' located 5.5 kilometres south of the application area. Given the small completely degraded (Keighery, 1994) application area, the proposed clearing is not likely to impact on this community.

The closest threatened ecological community (TEC) to the application area is mapped seven kilometres north east and is known as 'Shrubland on calcareous silts of the Swan Coastal Plain'. This TEC is listed as Vulnerable, as endorsed by the Minister for Environment. The application area does not fit the description of this TEC and is not likely to impact on this community.

Several fauna species of conservation significance have been recorded within the local area (10 kilometre radius), including the curlew sandpiper (*Calidris ferruginea*), Baudin's cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus baudinii*), Carnaby's cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus latirostris*), eastern curlew (*Numenius madagascariensis*) and western ringtail possum (*Pseudocheirus occidentalis*) (Parks and Wildlife, 2007-). The application area initially included one additional large mature tree, however it was determined that the tree had the potential to provide habitat for the abovementioned black cockatoos (Lundstrom Environmental Consultants, 2015) and was subsequently excluded from the application. The remaining large trees under application were deemed not yet suitable for breeding by black cockatoos (Lundstrom Environmental, 2015). Given the completely degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition of the vegetation under application, it is not likely that the vegetation present provides significant habitat for the abovementioned species.

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 Shire of Harvey, Swan Coastal Plain Bioregion, mapped Beard Vegetation Associations (27 and 998) and mapped Heddlu Vegetation Yoongarillup Complex all retain greater than 30 per cent of their pre-European vegetation extents (Government of Western Australia, 2014), therefore the application area is not considered to be within an extensively cleared landscape.

The application area lies 300 metres east of the Yalgorup Lakes System which is recognised as a Conservation Category Wetland, Ramsar Site, and an Environmental Protection Policy Lake. A multiple use wetland is mapped approximately 300 metres north of the application area. The vegetation report provided with the application indicates that there is no riparian vegetation on site. Given that the vegetation under application is within a largely cleared paddock and isolated from nearby remnant vegetation associated with the Yalgorup Lakes System, it is not expected that the proposed clearing will impact on this wetland system, result in the deterioration in quality of surface or groundwater or exacerbate flooding.

The soils on site have been mapped by Northcote et al, (1960-68) as undulating dune landscape underlain by aeolianite which is frequently exposed with small swales of estuarine deposits and chief soils of siliceous sands. Although sandy soils are prone to wind erosion, it is not likely that the small, completely degraded (Keighery, 1994) area of proposed clearing will result in appreciable land degradation via wind, or water erosion.

The closest conservation area to the proposed clearing is Yalgorup National Park located 150 metres west of the application area. Given that there is no connectivity between the application area and this area, it is not likely for the proposed clearing to impact on this National Park or any other conservation area.

Given the above, the proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to any of the clearing Principles.

Methodology

References:

- DPaW (2007-)
- Commonwealth of Australia (2001)
- Government of Western Australia (2014)
- Keighery (1994)
- Lundstrom Environmental Consultants (2015)
- Northcote et al (1960-68)
- Parks and Wildlife (2007-)
- Western Australian Herbarium (1998-)

GIS Databases:

- SAC Bio Datasets (Accessed April 2015)
- Parks and Wildlife, Tenure
- Hydrography, hierarchy
- Hydrography, linear
- Ramsar Sites
- EPP Lakes
- Geomorphic Wetlands, Swan Coastal Plain

Planning instruments and other relevant matters.

- Comments** The proposed clearing falls within the South West Coastal Groundwater Area proclaimed under the Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914. The Department of Water has advised that any groundwater abstraction in this area is subject to licensing by the department. It is advised that the proponent currently holds a groundwater licence and there are no applications pending (DoW, 2015).
- In relation to the nearby (200 metres) Yalgorup Lakes System, the DoW (2015) has advised that the proposal is of low risk to the system, with small risk associated with sediment, hydrocarbons and herbicides escaping the extraction site and entering the wetland system. To mitigate this risk, DoW recommend that best management practices be adopted including those contained within the DoW's Water Quality Protection Note (WQPN) No 15 'Extractive industries near sensitive water resources' where appropriate and practical.
- The Shire of Harvey has issued an Extractive Industry Licence to the proponent, subject to conditions.
- There is one Aboriginal Site of Significance within the area proposed to clear. 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.
- There have been no submissions received for the proposed clearing by the general public.
- Methodology** References:
- DoW (2015)
- GIS Databases:
- RIWI, Groundwater Areas
- Aboriginal Sites of Significance

4. References

- Commonwealth of Australia (2001) National Objectives and Targets for Biodiversity Conservation 2001-2005, Canberra.
- DoW (2015) Direct Interest Submission for Clearing Permit Application CPS 6458/1. Department of Water, Western Australia. DER Ref A884665.
- DPaW (2007-) NatureMap: Mapping Western Australia's Biodiversity. Department of Parks and Wildlife. URL: <http://naturemap.dpaw.wa.gov.au/>. Accessed April 2015.
- Government of Western Australia (2014) 2014 Statewide Vegetation Statistics incorporating the CAR Reserve Analysis (Full Report). Current as of June 2014. WA Department of Parks and Wildlife, 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.
- Lundstrom Environmental Consultants (2015) Additional Information for Clearing Permit Application CPS 6458/1. DER Ref A865886.
- Northcote, K. H. with Beckmann G G, Bettenay E., Churchward H. M., van Dijk D. C., Dimmock G. M., Hubble G. D., Isbell R. F., McArthur W. M., Murtha G. G., Nicolls K. D., Paton T. R., Thompson C. H., Webb A. A. and Wright M. J. (1960-68): 'Atlas of Australian Soils, Sheets 1 to 10, with explanatory data'. CSIRO and Melbourne University Press: Melbourne.
- Parks and Wildlife (2007-) NatureMap: Mapping Western Australia's Biodiversity. Department of Parks and Wildlife. URL: <http://naturemap.dpaw.wa.gov.au/>. Accessed April 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.
- Western Australian Herbarium (1998-) FloraBase - The Western Australian Flora. Department of Parks and Wildlife. <http://florabase.dpaw.wa.gov.au/> (Accessed April 2015).