



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

PERMIT DETAILS

Area Permit Number: 6480/1
File Number: DER2015/000322-1
Duration of Permit: From 6 June 2015 to 6 June 2020

PERMIT HOLDER

John Clement Cowie Love

LAND ON WHICH CLEARING IS TO BE DONE

Lot 9007 on Deposited Plan 201648, Meerup
Lot 9008 on Deposited Plan 201648, Meerup
Lot 9012 on Deposited Plan 201648, Meerup
Lot 9013 on Deposited Plan 201648, Meerup
Lot 9019 on Deposited Plan 201655, Meerup
Lot 9135 on Deposited Plan 201655, Meerup

AUTHORISED ACTIVITY

The Permit Holder shall not clear more than 3.2 hectares of native vegetation within the area hatched yellow on attached Plan 6480/1.

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*:

- 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; and
- 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 -

- that is a declared pest under section 22 of the *Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act 2007*; or
- published in a Department of Parks and Wildlife Regional Weed Rankings Summary, regardless of ranking; or
- not indigenous to the area concerned.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "M Warnock".

M Warnock
SENIOR MANAGER
CLEARING REGULATION


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

7 May 2015

Plan 6480/1



Legend

-  Cadastre
-  Imagery
-  Clearing Instruments Activities



1:18,583

(Approximate when reproduced at A4)

GDA 94 (Lat/Long)

Geocentric Datum of Australia 1994

M Warnock Date *7/5/15*
M Warnock

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
WA Crown Copyright 2015



1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 6480/1

Permit type: Area Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Mr John Clement Cowie Love

1.3. Property details

Property: LOT 9135 ON PLAN 201655, MEERUP
LOT 9019 ON PLAN 201655, MEERUP
LOT 9013 ON PLAN 201648, MEERUP
LOT 9012 ON PLAN 201648, MEERUP
LOT 9008 ON PLAN 201648, MEERUP
LOT 9007 ON PLAN 201648, MEERUP

Colloquial name:
Local Government Authority: MANJIMUP, SHIRE OF
DER Region: South Coast
DPaW District: DONNELLY
LCDC: MANJIMUP
Localities: MEERUP and CALLCUP

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
3.2		Mechanical Removal	Firebreak and fenceline maintenance

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit: Granted

Application:

Decision Date: 7 May 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
<p>Beard Vegetation Associations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 23: Low woodland; jarrah-banksia • 27: Low woodland; paperbark (<i>Melaleuca</i> sp.). • 1134: Medium woodland; jarrah (south coast). (Shepherd et al. 2001) <p>Mapped Matisse vegetation complexes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BWp (Blackwater): Mosaic of low open woodland of <i>Melaleuca preissiana</i>, low open woodland of <i>Melaleuca cuticularis</i>, open heath of Myrtaceae-Proteaceae spp. and sedgelands of Restionaceae spp. on low lying flats in hyperhumid and perhumid zones. • CV (Cleave): Woodland of <i>Melaleuca preissiana</i> on drainage areas in the hyperhumid zone. • HK (Hawk): Open forest of <i>Eucalyptus marginata</i> subsp. <i>marginata</i>-<i>Corymbia calophylla</i>-<i>Agonis flexuosa</i> on mild slopes in the hyperhumid zone. (Matisse and Havel 1998). 	<p>The application is to clear 3.2 hectares of native vegetation Lots 9007, 9008, 9012 and 9013 on Plan 201648, Lot 9019 on Plan 201655 and Lot 9135 on Plan 201655, Meerup, for the purposes of maintaining existing firebreaks and the reinstating and maintenance of fencelines.</p>	<p>Completely Degraded: No longer intact; completely/almost completely without native species (Keighery 1994)</p> <p>to</p> <p>Very Good; Vegetation structure altered; obvious signs of disturbance (Keighery 1994).</p>	<p>The vegetation condition was based on photographs provided by the applicant and a report by Department of Parks and Wildlife (2015b).</p>

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

Comments

Application CPS 6480/1 is to clear 3.2 hectares of native vegetation within Lots 9007, 9008, 9012 and 9013 on Plan 201648, Lot 9019 on Plan 201655 and Lot 9135 on Plan 201655, Meerup, for the purposes of maintaining existing firebreaks and the reinstating and maintenance of fencelines.

The application is disjointed as it includes only those parts of a larger project that occur within environmentally sensitive areas. These areas comprise 15 individual, narrow areas ranging in length from approximately 150 to 350 metres. Seven of the 15 areas have been largely cleared previously and have been associated with extensive pine plantations. Very little native vegetation now remains (Department of Parks and Wildlife 2015a). The remaining areas have largely been cleared for use as firebreaks during the Northcliffe fires of the preceding Summer. In some areas, there is little more than one metre of vegetation between the firebreaks that are either side of the fencelines. This remaining vegetation is proposed to be cleared for fencelines. The vegetation is in a completely degraded to degraded (Keighery 1994) condition with narrow strips and small pockets of vegetation in very good (Keighery 1994) condition.

Six priority flora species have been mapped within the local area (10 kilometre radius), one of which is located within the same vegetation association and soil type as the application area, approximately 3.5 kilometres from the application area. Given the condition of the vegetation, the proposed clearing is not likely to impact on the conservation status of this species.

No rare flora species are mapped within the local area. A rare flora search was undertaken near several sections in the northwest of the application area. These areas adjoin D'Entrecasteaux National Park. No known species of threatened flora or habitat suitable for known species of threatened flora were found within the search area (Department of Parks and Wildlife 2015b).

No priority or threatened ecological communities are mapped within the local area.

Given the above, the application area is not likely to comprise a high level of biological diversity or contain a threatened ecological community.

The vegetation within the application area is predominantly in a completely degraded to degraded (Keighery 1994) condition and most of it is adjacent to pine plantations. The northern part is also adjacent to D'Entrecasteaux National Park with vegetation in a much better condition than that of the application area. One section of the application area intersects the axis line of an ecological linkage identified in the South West Regional Ecological Linkage Technical Report (Molloy et al. 2009) which is endorsed by the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA 2009). These linkages are recognised for their significance in facilitating indigenous fauna movement across the landscape (Molloy et al. 2009). This section, and others nearby, have been cleared previously and used for an extensive blue gum plantation (Department of Parks and Wildlife 2015a). The proposed clearing is therefore not likely to contribute to the further degradation or disruption of this linkage.

Considering the above, the proposed clearing is not likely to impact on significant habitat for indigenous fauna.

Given the local area retains approximately 80 per cent native vegetation and the application area consists predominantly of completely degraded to degraded (Keighery 1994) vegetation, the area under application is not considered to be a significant remnant in a highly cleared landscape.

The proposed clearing intersects several minor, non-perennial watercourses and a number of wetlands including sumplands, palusplains and a paluslope. The potential risks associated with the proposed clearing relate to erosion, sediment transport and associated turbidity. To minimise these risks, it is advised that clearing be confined to the drier months, firebreaks managed to minimise erosion and, if waterway crossings are proposed, that the proponent be guided by the Department of Water's 'Building creek crossings (January 2010)' (DoW 2015). The proposed clearing is not likely to significantly impact upon the values of these watercourses or wetlands given the predominance of completely degraded to degraded (Keighery 1994) vegetation.

Given the condition of the vegetation and the scale of the application area, with its linear and segmented nature, the proposed clearing is not likely to cause appreciable land degradation. Neither is it likely to cause or exacerbate the incidence of flooding.

Although the application area is in close proximity to D'Entrecasteaux National Park, the reasons above should preclude any significant impact the proposed clearing may have otherwise had on the environmental values of this conservation area. However, the disturbance caused by the proposed clearing will increase the risk of weeds and dieback being spread into the national park. Weed and dieback management practices will assist in mitigating this risk.

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

- Methodology** **References:**
- Department of Parks and Wildlife (2015a)
 - Department of Parks and Wildlife (2015b)
 - DoW (2015)
 - EPA (2009)
 - Keighery (1994)
 - Molloy et al. (2009)

- GIS Datasets:**
- DPaW tenure
 - Geomorphic Wetlands, Augusta to Walpole
 - Hydrography, linear
 - Mattiske Vegetation
 - NLWRA
 - Pre-European Vegetation
 - RIWI Act, Rivers
 - SAC Bio datasets - accessed April 2015
 - SWREL

Planning instruments and other relevant matters.

Comments The proposed clearing intersects a number of waterways but these are all located beyond the Warren River and Tributaries Surface Water Area as proclaimed under the Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914. A 'permit to interfere with bed and banks' is therefore not required. However, where the proposed clearing intersects waterways, the activity must not diminish stream flows or impact on the riparian rights of downstream users (DoW 2015).

The land is zoned by Local Planning Scheme No. 4 as 'General Agriculture' (Shire of Manjimup 2015).

- Methodology** **References:**
- DoW (2015)
 - Shire of Manjimup (2015)

4. References

- Department of Parks and Wildlife (2015a) Advice received in relation to clearing permit application CPS 6480/1, received 16 March 2015. Department of Parks and Wildlife, Western Australia (DER Ref: A883759).
- Department of Parks and Wildlife (2015b) Advice received in relation to clearing permit application CPS 6480/1, received 18 March 2015. Department of Parks and Wildlife, Western Australia (DER Ref: A883752).
- DoW (2015) Advice received in relation to clearing permit application CPS 6480/1, received 16 March 2015. Department of Water, Western Australia (DER Ref: A882356).
- EPA (2009) Environmental Impact Assessment Review. Environmental Protection Authority, Government of Western Australia, 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.
- Mattiske, E.M. and Havel, J.J. (1998) Vegetation Complexes of the South-west Forest Region of Western Australia. Maps and report prepared as part of the Regional Forest Agreement, Western Australia for the Department of Conservation and Land Management and Environment Australia.
- Molloy, S., Wood, J., Hall, S., Wallrodt, S. and Whisson, G. (2009) South West Regional Ecological Linkages Technical Report, Western Australian Local Government Association and Department of Environment and Conservation, Perth.
- 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.
- Shire of Manjimup (2015) Advice received in relation to clearing permit application CPS 6480/1, received 16 March 2015. Department of Water, Western Australia (DER Ref: A881872).