GOVERNMENT OF
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Purpose Permit number:	CPS 6599/1
Permit Holder:	Georgiou Group Pty Ltd
Duration of Permit:	22 August 2015 – 22 August 2020

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

PART I – CLEARING AUTHORISED

1. **Purpose for which clearing may be done**
   Clearing for the purpose of installing a power pole.

2. **Land on which clearing is to be done**
   Lot 3003 on Deposited Plan 52047 (Reserve 46880), Noranda

3. **Area of Clearing**
   The Permit Holder must not clear more than 0.023 hectares of native vegetation within the area hatched yellow on attached Plan 6599/1.

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.

PART II – MANAGEMENT CONDITIONS

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:
   (a) avoid the clearing of native vegetation;
   (b) minimise the amount of native vegetation to be cleared; and
   (c) reduce the impact of clearing on any environmental value.

6. **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 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;
   (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;

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 -

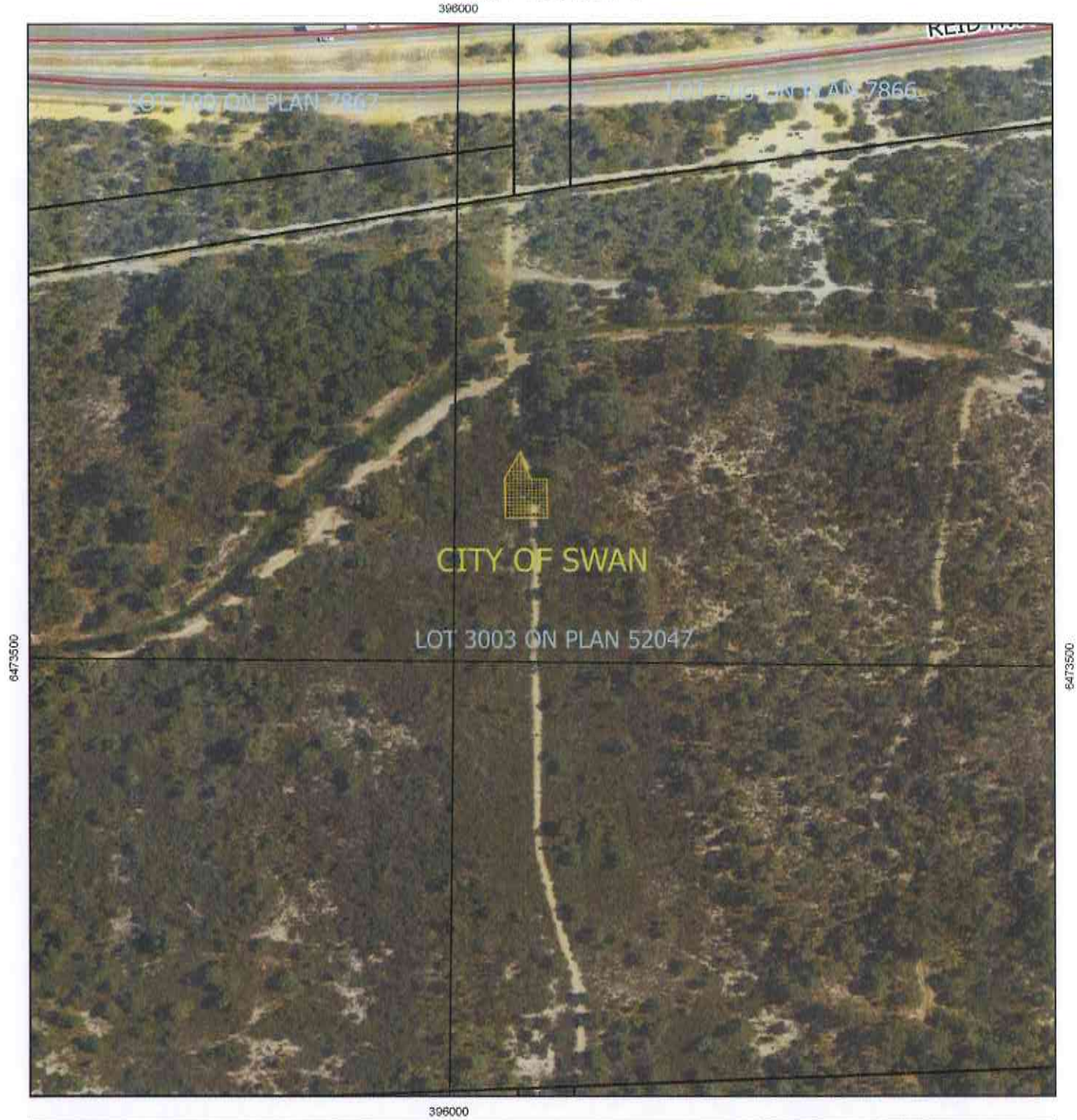
(a) that is a declared pest under section 22 of the *Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act 2007*; or
(b) published in a Department of Parks and Wildlife Regional Weed Rankings Summary, regardless of ranking; or
(c) not indigenous to the area concerned.

M Warnock
SENIOR MANAGER
CLEARING REGULATION

Officer delegated under Section 20
of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

23 July 2015

Plan 6599/1



Legend

- Areas approved to clear
- LGA
- Roads
- Virtual Mosaic
- cadastre_land_tenure_flattened

N

1:1,500

MGA 94
Geocentric Datum of Australia 1994

.....Date. 23.7.15

M Warnock

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

GOVERNMENT OF
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Government of Western Australia
Department of Environment Regulation

Clearing Permit Decision Report

1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.:	6599/1
Permit type:	Purpose Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name:	Georgiou Group Pty Ltd

1.3. Property details

Property:	LOT 3003 ON PLAN 52047, NORANDA
Colloquial name:	
Local Government Authority:	SWAN, CITY OF
DER Region:	Greater Swan
DPaW District:	SWAN COASTAL
LCDC:	
Localities:	NORANDA

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
0.023		Mechanical Removal	Water/gas/cable/pipeline/power installation

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application:	Granted
Decision Date:	23 July 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); Mapped Heddle vegetation complex: Bassendean Complex – Central and South (44): Vegetation ranges from woodland of Eucalyptus marginata (Jarrah) - Allocasuarina fraseriana (Sheoak) - Banksia species to low woodland of Melaleuca species, and sedgelands on the moister sites. This area includes the transition of Eucalyptus marginata (Jarrah) to Eucalyptus todtiana (Pricklybark) in the vicinity of Perth (Heddle et al. 1980). West of the track: Open heath of Calytrix fraseri, Adenanthos cygnorum, Pericalymma ellipticum, Hypocalymma angustifolium, Hypolaena exsulca, Patersonia occidentalis and Phlebocarya ciliata with occasional Melaleuca preissiana (360 Environmental 2015). East of the track: Open woodland of Corymbia calophylla and Melaleuca preissiana over Adenanthos cygnorum, Calytrix fraseri, Phlebocarya ciliata, Acacia pulchella,	The clearing of 0.023 hectares of native vegetation within Lot 3003 on Deposited Plan 52047 (Reserve 46880), Noranda, for the purpose of installing a power pole for Western Power.	Excellent; Vegetation structure intact; disturbance affecting individual species, weeds non-aggressive (Keighery 1994).	The vegetation condition was determined through aerial imagery and supporting information provided by the applicant (360 Environmental 2015).

Dasypogon bromeliifolius and Lamandra hermaphrodits (360 Environmental 2015).

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

Comments

Application CPS 6599/1 is to clear 0.023 hectares of native vegetation within Lot 3003 on Deposited Plan 52047 (Reserve 46880), Noranda, for the purpose of installing a power pole for Western Power. Part of the application area has been historically cleared for a track and the installation of the power line (360 Environmental 2015). The remainder of the application area is adjacent to this track. Although areas of vegetation associated with the existing power line and track are in completely degraded to degraded (Keighery 1994) condition, the application area also contains vegetation in an excellent (Keighery 1994) condition (360 Environmental 2015).

Four of the six priority flora species mapped within the local area (five kilometre radius) are located within the same vegetation association and soil type as the application area. An assessment undertaken by 360 Environmental (2015) in May 2015 did not record the presence of any of these species within the application area.

One rare flora species is mapped within the local area within the same vegetation association and soil type as the application area, approximately 1.2 kilometres from the application area. The assessment report (360 Environmental 2015) states that this species was not likely to occur within the application area given the vegetation type present.

The site assessment report (360 Environmental 2015) states that SCP21c (low lying Banksia attenuata woodlands or shrublands) and SCP22 (Banksia ilicifolia woodlands), both Priority 3, are mapped within five kilometres of the application area. However, these were not represented within Lightning Swamp in which the application area is situated.

Four Threatened Ecological Communities (TECs) (all SCP20a i.e. Banksia attenuata woodland over species rich dense shrublands) are mapped between two and five kilometres northwest of the application area. Given this distance and the absence of species associated with these TECs, within the application area (360 Environmental 2015), these communities are not likely to be represented within the site and the proposed clearing is not likely to impact upon their environmental values.

Four fauna species listed as rare or likely to become extinct under the Wildlife Conservation Act 1950 have been recorded within the local area including woylie and three species of black cockatoo (Parks and Wildlife 2007-). Woylies may persist in habitats represented by the vegetation within the application area and where there is adequate introduced predator (fox and cat) control or exclusion (Yeatman and Groom 2012). Although no potential black cockatoo breeding sites were noted within the application area (360 Environmental 2015), the site may provide foraging habitat for these species.

The application area is part of a larger remnant of native vegetation which may be considered a significant habitat for indigenous fauna. The surrounding undisturbed wetland and Bush Forever site is expected to provide greater quality habitat for conservation significant fauna than the application area, particularly given the small extent of the proposed clearing. Therefore the application area is not considered necessary for the maintenance of a significant habitat for indigenous fauna.

Given the above, the application area is not likely to contain a high level of biological diversity.

The national objectives and targets for biodiversity conservation in Australia have 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 defined constrained areas on the Swan Coastal Plain, the Environmental Protection Authority has set a threshold for retention of 10 per cent of the pre-clearing extent of each native vegetation complex (EPA 2006). The area under application has been classified as a constrained area. Aerial imagery of the local area indicates that the local area retains approximately 15 per cent native vegetation. The application area is therefore not considered to be a significant remnant in a highly cleared landscape.

Part of the application area is within a Conservation Category Wetland. Although the proposed clearing is likely to include riparian vegetation, the impact to the wetland is expected to be minimal given the small size of the application area and its association with previous disturbances.

Considering the absence of watercourses, the small scale and uniform profile of the application area, the proposed clearing is not likely to cause appreciable land degradation.

The application area is within Bush Forever Site 307, which comprises an approximate area of 75 hectares. Given the small scale of the application area in relation to this extent, the proposed clearing is not likely to significantly impact on the environmental values of this conservation area. However, management practices to minimise the spread of weeds and dieback into this area are recommended.

Given the small extent of the application area, the presence of leached sands (Northcote et al. 1960-1968) and the estimated nine metre depth from ground level to groundwater (360 Environmental 2015), the proposed clearing is not likely to cause deterioration in the quality of surface or groundwater. Neither is it likely to cause,

or exacerbate, the incidence of flooding.

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

Methodology

360 Environmental (2015)
Commonwealth of Australia (2001)
EPA (2006)
Keighery (1994)
Northcote et al. (1960-68)
Parks and Wildlife (2007-)
Yeatman and Groom (2012)

GIS Datasets:
- Geomorphic Wetlands, Swan Coastal Plain
- Heddle Vegetation Complexes
- Hydrology, linear
- IBRA Australia
- Parks and Wildlife Tenure
- Pre-European Vegetation
- SAC Biodatasets Accessed July 2015
- Swan Remnant Vegetation

Planning instruments and other relevant matters.

Comments

In accordance with the Native Title Act 1993, the Department of Environment Regulation has notified the Single Noongar Claim (Area 1), Swan River People 2 and Whadjuk People native title claimants and their representatives of this application to clear native vegetation. The claimants and their representatives have been invited to comment on the impact of the grant of CPS 6599/1 on their native title rights and interests. No comments have been received.

The application area covers an area in which there exists one registered Indigenous Heritage Site. It is the responsibility of the proponent to ensure that no Aboriginal Sites of Significance are damaged through the clearing process. The proponent is advised to liaise with the Department of Aboriginal Affairs regarding their obligations under the Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972.

The clearing under application falls within the Swan River System and Perth Groundwater Area. The Department of Water was advised of the proposed clearing and did not provide comment.

Comments were sought from the City of Bayswater, being the primary interest holder of Reserve 46880, and also from the City of Swan as the subject land is within its boundaries. The former did not provide a response whilst the City of Swan stated that it did not have comments or conditions to recommend. The applicant has obtained prior authority to access the reserve from the Department of Lands.

No public submissions have been received.

Methodology

GIS Datasets:
- RIWI Groundwater
- RIWI Surface Water
- Aboriginal Sites Register

4. References

360 Environmental (2015) Lot 3003 Reid Hwy, Noranda: Clearing Permit Application, received 29 May 2015 (DER Ref: A915832).

Commonwealth of Australia (2001) National Objectives and Targets for Biodiversity Conservation 2001-2005, Canberra.

EPA (2006) Advice on areas of conservation significance in the Preston Industrial Park. Environmental Protection Authority Perth, Western Australia Bulletin 1282 March 2008.

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.

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 July 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.

Yeatman, G.J. and Groom, C.J. (2012) National Recovery Plan for the Woylie Bettongia penicillata. Wildlife Management Program No. 51. Department of Environment and Conservation, Perth.