



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

PERMIT DETAILS

Area Permit Number: 6755/1
File Number: 2011/006893-3
Duration of Permit: 27 February 2016 to 27 February 2018

PERMIT HOLDER

Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale

LAND ON WHICH CLEARING IS TO BE DONE

Hopkinson Road reserve (PIN 11757378), Byford
Lightbody Road reserve (PIN 11607777, PIN 11607778 and PIN 11607779), Mardella

AUTHORISED ACTIVITY

The Permit Holder shall not clear more than 0.5 hectares of native vegetation within the combined areas cross-hatched yellow on attached Plan 6755/1a and Plan 6755/1b.

CONDITIONS

1. Fauna management

- (a) Prior to undertaking any clearing authorised under this Permit between 1 July and 30 April, the Permit Holder shall engage a *fauna specialist* to conduct a *fauna survey* of the Permit Area to identify *black cockatoo habitat tree/s* being utilised by fauna species listed below:
 - (i) *Calyptorhynchus lateriosis* (Carnaby's cockatoo);
 - (ii) *Calyptorhynchus baudins* (Baudin's cockatoo); and
 - (iii) *Calyptorhynchus banksii naso* (Forest Red-tailed Black Cockatoo).
- (b) where fauna are identified under condition 1(a) of this Permit, the Permit Holder shall ensure that:
 - (i) no clearing within 10 metres of *black cockatoo habitat tree/s* of the identified fauna occurs, unless first approved by the CEO; and
 - (ii) no taking of identified fauna occurs, unless first approved by the CEO.

DEFINITIONS

The following meanings are given to terms used in this Permit:

black cockatoo habitat tree/s: means trees that have a diameter, measured at 1.5 metres from the base of the tree, of 50 centimetres or greater;

fauna specialist: means a person who holds a tertiary qualification specializing in environmental science or equivalent, and has a minimum of 2 years work experience in fauna identification and surveys of fauna native to the region being inspected or surveyed, or who is approved by the CEO as a suitable fauna specialist for the bioregion, and who holds a valid fauna licence issued under the *Wildlife Conservation Act 1950*; and

fauna survey: means a field-based investigation, including a review of established literature, of the biodiversity of fauna and/or fauna habitat of the Permit Area. Where conservation significant fauna are identified in the Permit Area, the survey should also include sufficient surrounding areas to place the Permit Area into local context.



Jane Clarkson
A/SENIOR MANAGER
CLEARING REGULATION

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

28 January 2016

Plan 6755/1a



Legend

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



(Approximate when reproduced at A4)
GDA 94 (Lat/Long)

Geocentric Datum of Australia 1994

Jane Clarkson Date 28/1/16
Jane Clarkson

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



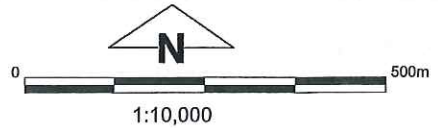
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Plan 6755/1b



Legend

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



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Jane Clarkson Date 28/1/16
Jane Clarkson

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1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 6755/1
Permit type: Area Permit

1.2. Applicant details

Applicant's name: Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale

1.3. Property details

Property: LIGHTBODY ROAD RESERVE - 11607777, MARDELLA
LIGHTBODY ROAD RESERVE - 11607779, MARDELLA
LIGHTBODY ROAD RESERVE - 11607778, MARDELLA
HOPKINSON ROAD RESERVE - 11757378, BYFORD
Local Government Authority: SERPENTINE-JARRAHDAL, SHIRE OF
DER Region: GREATER SWAN
DPaW District: SWAN COASTAL
LCDC: SERPENTINE - JARRAHDAL
Localities: OAKFORD and BYFORD and MARDELLA

1.4. Application

| Clearing Area (ha) | No. Trees | Method of Clearing | For the purpose of: |
|--------------------|-----------|--------------------|-------------------------------|
| 0.5 | 0 | Mechanical Removal | Road construction or upgrades |

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Granted
Decision Date: 28 January 2016
Reasons for Decision: The clearing application has been assessed against the clearing principles, planning instruments and other matters in accordance with s51O of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*, and it has been concluded that the proposed clearing is at variance to Principle (f), may be at variance to Principle (b) and is not likely to be at variance to any of the remaining clearing principles.

The vegetation under application has the potential to provide nesting habitat for Carnaby's cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus latirostris*), Baudin's cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus baudinii*) and the forest red-tailed black-cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus banksii* subsp. *naso*). To mitigate the potential impact to these species a condition has been placed on the permit requiring the identification of black cockatoo habitat trees prior to clearing during the breeding season and CEO approval to clear within 10 metres of black cockatoo habitat trees.

The application area occurs within an area mapped as a multiple use wetland and one minor, non-perennial watercourse intersects the application area. The purpose of the proposed clearing is to upgrade existing roads and bridges and therefore there is likely to be road side infrastructure, such as drains and culverts, already in place to minimise impacts to these watercourses.

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 968 is described as medium woodland; jarrah, marri & wandoo (Shepherd et al. 2001). | Clearing of 0.5 hectares, being 93 trees and understorey of native vegetation, within Hopkinson Road reserve (PIN 11757378), Oakford and Lightbody Road reserve (PIN 11607777, PIN 11607778 and PIN 11607779), Mardella, for the purpose of road and bridge upgrades. | Degraded; Structure severely disturbed; regeneration to good condition requires intensive management (Keighery 1994). | The condition and description of the vegetation was determined by a site inspection undertaken by Department of Environment Regulation officers (DER 2015). |
| Mapped Heddle vegetation complex Guildford Complex is described as open forest to tall open forest and woodland (Heddle et al. 1980). | | To | |
| Mapped Heddle vegetation complex Beermullah Complex is described as low open forest and open woodland (Heddle et al. | | Completely degraded – The structure of the vegetation is no longer intact and the area is completely or almost completely without native | |

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

Comments

The applicant proposes to clear 0.5 hectares of native vegetation, being 93 trees and some native understorey, within Hopkinson Road reserve, Oakford, and Lightbody Road reserve, Mardella, for the purpose of road and bridge upgrades. The proposed clearing occurs in two separate application areas that are approximately 12 kilometres apart. The vegetation to be cleared is in degraded to completely degraded (Keighery 1994) condition (DER 2015). The vegetation under application consists predominately of Marri (*Corymbia calophylla*) trees and *Xanthorrhoea* sp. with little to no understorey and some weeds and rubbish present (DER 2015).

Given the degraded (Keighery 1994) condition of the vegetation, lack of understorey species, and relatively small size of the application area, the proposed clearing is not likely to impact on rare or priority flora, priority or threatened ecological communities or conservation reserves and is not likely to contribute to or cause land degradation, deteriorate the quality of groundwater or surface water, or cause or exacerbate flooding.

Twenty four fauna species of conservation significance have been mapped within the local area (10 kilometre radius) (Parks and Wildlife 2007-). During a DER site inspection (2015) there were a number of Marri trees within the application area (Lightbody Road Reserve) that have the potential to provide nesting habitat for Carnaby's cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus latirostris*), Baudin's cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus baudinii*) and the forest red-tailed black-cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus banksii* subsp. *naso*), all listed as rare or likely to become extinct under the *Wildlife Conservation Act 1950*. A condition on the permit requiring the identification of black cockatoo habitat trees will assist in mitigating the potential impact to these species.

The local area (10 kilometre radius) is highly cleared with approximately 20 per cent vegetation remaining. The area under application is located within the Swan Coastal Plain Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation of Australia bioregion, which retains approximately 39 per cent of its pre-European vegetation extent (Government of Western Australia 2014). The vegetation under application is mapped as Beard vegetation association 968 and Heddl vegetation complexes Guildford Complex and Beermullah Complex, which retain approximately seven, five, and six per cent of their respective pre-European extents within the Swan Coastal bioregion (Government of Western Australia 2014; Parks and Wildlife 2015). Although the application area occurs within a highly cleared landscape, given the degraded (Keighery 1994) condition of vegetation and lack of understorey species, the vegetation under application is not likely to be considered a significant remnant of vegetation.

The application area occurs within an area mapped as a multiple use wetland. Multiple use wetlands are classified as having few important ecological attributes and functions remaining (Water and Rivers Commission 2001), therefore the proposed clearing is not likely to have a significant impact on the values of this wetland. One minor, non-perennial water courses intersects Hopkinson Road application area. Therefore, the proposed clearing will impact riparian vegetation. The purpose of the proposed clearing is to upgrade existing roads and bridges and therefore there is likely to be road side infrastructure, such as drains and culverts, already in place to minimise impacts to these watercourses.

Based on the above, the proposed clearing is at variance to Principle (f), may be at variance to Principle (b) and is not likely to be at variance to the remaining principles.

Methodology

References:

- DER (2015)
- Government of Western Australia (2014)
- Keighery, B.J. (1994)
- Parks and Wildlife (2007-)
- Parks and Wildlife (2015)
- Water and Rivers Commission (2001)

GIS Databases:

- Aerial Imagery
- DPaW Tenure
- Geomorphic Wetlands (Classification), Swan Coastal Plain
- Hydrography, linear
- NLWRA, Current Extent of Native Vegetation
- Pre-European Vegetation
- SAC Biodatasets accessed November 2015

Planning instruments and other relevant matters.

Comments There are two registered Aboriginal Sites of Significance located in the area applied to clear. It is the applicant'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 application area is within the Serpentine River System surface water area and the Serpentine ground water area, proclaimed under the *Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914*. A permit to interfere with bed and banks under the *Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914* may be required.

A submission by the Roadside Conservation Committee (2015) advised that although the roads surrounding the application area are mapped as low to medium conservation value, the roadside vegetation under application is significant given the highly cleared landscape.

Methodology References:
- RCC (2015)
GIS Databases:
- Aboriginal Sites Register System

4. References

- DER (2015) Site inspection report for Clearing Permit application CPS 6755/1. Site inspection conducted 20 October 2015. Department of Environment Regulation, Perth. DER REF: A1015378.
- 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.
- Parks and Wildlife (2007-) NatureMap: Mapping Western Australia's Biodiversity. Department of Parks and Wildlife. URL: <http://naturemap.dpaw.wa.gov.au/>. Accessed August 2015
- Parks and Wildlife (2015) 2015 South West Forest and Swan Coastal Plain Vegetation Complex Statistics: a report prepared for the Department of Environment Regulation. Current as of March 2015. Department of Parks and Wildlife, Perth, Western Australia.
- RRC (2015) Roadside Conservation Committee advice for Clearing Permit application CPS 6755/1. Advice received 23 September 2015. DER REF: A997317.
- 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.
- Water and Rivers Commission (2001) Position Statement: Wetlands, Water and Rivers Commission, Perth.

