



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Purpose Permit number:	CPS 6844/1
Permit Holder:	Shire of Murray
Duration of Permit:	27 February 2016 – 27 February 2018

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 road and causeway reinstatement.

2. Land on which clearing is to be done

Blake Road reserve (PIN 1379366), Coolup
Unnamed road reserve (PIN 1379367), Coolup
Unallocated crown land (PIN 538914), Coolup
William Road reserve (PIN 1379365), Meelon

3. Area of Clearing

The Permit Holder must not clear more than 0.2 hectares of native vegetation within the area hatched yellow on attached Plan 6844/1.

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. Type of clearing authorised

This Permit authorises the Permit Holder to clear native vegetation for the activities described in condition 1 of this Permit to the extent that the Permit Holder has the power to carry out works involving clearing for those activities under the *Local Government Act 1995* or any other written law.

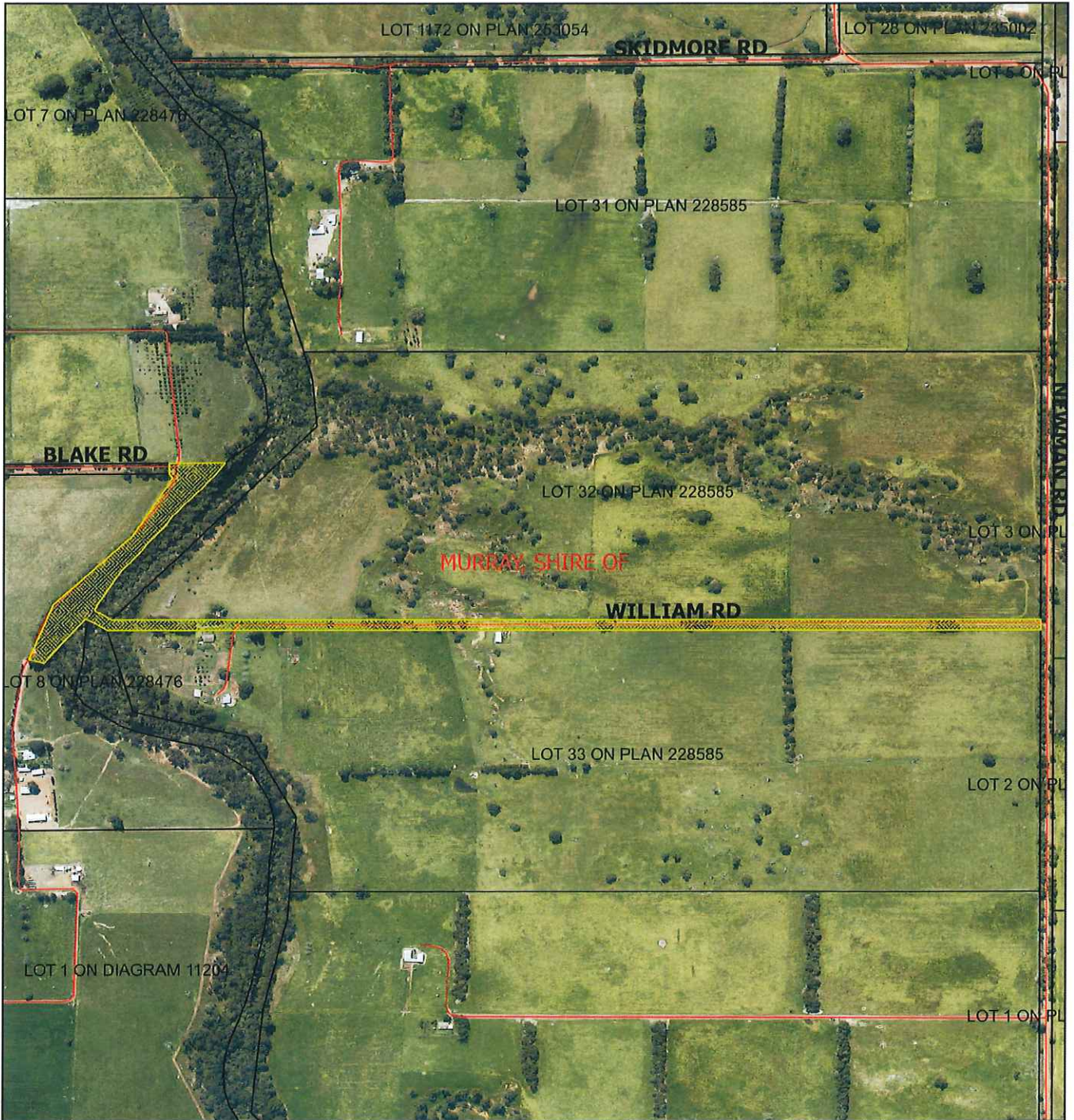
A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "J Widenbar".

J Widenbar
MANAGER
CLEARING REGULATION

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

28 January 2016

Plan 6844/1



Legend

- Roads
- LGA
- Cadastre
- Virtual Mosaic (LGATE-V001)
- Areas approved to clear



1:6,963

MGA 94
Geocentric Datum of Australia 1994

James Widenbar

Date *28/12/2014*

James Widenbar

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





1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 6844/1
Permit type: Purpose Permit

1.2. Applicant details

Applicant's name: Shire of Murray

1.3. Property details

Property: ROAD RESERVE - 1379366, COOLUP
UNALLOCATED CROWN LAND, COOLUP
ROAD RESERVE - 1379367, COOLUP
ROAD RESERVE - 1379365, MEELON

Colloquial name:
Local Government Authority: MURRAY, SHIRE OF

DER Region: Greater Swan
DPaW District: PERTH HILLS

LCDC:
Localities: MEELON and COOLUP

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
0.2		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 has concluded that the proposed clearing is at variance to Principle (f) and is not likely to be at variance to any of the remaining clearing principles.

Through assessment it has been determined that the clearing of a relatively small, degraded to completely degraded (Keighery, 1994) previously cleared area is unlikely to have any significant environmental impacts. Relevant State policies and other relevant policies have been taken into consideration in the decision to grant a clearing permit.

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
Beard vegetation association 968 is described as medium woodland; jarrah, marri & wandoo (Shepherd et al, 2001)	The clearing of 0.2 hectares of native vegetation is for the purpose of road and causeway reinstatement.	Degraded; Structure severely disturbed; regeneration to good condition requires intensive management (Keighery, 1994). To	The vegetation condition and description was determined via aerial imagery and a site inspection report provide by MBS Environmental (2015). The vegetation under application is considered to be in a degraded (Keighery 1994) condition. Vegetation along Blake Road is almost predominately <i>Corymbia calopylla</i> (marri) trees with some isolated <i>Xanthorrhoe</i> and <i>Kingia australis</i> shrubs. Closer to the Murray River on the western side of Blake Road vegetation is in a better condition than along the road with some understorey species and riverine species such as <i>Eucalyptus rudis</i> and <i>Melaleuca raphiophylla</i> dominate. This side of the Murray River had recently been burnt and
Hedde Vegetation Swan Complex is comprised of fringing woodland with localised occurrence of low open forest (Hedde et al, 1980).		Completely Degraded: No longer intact; completely/almost completely without native species (Keighery 1994)	

Hedde Vegetation Guildford Complex is comprised of open forest to tall open forest and woodland (Hedde et al, 1980).

some understorey species such as Grevillea and sedges were recovering (MBS Environment 2015).

There are numerous weed infestations throughout the application area.

Vegetation along William Road is sparse to completely absent in patches and only isolated marri exist. Closer to the river and dwelling adjacent to the Murray River, there are numerous planted trees including non-local native species such as Lemon Scented Gums and Tasmanian Blue Gums and Cape Lilac trees. Melaleuca raphiophylla is also dominate on the eastern bank (MBS Environment 2015).

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

Comments	<p>The clearing of 0.2 hectares of native vegetation is for the purpose of road and causeway reinstatement. The clearing of 0.2 hectares occurs within a larger project footprint of 5.01 hectares</p> <p>The proposed clearing area was utilised as a river crossing until the early 1980's when the bridge structure became unserviceable. The reinstatement of the road and causeway will provide a required connection for emergency vehicles between the eastern and western sides of the Murray River while Coolup Bridge remains closed until November 2016.</p> <p>The vegetation under application contains vegetation in a degraded to completely degraded (Keighery 1994) condition.</p> <p>The area under application intersects the Murray River therefore the clearing as proposed is likely to impact upon riparian vegetation. However, the clearing of 0.2 hectares of native vegetation occurs within a larger footprint of 5.01 hectares and only a small amount of riparian vegetation is expected to be cleared. The clearing as proposed is not likely to have a significant impact on the environmental values of this river. The clearing proposed may increase sedimentation and runoff into the Murray River, however the impacts are likely to be short term and minimal and therefore the clearing as proposed is not likely to cause deterioration in the quality of surface water.</p> <p>Given the relatively small, linear nature of the area under application in a completely degraded to degraded (Keighery 1994) condition that has been previously cleared for the purpose of a road, the vegetation under application is not likely to impact on rare or priority flora, comprise significant fauna habitat and is not likely to be a significant remnant within a highly cleared landscape. No threatened ecological communities or conservation areas are located within close proximity of the area under application.</p> <p>Given the relatively small area under application within a larger footprint the clearing as proposed is not likely to contribute to or cause land degradation, deteriorate the quality of ground water and is not likely to cause or exacerbate flooding.</p> <p>Given the above the clearing as proposed is at variance to Principle (f) and is not likely to be at variance to the remaining Clearing Principles.</p>
Methodology	<p>References: Keighery (1994)</p> <p>GIS datasets: SAC Biodata sets accessed November 2015 Hydrography linear Parks and Wildlife tenure Geomorphic Wetlands (Classification), Swan Coastal Plain Soils, statewide Pre European vegetation</p>

Planning instruments and other relevant matters.

Comments The proposed clearing area was utilised as a river crossing until the early 1980's when the bridge structure became unserviceable. An alternative crossing (Coolup Bridge) was constructed further north on East Coolup road to enable transport between east and West Coolup. Main Roads Western Australia closed the Coolup Bridge on East Coolup Road in order to commence work on a replacement bridge at this site. This river crossing is likely to remain unserviceable for up to 12 months, severely restricting the access for emergency services between the east and west communities of Coolup.

The Department of Water has granted a permit to obstruct or interfere (PMA182011) under the section 11 of the Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914 for the purpose of construction of a floodway crossing with culverts for emergency fire access and temporary light vehicle access (DoW 2015).

One Aboriginal Site of Significance 'Murray River' has been mapped within the application area. The applicant will be notified of their obligations under the Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972.

Methodology References:
DoW (2015)

4. References

- DoW (2015) Permit to Obstruct or Interefer (S11) – Shire of Murray – William Road – PIN1379365. DER Ref:A1039094
- Hedde et al (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.
- MBS Environmental (2015) Memorandum – Site Inspction – Murray River Crossing, Coolup. Western Australia. DER Ref: 2011/006876
- Shepherd et al (2001) Native Vegetation in Western Australia, Extent, Type and Status. Resource Management Technical Report 249. Department of Agriculture, Western Australia.