



GOVERNMENT OF
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

PERMIT DETAILS

Area Permit Number: CPS 7005/1
File Number: DER2016/000496-1
Duration of Permit: From 13 July 2016 to 13 July 2018

PERMIT HOLDER

Glenomra Pty Ltd

LAND ON WHICH CLEARING IS TO BE DONE

Lot 586 on Deposited Plan 254918, Winnejup

AUTHORISED ACTIVITY

The Permit Holder shall not clear more than 3.71 hectares of native vegetation within the area cross-hatched yellow on attached Plan 7005/1.

CONDITIONS

Nil

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Emma Bramwell', written over a horizontal line.

Emma Bramwell
A/ MANAGER
CLEARING REGULATION

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

13 June 2016

Plan 7005/1



Legend

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



1:4,000
 (Approximate when reproduced at A4)
 GDA 94 (Lat/Long)

Geocentric Datum of Australia 1994

Emma Bramwell Date *13/06/16*
 Emma Bramwell

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





1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 7005/1
Permit type: Area Permit

1.2. Applicant details

Applicant's name: Glenomra Pty Ltd

1.3. Property details

Property: Lot 586 on Deposited Plan 254918, Winnejump
Local Government Authority: Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes
DER Region: Greater Swan
DPaW District: Blackwood
Localities: Winnejump

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
3.71		Mechanical Removal	Dam construction

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Grant
Decision Date: 13 June 2016
Reasons for Decision: The applicant has applied to clear 3.71 hectares of native vegetation.

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*.

The Delegated Officer considered that the proposed clearing may be at variance to Principles (e) and (f), and is not likely to be at variance to the remaining Principles. The Delegated Officer considered that the proposed clearing is unlikely to result in significant environmental impacts.

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>One Beard vegetation association and two Mattiske vegetation complexes have been mapped within the application area:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Beard vegetation association 992 is described as medium forest; jarrah and wandoo (Shepherd et al., 2001); Mattiske vegetation complex NWf1 is described as a woodland of <i>Eucalyptus rudis-Eucalyptus patens</i> on footslopes on valley slopes in the subhumid zone; and Mattiske vegetation complex NWg1 is described as a woodland of <i>Corymbia calophylla-Eucalyptus marginata</i> subsp. <i>marginata</i> on slopes, open heath on shallow soils near granites, open forest of <i>Eucalyptus rudis-Eucalyptus wandoo</i> on the valley floors in the subhumid zone (Mattiske and Havel, 1998). 	<p>The applicant has applied to clear up to 3.71 hectares of native vegetation within Lot 586 on Deposited Plan 254918, Winnejump, for the purpose of dam construction.</p>	<p>Degraded: Structure severely disturbed; regeneration to good condition requires intensive management (Keighery, 1994).</p>	<p>Vegetation condition was determined during a site inspection conducted by officers from the Department of Environment Regulation (DER) on 28 April 2016 (DER, 2016).</p> <p>Vegetation within the application is predominantly <i>Eucalyptus rudis</i> and <i>Eucalyptus patens</i> with small areas of <i>Corymbia calophylla</i> and <i>Melaleuca</i> sp. over a non-native understorey (DER, 2016).</p>

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

Comments	<p>The applicant proposes to clear 3.71 hectares of native vegetation within Lot 586 on Deposited Plan 254918, Winnejump, for the purpose of dam construction.</p>
	<p>The vegetation under application is in a degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition and consists of <i>Eucalyptus rudis</i> and <i>Eucalyptus patens</i> with small areas of <i>Corymbia calophylla</i> and <i>Melaleuca</i> sp. over a non-native understorey (DER, 2016). The local area (defined as a 10 kilometre radius around the application area) has been extensively cleared, and the remnant within which the application area is located is highly fragmented.</p>
	<p>The proposed clearing of a small number of <i>Corymbia calophylla</i> may impact on foraging habitat for black cockatoo species listed as 'rare or likely to become extinct' under the <i>Wildlife Conservation Act 1950</i>. A site inspection did not record any trees with hollows suitable for nesting by black cockatoo species (DER, 2016). Noting the extent of the clearing proposed and the condition of the vegetation under application, it is considered that the proposed clearing is unlikely to impact the conservation of black cockatoos on a local or regional scale. The application area is located approximately 1.3 kilometres from an ecological linkage mapped in the South West Regional Ecological Linkage Technical Report (Molloy et al., 2009). Based on aerial imagery, it is considered that the proposed clearing is unlikely to significantly impact an ecological linkage. On the basis of the above, it is considered that the vegetation under application is unlikely to comprise significant fauna habitat.</p>
	<p>Five priority flora species have been recorded within 10 kilometres of the application area. Noting the habitat requirements of these species and the condition and type of the vegetation under application, it is considered that these priority flora species are unlikely to occur within the application area.</p>
	<p>According to available databases, no threatened ecological communities (TEC), priority ecological communities (PEC) or conservation areas are mapped within the local area. On this basis it is considered that the vegetation under application is unlikely be necessary for the maintenance of a TEC or PEC, and that the proposed clearing is unlikely to impact on the environmental values of any nearby conservation areas.</p>
	<p>The application area is mapped as Beard vegetation association 992 and Matiske vegetation complexes NWf1 and NWg1, which retain approximately 26, 27 and 19 per cent of their pre-European extent within the Jarrah Forest IBRA bioregion respectively (Government of Western Australia, 2014; Parks and Wildlife, 2015). 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). Noting that the local area has been extensively cleared and that the mapped vegetation types within the application area retain levels lower than national objectives, it is considered that the application area is located within an extensively cleared area. However, noting the extent of clearing proposed, the condition of the vegetation under application, that the vegetation under application is unlikely to comprise significant fauna habitat or contain flora or ecological communities of conservation significance, and that the proposed clearing is unlikely to impact on an ecological corridor or the environmental values of any nearby conservation areas, it is considered that the vegetation under application is unlikely to be significant as a remnant of native vegetation.</p>
	<p>One minor, non-perennial watercourse (drainage line) occurs within the application area. Although some native species are growing in association with the watercourse, the majority of the vegetation is comprised of non-native species (DER, 2016). Noting the degraded (Keighery 1994) condition of vegetation under application, it is considered that the proposed clearing is unlikely to result in significant impacts to the watercourse.</p>
	<p>Noting the extent of the clearing proposed and the condition of the vegetation under application, it is considered that the proposed clearing is unlikely to cause appreciable land degradation, or cause deterioration in the quality of surface or ground water, or cause or exacerbate the incidence or intensity of flooding.</p>
	<p>Given the above, the proposed clearing may be at variance to Principles (e) and (f), and is not likely to be at variance to the remaining Principles.</p>
Methodology	<p>References:</p>
	<p>Commonwealth of Australia (2001)</p>
	<p>DER (2016)</p>
	<p>Government of Western Australia (2014)</p>
	<p>Keighery (1994)</p>
	<p>Molloy et al. (2009)</p>
	<p>Parks and Wildlife (2015)</p>
	<p>GIS datasets:</p>
	<p>- Hydrography linear</p>
	<p>- Imagery</p>
	<p>- NLWRA, Current Extent of Native Vegetation</p>
	<p>- Parks and Wildlife tenure</p>
	<p>- SAC Bio datasets accessed March 2016</p>
	<p>- Soils, statewide</p>

Planning instruments and other relevant matters.

Comments The Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes advised that planning approval is not required for the proposed dam construction (Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes, 2016). However, the clearing of creekline vegetation and construction of an on-stream dam conflicts with elements of the Shire's Natural Environment Strategy, Managing the Natural Environment Policy and the Shire's Guidelines for the Construction of Dams (Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes, 2016). The Shire recommended that creekline vegetation and habitat corridors be retained and for the dam to be constructed off-stream if practicable (Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes, 2016).

The application was advertised in *The West Australian* newspaper on 18 April 2016 for a 21 day public submission period. No public submissions have been received in relation to this application.

Methodology References:
Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes (2016)

4. References

- Commonwealth of Australia (2001) National Objectives and Targets for Biodiversity Conservation 2001-2005, Canberra.
- Department of Environment Regulation (2016) CPS 7005/1 site inspection report. Department of Environment Regulation. DER REF: A1111009.
- Department of 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.
- 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.
- 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 Bridgetown-Greenbushes (2016) Advice received from the Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes on 26 April 2016.