



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

PERMIT DETAILS

Area Permit Number: 7053/1
File Number: 2016/000662-1
Duration of Permit: From 23 July 2016 to 23 July 2018

PERMIT HOLDER

City of Busselton

LAND ON WHICH CLEARING IS TO BE DONE

Lot 57 on Plan 53720, Wilyabrup
Lot 56 on Plan 53720, Wilyabrup
Lot 55 on Plan 53720, Wilyabrup
Lot 52 on Plan 41608, Wilyabrup
Lot 51 on Plan 41608, Wilyabrup
Metricup Road Reserve, Pin 11476584, Wilyabrup

AUTHORISED ACTIVITY

The Permit Holder shall not clear more than 0.29 hectares of native vegetation within the area hatched yellow on attached Plan 7053/1.

CONDITIONS

1. While undertaking any activity authorised under this permit:
 - a. a *fauna specialist* must be on site at the time of clearing to identify western ringtail possum's (*Pseudocheirus occidentalis*); and
 - b. where western ringtail possum's are identified within condition 1(a) the *fauna specialist* must remove and relocate the fauna into adjoining vegetation.

DEFINITIONS

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

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*.

James Widenbar
MANAGER
CLEARING REGULATION


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

23 June 2016

Plan 7053/1




Legend

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



1:1,000

MGA 94
Geocentric Datum of Australia 1994


James Widenbar Date 23/6/16

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



GOVERNMENT OF
WESTERN AUSTRALIA



1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 7053/1
Permit type: Purpose Permit

1.2. Applicant details

Applicant's name: City of Busselton

1.3. Property details

Property: LOT 57 ON PLAN 53720, WILYABRUP
LOT 56 ON PLAN 53720, WILYABRUP
LOT 55 ON PLAN 53720, WILYABRUP
LOT 52 ON PLAN 41608, WILYABRUP
LOT 51 ON PLAN 41608, WILYABRUP
ROAD RESERVE - 11476584, WILYABRUP

Local Government Authority: Busselton, City of

1.4. Application

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

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Granted

Decision Date: 23 June 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 Delegated Officer determined that although the application area may contain suitable western ringtail possum (WRP) habitat, the clearing is unlikely to have any significant environmental impacts. A WRP fauna management condition has been applied to the permit to minimise impacts to WRP.

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
The vegetation under application is mapped as Beard vegetation association 3 which is described as medium forest, jarrah-marri (Shepherd et al, 2001).	The application is to clear 0.29 hectares of native vegetation within Metricup Road reserve, Wilyabrup, and adjoining properties for the purpose of road construction and upgrades.	Degraded; Structure severely disturbed; regeneration to good condition requires intensive management (Keighery, 1994).	The condition of the vegetation under application was determined via digital aerial imagery.
The vegetation under application is mapped as Mattiske Vegetation Complex's (Mattiske et al., 1998):			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> W2 which is described as open forest of <i>Corymbia calophylla</i> - <i>Allocasuarina decussata</i> - <i>Agonis flexuosa</i> on deeply incised valleys in perhumid and humid zones; and Ww2 which is described as tall open forest of <i>Corymbia calophylla</i> - <i>Agonis flexuosa</i> on flats and valleys in perhumid and humid zones. 			

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

Comments The application to clear up to 0.29 hectares of native vegetation for the purpose of road construction is unlikely to have any significant environmental impacts. Given the mapped vegetation type and position within the landscape, the vegetation under application is likely to consist of *Melaleuca* species, *Taxandria linearifolia* and *Callistachys lanceolata* (Parks and Wildlife, 2016). The local area (10 kilometre radius) retains approximately 40 per cent native vegetation.

Given the degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition of the vegetation, location and size of clearing, extent of native vegetation in the local area (10 kilometre radius) and mapped vegetation type, the vegetation under application is not likely to impact on rare or priority flora, a priority or threatened ecological community (Parks and Wildlife, 2016) or conservation reserves within the local area and is not likely to be classified as clearing a significant remnant within a highly cleared landscape.

The application area is mapped over a minor perennial watercourse. Given this, the vegetation under application includes vegetation growing in association with a watercourse. Noting the application areas linear nature and the size and purpose of the proposed clearing, it is not likely the proposed clearing will significantly impact on riparian vegetation, contribute to or cause land degradation, deteriorate the quality of ground water or surface water and is not likely to cause or exacerbate flooding.

The application area falls within the mapped distribution of western ringtail possums (*Pseudocheirus occidentalis*) (WRP), this species is listed as vulnerable under the Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act, 1999* and endangered under the *Wildlife Conservation Act, 1950*. Given the mapped vegetation type and location of the application area, the vegetation under application may contain suitable habitat for this species. Noting the size of proposed clearing and the presence of adjoining vegetation, of a similar type and condition, the application area is not considered to be significant habitat for WRP's. A fauna management measure requiring a fauna spotter onsite during clearing, to ensure that any WRP's relocate to adjoining vegetation, will further minimise the potential impact to this species.

Given the vegetation type, linear nature and size of the proposed clearing and the presence of adjoining vegetation, of a similar type and condition, the application area is not likely to contain significant habitat for other significant fauna recorded within the local area or provide significant linkage values for fauna moving through the local landscape.

Given the above, clearing the proposed clearing is at variance to Principle (f) and is not likely to be at variance to the remaining clearing Principles.

Methodology References:
Keighery (1994)
Parks and Wildlife (2016)

GIS datasets:
SAC Bio datasets accessed June 2016
Hydrography linear
Parks and Wildlife tenure

Planning instruments and other relevant matters.

Comments The clearing of 0.29 hectares of native vegetation is required in order to widen a bridge.

No Aboriginal Sites of Significance have been mapped within the application area.

The clearing permit application was advertised on 23 May 2016 with a 7 day submission period. No public submissions have been received in relation to this application.

Methodology GIS datasets:
Aboriginal Sites of Significance

4. References

- 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.
- Parks and Wildlife (2016) Advice received in relation to clearing permit application CPS 7053/1. Received 9 June 2016. Department of Parks and Wildlife, Perth, Western Australia.
- Shepherd, D.P., Beeston, G.R., and Hopkins, A.J.M. (2001), *Native Vegetation in Western Australia*. Technical Report 249. Department of Agriculture Western Australia, South Perth.