GOVERNMENT OF
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Purpose Permit number:	CPS 7099/1
Permit Holder:	Department of Mines and Petroleum
Duration of Permit:	From 20 August 2016 to 20 August 2021

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 landscape remediation.

2. **Land on which clearing is to be done**
   Lot 144 on Plan 27731, Allanson
   Lot 145 on Plan 27731, Allanson
   Montgomery Street Road Reserve, Pin 11471808, Allanson
   Ferguson Road Reserve, Pin 1234797, Collie
   Un-named Road reserve, Pin 11483058, Allanson

3. **Area of Clearing**
   The Permit Holder shall not clear more than 5 hectares of native vegetation within the area hatched yellow on attached Plan 7099/1.

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; and
(c) restrict the movement of machines and other vehicles to the limits of the areas to be cleared.

DEFENITIONS

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.

Emma Bramwell
A/MANAGER
CLEARING REGULATION

Officer delegated under Section 20
of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

21 July 2016

Plan 7099/1

Legend

- Areas approved to clear
- Roads
- LGA
- Cadastre

Virtual Mosaic (LGATE-V001)

N

1:5,000

MGA 94
Geocentric Datum of Australia 1994

E Bramwell ..... Date 21/07/16

Emma Bramwell

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.: 7099/1
Permit type: Purpose Permit

1.2. Applicant details

Applicant's name: Department of Mines and Petroleum

1.3. Property details

Property: LOT 145 ON PLAN 27731, ALLANSON
LOT 144 ON PLAN 27731, ALLANSON
ROAD RESERVE - 11471808, ALLANSON
ROAD RESERVE - 11483058, ALLANSON
ROAD RESERVE - 1234797, COLLIE
Local Government Authority: COLLIE, SHIRE OF

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
5	-	Mechanical Removal	Landscape remediation

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Granted
Decision Date: 21 July 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) and is not likely to be at variance to any of the remaining clearing principles.

State 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 vegetation under application is mapped as Mattiske vegetation Muja complex which is described as an open woodland of *Melaleuca preissiana-Banksia littoralis-Banksia ilicifolia* with some *Eucalyptus patens* on moister sites, Banksia spp. on drier sites of valley floors in the subhumid zone. (Mattiske et al., 1998).	The application is to clear five hectares of native vegetation surrounding Black Diamond Pit Lake for the purpose of landscape remediation.	Degraded; Structure severely disturbed; regeneration to good condition requires intensive management (Keighery, 1994).	The condition of the vegetation under application was determined via a site inspection undertaken by Department of Environment Regulation officers on 6 July 2016.

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

Comments The application is to clear up to five hectares of native vegetation for the purpose of landscape remediation. The vegetation under application surrounds an abandoned (1940's) pit lake (Black Diamond Pit), which is currently an unmanaged recreation area utilised by the local community for camping, four wheel driving and swimming. The application is to batter heavily eroded areas surrounding the lake alleviating safety concerns.

A site inspection undertaken by Department of Environment Regulation officers on 6 July 2016 described the vegetation under application as an open, immature *Eucalyptus marginata* forest with emergent *Pinus pinaster* (introduced species) in a degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition (DER, 2016). Little understorey remains due to the currently unmanaged recreational uses of the land. The southern pit wall forms a nearly vertical drop into the water with open access to the public and access road. It was also noted that the current unmanaged uses of the land has resulted in significant water erosion (DER, 2016).

The Department of Parks and Wildlife (Parks and Wildlife) assessed the vegetation under application in 2013 and identified a Priority 4 flora species on site. As Priority 4 flora species are defined as not currently under threat, given the condition of the vegetation and extent of surrounding native vegetation, Parks and Wildlife has advised that the removal of these individuals will not impact on the species survival in the local area (Parks and Wildlife, 2016). The vegetation assessment also concluded that the vegetation under application is not likely to form significant fauna habitat (Parks and Wildlife, 2016).

Given the degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition of the vegetation, lack of understorey, extent of native vegetation in the local area (10 kilometre radius) and its immature age, the vegetation under application is not likely to impact on rare or priority flora, significant fauna habitat, a priority or threatened ecological community or conservation reserves within the local area and is not likely to be classified as clearing a significant remnant within a highly cleared landscape. Weed and dieback management conditions will ensure that adjoining vegetation is not adversely impacted by the proposed clearing.

Given the application area's position within the buffer zone of Black Diamond Pit Lake, the vegetation under application includes vegetation growing in association with a wetland. As the species identified are not conventional wetland species and given the lack of understorey, impacts to wetland vegetation are likely to be minimal.

Given the degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition of the vegetation under application and the lack of understorey, the proposed clearing is not likely to contribute to or cause further land degradation, deteriorate the quality of ground water or surface water and is not likely to cause or exacerbate flooding.

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

Methodology

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

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

Planning instruments and other relevant matters.

Comments

Black Diamond Pit Lake is currently an unmanaged recreation area utilised by the local community for camping, four wheel driving and swimming. The application is to batter heavily eroded areas surrounding the lake alleviating safety concerns including the potential for cars to drive over the steep southern wall and anti-social behaviour.

After the area has been re-contoured, the cleared areas will be revegetated with indigenous Jarrah forest species. The Black Diamond Working Group also intends to create a small wetland within the location, however funding for this project has not been secured (Department of Mines and Petroleum, 2016).

The application area is located within the Collie River Irrigation District surface water area, and the Collie Groundwater Area, proclaimed under the *Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914*. The Department of Water (2016a) has advised that groundwater extraction or interference with the Collie river would require licensing from the Department of Water. The Collie river falls outside of the application area and it is not likely that groundwater will be taken for the landscape remediation project.

The application area is located within Zone D of the Wellington Dam Catchment Area under the *Country Areas Water Supply Act 1947*. Given the extent of native vegetation surrounding the application area the Department of Water has advised that they have no objection to the proposed clearing (DOW, 2016b).

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

The clearing permit application was advertised in *the West Australian* on 20 June 2016 with a 21 day submission period. No public submissions have been received in relation to this application.

Methodology

References:
Department of Mines and Petroleum (2016)
DOW (2016a)
DOW (2016b)

GIS datasets:
Aboriginal Sites of Significance

4. References

Department of Environment Regulation (2016) Site inspection report for clearing permit application CPS 7099/1. Undertaken 6 July 2016. DER ref: A1133922

Department of Mines and Petroleum (2016) Information submitted in support of clearing permit application CPS 7099/1 DER ref: A1106102.

Department of Parks and Wildlife (2016) South West regional advice received in relation to clearing permit application CPS 7099/1. DER ref: A1134410.

Department of Water (2016a) RIWI Act advice received in relation to clearing permit application CPS 7099/1. DER ref: A1125351.

Department of Water (2016b) CAWS Act advice received in relation to clearing permit application CPS 7099/1. DER ref: A1129756.

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.

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.