



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*

Purpose Permit number:	CPS 7165/1
Permit Holder:	Shire of Wandering
Duration of Permit:	From 1 October 2016 to 1 October 2021

The Permit Holder is authorised to clear native vegetation subject to the following conditions of this Permit.

1. Purpose for which clearing may be done

Clearing for the purpose of road construction including sightline improvement works.

2. Land on which clearing may be done

North Bannister-Wandering Road reserve (PIN 11350268, PIN 11350297), Springs
Ricks Road reserve (PIN 11350269), Springs

3. Area of clearing

The Permit Holder shall not clear more than 1.2 hectares of native vegetation within the area cross-hatched yellow on attached Plan 7165/1.

4. Application

This Permit allows the Permit Holder to authorise persons, including employees, contractors and agents of the Permit Holder, to clear native vegetation authorised under 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.

6. Dieback and weed management

When undertaking any clearing 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*:

- (i) clean earth-moving machinery of soil and vegetation prior to entering and leaving the area to be cleared;
- (ii) ensure that no *dieback* or *weed*-affected soil, *mulch*, *fill* or other material is brought into the area to be cleared; and
- (iii) restrict the movement of machines and other vehicles to the limits of the areas to be cleared.

7. Fauna management

(a) Prior to undertaking any clearing authorised under this Permit, 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, or showing signs of previous use by:

- (i) *Calyptorhynchus latirostris* (Carnaby's cockatoo);
- (ii) *Calyptorhynchus baudinii* (Baudin's cockatoo); or
- (iii) *Calyptorhynchus banksii naso* (forest red-tailed black cockatoo).

- (b) Prior to undertaking any clearing authorised under this Permit, the Permit Holder shall provide the results of the *fauna survey* in a report to the *CEO*.
- (c) The *fauna survey* report must include the following;
- (i) the location of the *black cockatoo habitat tree/s* recorded using a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit set to Geocentric Datum Australia 1994 (GDA94), expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings or decimal degrees; and
 - (ii) the location of any fauna species listed in condition 7(a), if identified, recorded using a GPS unit set to GDA94, expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings or decimal degrees; and
 - (iii) the name and amount of each fauna species identified; and
 - (iv) the methodology used to survey the Permit Area; and
 - (v) a description of the *black cockatoo habitat tree/s* identified.
- (d) Where *black cockatoo habitat tree/s* are identified under condition 7(a) of this Permit, the Permit Holder shall ensure that no clearing within 10 metres of those trees 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 30 centimetres or greater that contain hollows suitable for nesting by Carnaby's cockatoo, Baudin's cockatoo or forest red-tailed black cockatoo;

CEO: means the Chief Executive Officer of the Department responsible for the administration of the clearing provisions under the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*;

dieback means the effect of *Phytophthora* species on native vegetation;

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*;

fauna survey: means a field-based investigation of the biodiversity of fauna and/or fauna habitat of the Permit Area;

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; and

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.

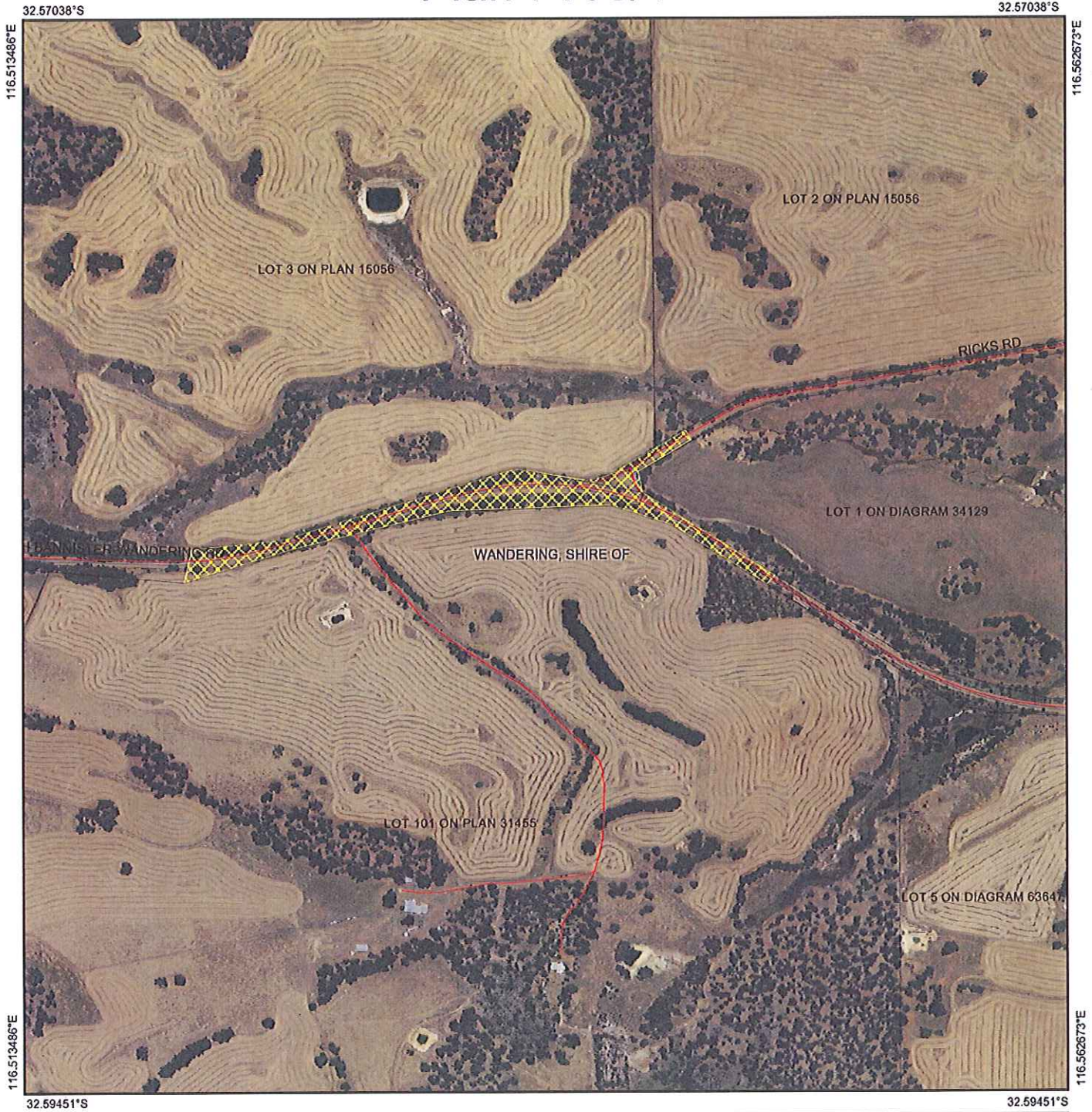


JAMES WIENBAR
MANAGER
CLEARING REGULATION

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

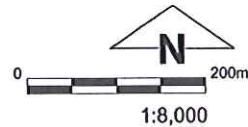
1 September 2016

Plan 7165/1



Legend

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



(Approximate when reproduced at A4)
GDA 94 (Lat/Long)
Geocentric Datum of Australia 1994

James Wisenberg Date *1/9/2016*

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



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1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 7165/1
Permit type: Purpose Permit

1.2. Applicant details

Applicant's name: Shire of Wandering

1.3. Property details

Property: North Bannister-Wandering Rd reserve (PIN 11350268 and PIN 11350297), Springs
Ricks Rd reserve (PIN 11350269), Springs

Colloquial name: North Bannister-Wandering Rd & Ricks Rd Intersection Improvements

Local Government Authority: Shire of Wandering

DER Region: Greater Swan

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
1.2		Mechanical Removal	Road construction including sightline improvement works

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Granted

Decision Date: 1 September 2016

Reasons for Decision: The clearing permit application received on 5 July 2016 has been assessed against the clearing principles, planning instruments and other matters in accordance with s51O of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*. It has been concluded that the proposed clearing may be at variance to principle (b) and is not likely to be at variance to the remaining clearing principles.

The application area may include suitable nesting trees for Carnaby's cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus latirostris*), Baudin's cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus baudinii*) and/or forest red-tailed black cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus banksii naso*). To prevent significant impacts to these fauna a condition has been included on the permit requiring potential nesting trees to be inspected prior to clearing for evidence of use. If evidence of use is identified, clearing within ten metres of such trees is not permitted unless approved otherwise based on further assessment.

To prevent the spread of weeds and dieback, a hygiene management condition has been included on the permit.

The Delegated Officer determined that, with the implementation of fauna and hygiene management conditions, the proposed clearing is unlikely to have any significant environmental impacts. 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

Vegetation Description

Two Beard vegetation associations (Shepherd et al., 2001) are mapped over the application area:

- 3: Medium forest; jarrah-marri
- 4: Medium woodland; marri & wandoo

One Mattiske vegetation complex (Mattiske & Havel, 1998) is mapped over the application area:

- Michibin (Mi): Open woodland of *Eucalyptus wandoo* over *Acacia acuminata* with some *Eucalyptus loxophleba* on valley slopes, with low woodland of *Allocasuarina huegeliana* on or near shallow granite outcrops in arid and perarid zones.

Clearing Description

The application is for the clearing of up to 1.2 hectares of native vegetation for the purpose of road construction including sightline improvement works at the intersection of North Bannister-Wandering Rd and Ricks Rd in the locality of Springs.

Vegetation Condition

Degraded: Basic vegetation structure severely impacted by disturbance. Scope for regeneration but not to a state approaching good condition without intensive management (Keighery, 1994)

To

Very good: Vegetation structure altered, obvious signs of disturbance (Keighery, 1994).

Comment

The condition of the vegetation was estimated based on photos provided by the applicant (Shire of Wandering, 2016).

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

Comments The application area comprises wandoo woodland in a degraded to very good (Keighery, 1994) condition.

Based on datasets available to the Department of Environment Regulation (DER), two records of priority flora occur within a 10 kilometre radius of the application area, both located approximately 4 kilometres southwest. The records are of *Grevillea saccata* (Priority 4) and *Lasiopetalum cardiophyllum* (Priority 4). Both records are described as occurring within a treeless flat with no similar habitat expected to be present within the application area.

Officer level advice received from the Department of Parks and Wildlife outlines that a record of rare flora is known from approximately eight kilometres north of the application area. Based on mapped soil types and vegetation complexes, it is advised that it is possible suitable habitat for this species occurs within the application area (Department of Parks and Wildlife, 2016). A key indicator for the presence of suitable habitat is the occurrence of granite formations. Based on photos provided by the applicant (Shire of Wandering, 2016), granite formations are unlikely to be present and therefore the species is considered unlikely to occur.

No priority ecological communities (PECs) or threatened ecological communities (TECs) are mapped within a 10 kilometre radius of the application area.

The vegetation under application is considered unlikely to include, or form supporting habitat for, any priority flora, rare flora, PECs or TECs listed by the Department of Parks and Wildlife or under the *WA Wildlife Conservation Act 1950* (WC Act) or *Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*.

The application area occurs within the known distribution of Carnaby's cockatoo, Baudin's cockatoo and forest red-tailed black cockatoo which are all listed as 'fauna that is rare or is likely to become extinct' under the WC Act. The application area contains suitable foraging habitat for all three species as well as trees of species known to support nesting, which may either have a suitable nest hollow, or are of a suitable diameter at breast height to develop a nest hollow. The local area (10 kilometre radius) retains approximately 60 per cent remnant native vegetation, most of which is considered likely to represent similar or better foraging and nesting habitat value than that of the application area. Therefore, the proposed clearing is considered unlikely to have significant impacts to the three black cockatoo species unless clearing of trees actively being utilised for nesting occurs. Such impacts can be managed through pre-clearing inspections of potential nesting trees and avoidance of trees actively being utilised until chicks have left the nest.

Given the size of the application area in the context of the extent of native vegetation remaining within the local area (approximately 60 per cent), no significant impacts to any other indigenous fauna are considered likely.

The National Objectives and Targets for Biodiversity Conservation 2001-2005 include a target to have clearing controls in place that prevent clearance of ecological communities with an extent below 30 per cent of that present pre-1750 (Commonwealth of Australia, 2001), below which species loss appears to accelerate exponentially at an ecosystem level.

The application area is mapped as Beard vegetation associations 3 and 4, and Mattiske vegetation complex Michibin. Given the dominance of wandoo within the application area, the vegetation under application is considered unlikely to be representative of Beard vegetation association 3. Beard vegetation association 4 and Mattiske vegetation complex Michibin both retain less than the 30 per cent threshold (28 per cent and 26 per cent remaining respectively) (Government of Western Australia, 2015; Department of Parks and Wildlife, 2015). The local area (10 kilometre radius) retains approximately 60 per cent remnant native vegetation. Given the extent of native vegetation remaining within the local area, the application area is not likely to contain significant remnant vegetation in a highly cleared area.

	Pre-European Extent (ha)	Current Extent (ha)	Remaining (%)	Extent in Parks and Wildlife Managed Lands (%)
IBRA Bioregion*				
Jarrah Forest	4,506,660	2,422,783	54	69
Shire*				
Shire of Wandering	190,429	117,477	62	76
Beard Vegetation Association in Bioregion*				
3	2,390,591	1,611,061	67	81
4	1,022,713	286,845	28	23
Mattiske Vegetation Complex**				
Michibin (Mi)	168,040	43,815	26	5

* Government of Western Australia (2015)

** Department of Parks and Wildlife (2015)

A minor non-perennial watercourse, being a tributary of the Bannister River, runs parallel to the application area. The watercourse is located to the north of the application area and occurs approximately 30 metres away at the closest point. The application area is estimated to be at least 5 metres higher in elevation than the watercourse. The application area is not considered likely to contain vegetation growing in association with the watercourse.

Based on datasets available to DER, no wetlands are mapped within or in close proximity to the application area.

The application area does not form part of a conservation area nor does it form part of a significant ecological linkage.

The proposed clearing is considered unlikely to be of a scale that would result in appreciable land degradation, significant deterioration in the quality of surface or underground water, or flooding.

Given the above, the proposed clearing may be at variance to clearing principle (b) and is not likely to be at variance to the remaining clearing principles.

Methodology

References:

- Commonwealth of Australia (2001)
- Department of Parks and Wildlife (2015)
- Department of Parks and Wildlife (2016)
- Government of Western Australia (2015)
- Keighery (1994)
- Shire of Wandering (2016)

GIS datasets:

- Hydrology
- Pre-European Vegetation
- Parks and Wildlife Managed Lands
- SAC Bio Datasets (accessed 26 August 2016)
- Topographic Contours

Planning instruments and other relevant matters.

Comments

The application was advertised for a seven day public comment period in the *West Australian* newspaper on 1 August 2016. No public submissions were received.

4. References

- Commonwealth of Australia (2001), National Objectives and Targets for Biodiversity Conservation 2001-2005, Canberra.
- 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.
- Department of Parks and Wildlife (2016), Advice received in relation to CPS 7165/1, received 29 August 2016 (DER Ref: A1155974).
- Government of Western Australia (2015), 2015 Statewide Vegetation Statistics incorporating the CAR Reserve Analysis (Full Report). Current as of May 2016. 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.
- 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.
- Shire of Wandering (2016), Clearing Permit Application CPS 7165/1, received 5 July 2016 (DER Ref: A1124954).