



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

PERMIT DETAILS

Area Permit Number: 7195/1
File Number: 2016/001495-1
Duration of Permit: 29 October 2016 to 29 October 2018

PERMIT HOLDER

Woodhead Nominees Pty Ltd

LAND ON WHICH CLEARING IS TO BE DONE

Lot 653 on Deposited Plan 184334, Kununurra

AUTHORISED ACTIVITY

The Permit Holder shall not clear more than 6.94 hectares of native vegetation within the area hatched yellow on attached Plan 7195/1.

CONDITIONS

1. 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*:

- (a) clean earth-moving machinery of soil and vegetation prior to entering and leaving the area to be cleared;
- (b) ensure that no *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.

DEFINITIONS

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

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

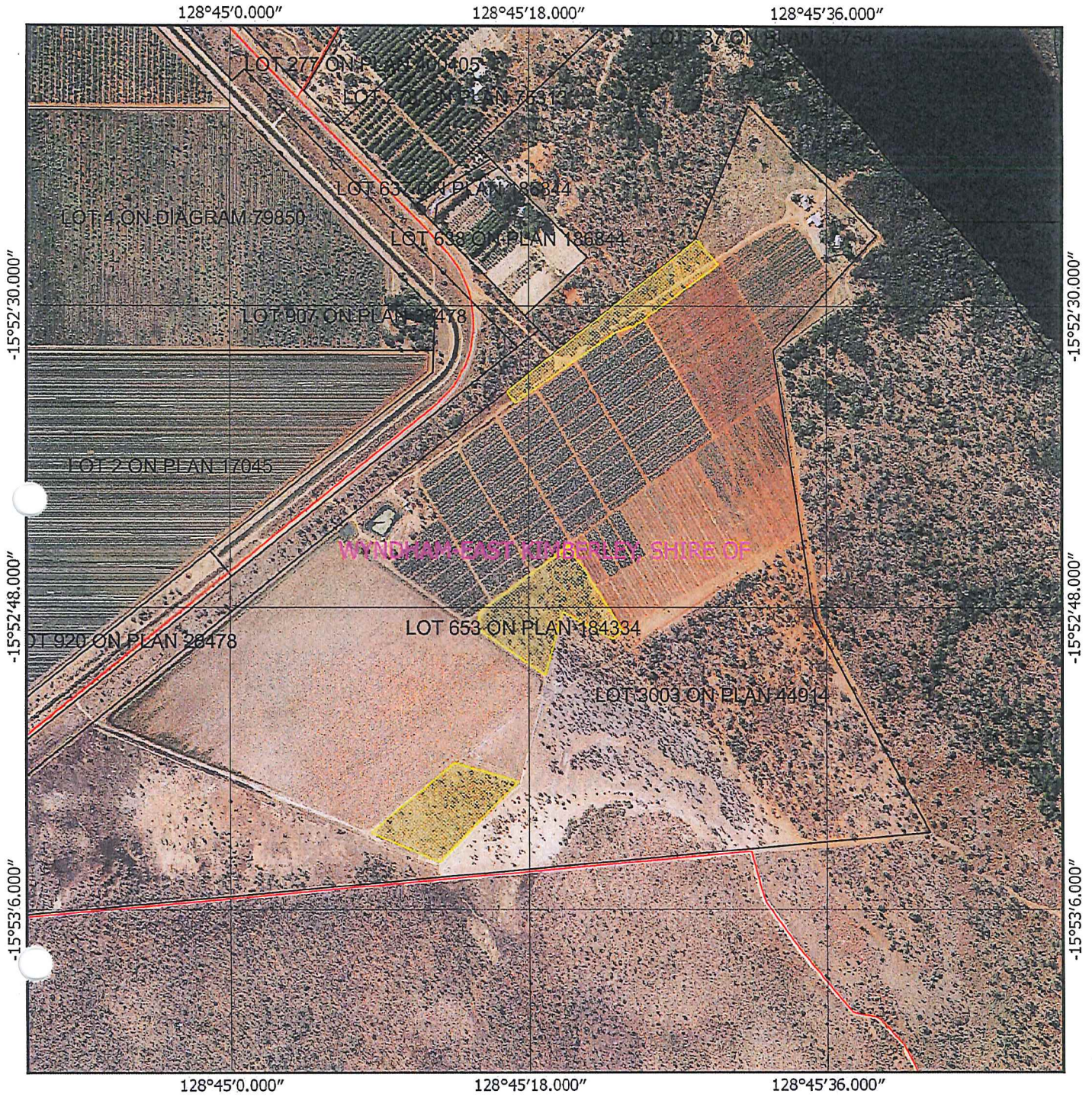
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "S. Rogers", written over a horizontal line.

Samara Rogers
A/MANAGER
CLEARING REGULATION

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

29 September 2016

Plan 7195/1



Legend

-  Areas approved to clear
-  Roads
-  LGA
-  Cadastre Virtual Mosaic



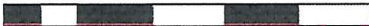
1:8,352

MGA 94
Geocentric Datum of Australia 1994

S. Rogers Date 29/9/2016
Samara Rogers

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

100 0 100 200 300 400 m



GOVERNMENT OF
WESTERN AUSTRALIA



1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 7195/1
Permit type: Area Permit

1.2. Applicant details

Applicant's name: Woodhead Nominees Pty Ltd

1.3. Property details

Property: LOT 653 ON DEPOSITED PLAN 184334, KUNUNURRA
Local Government Authority: WYNDHAM-EAST KIMBERLEY, SHIRE OF
DER Region: North West
DPaW District: EAST KIMBERLEY
Localities: KUNUNURRA

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
6.94		Mechanical Removal	Grazing & pasture

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Granted

Decision Date: 29 September 2016

Reasons for Decision: The applicant has applied to clear 6.94 hectares of native vegetation for the purpose of pasture.

The clearing permit application was received on 27 July 2016 and 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 is at variance to Principle (f), and is not likely to be at variance to the remaining clearing principles.

The Delegated Officer has determined that the clearing is unlikely to have any significant environmental impacts.

The Delegated Officer considered that the implementation of suitable weed management measures was appropriate to address the impacts of the proposed clearing.

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 within the application area is mapped as:	The application is to clear 6.94 hectares of native vegetation within Lot 653 on Deposited Plan 184334, Kununurra, for the purpose of pasture.	Completely Degraded; No longer intact, completely/almost completely without native species (Keighery, 1994). To Degraded; Structure severely disturbed; regeneration to good condition requires intensive management (Keighery, 1994).	The condition and description of the application area was determined via aerial imagery.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Beard vegetation association 909 is described as Grasslands, high grass savanna woodland; bloodwood, stringybark & woollybutt over upland tall grass & curly spinifex on sandplain (Shepherd et al., 2001). 			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Beard vegetation association 65 is described as Grasslands, tall bunch grass 			

savanna, sparse low tree,
terminalia; mitchell grass
(*Astrebla pectinata* & spp.)
(Shepherd et al., 2001).

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

Comments The clearing permit application is to clear up to 6.94 hectares of native vegetation within Lot 653 on Deposited Plan 184334, Kununurra, for the purpose of pasture. Based on aerial imagery and consideration of the adjoining agricultural land uses, the vegetation condition within the application area is in a completely degraded to degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition.

A total of twenty six priority flora and one rare flora have been mapped within the local area (20 kilometre radius). The two closest priority flora species, *Fuirena nudiflora* and *Scleria annularis*, are both listed as priority 1 conservation status and are mapped approximately two kilometres west of the application area. Both records of these species were found in an open swampy drainage line in sandy soil (Western Australian Herbarium, 1998-). It is not likely the application area would provide suitable habitat for these species, given the soils under the majority of the application have been mapped by the Department of Agriculture and Food Western Australia as heavy red-brown Kununurra clay soils, with a minor area consisting of reddish brown sandy loam (Commissioner of Soil and Land Conservation, 2016).

One rare flora species has been recorded within the local area located approximately 14 kilometres from the application area. The Department of Parks and Wildlife (2016) has advised that the soil type present within the application area is not likely to provide suitable habitat for this species.

The vegetation surrounding the application area (20 kilometre radius) retains approximately 85 per cent native vegetation cover. The vegetation types mapped on site, Beard vegetation associations 65 and 909, retain 98 and 99 per cent of their pre-European vegetation extents respectively within the Victoria Bonaparte Bioregion (Government of Western Australia, 2015). The Shire of Wyndham-East Kimberley retains approximately 98 per cent of its pre-European vegetation extent (Government of Western Australia, 2015). Given the well represented vegetation types under application and the highly vegetated local landscape, the application area is not considered to be a significant remnant in an extensively cleared area or comprise significant habitat for fauna.

According to available databases, no threatened or priority ecological communities occur within the local area.

The south-western portion of the application area has been mapped as intersecting a minor non-perennial watercourse. Noting this, the application area may contain riparian vegetation associated with this watercourse. Given the relatively small amount of vegetation to be cleared within the application area, it is not likely that the proposed clearing will significantly impact on this watercourse.

The Commissioner of Soil and Land Conservation (2016) has advised that the risk of land degradation occurring as a result of the proposed clearing is low.

The closest conservation reserve is known as the Darram Conservation Park managed by the Conservation Commission of Western Australia and the Yawoorrong Miriuwung Gajerrong Yirrgeb Noong Dawang Aboriginal Corporation located approximately 5.7 kilometres north of the application area. Given the distance of this reserve from the application area, it is unlikely the proposed clearing will impact on the environmental values of this conservation area. It is considered that the proposed clearing may increase the risk of weeds spreading into adjacent remnant vegetation. Weed management practices will assist in mitigating this risk.

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

Methodology References:
Commissioner of Soil and Land Conservation (2016)
Department of Parks and Wildlife (2016)
Government of Western Australia (2015)
Keighery (1994)
Western Australian Herbarium (1998-)

Planning instruments and other relevant matters.

Comments The application area falls within the Canning-Kimberley Groundwater Area, Ord River and Tributaries Surface Water Area and the Ord River Irrigation District which are proclaimed under the *Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914*. The Department of Water (DoW) advised that a 5C licence to take surface or groundwater and a 26D licence to construct or alter a well are required for any groundwater supply bores or surface water from the Ord River for the purposes of irrigating pasture (DoW, 2016). DoW advised that the applicant holds an existing licence (SWL168604) for 955000 kilolitres for the purpose of domestic use and irrigation of 9.3 hectares of horticulture. The applicant will therefore require an amendment to their licence to include this new use (DoW, 2016).

The application area is mapped within several Aboriginal Sites of Significance, namely 'Luwarruma', 'Muldunma', 'Dab.Dab.Bumini', 'Watipuma' and 'Gunanurreng-Ord River'. The applicant will be notified of their obligations under the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972*.

The application was advertised in *The West Australian* newspaper on 15 August 2016 for a 21 day public submission period. There were no public submissions received.

Methodology References:
DoW (2016)

4. References

- Commissioner of Soil and Land Conservation (2016) Land Degradation Advice for clearing permit application CPS 7195/1 received 15 September 2016; Department of Agriculture and Food Western Australia (DER Ref: A1164372).
- Department of Parks and Wildlife (2016) Advice for Clearing Permit CPS 7195/1. Department of Parks and Wildlife, Western Australia (DER Ref: A1170360).
- Department of Water (2016) Advice for Clearing Permit CPS 7195/1. Department of Water, Western Australia (DER Ref: A1160898).
- Government of Western Australia (2015). 2015 Statewide Vegetation Statistics incorporating the CAR Reserve Analysis (Full Report). Current as of June 2015. 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.
- 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.
- Western Australian Herbarium (1998-) FloraBase - The Western Australian Flora. Department of Parks and Wildlife. <http://florabase.dpaw.wa.gov.au/> (Accessed 28/09/2016).