



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Purpose Permit number:	CPS 7202/1
Permit Holder:	Shire of Murchison
Duration of Permit:	21 January 2017 to 21 January 2022

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 road realignment.

2. Land on which clearing is to be done

Lot 12629 on Plan 28859, South Murchison
Lot 12630 on Plan 28859, South Murchison
Unnamed Road reserve (PIN 11668858), South Murchison
Crown Reserve 8885, South Murchison,

3. Area of Clearing

The Permit Holder must not clear more than 2.3 hectares of native vegetation within the area hatched yellow on attached Plan 7202/1.

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.

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.

PART II – MANAGEMENT CONDITIONS

6. 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:

- avoid the clearing of native vegetation;
- minimise the amount of native vegetation to be cleared; and
- reduce the impact of clearing on any environmental value.

7. 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

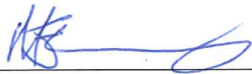
The following meanings are given to terms used in this Permit:

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;

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.

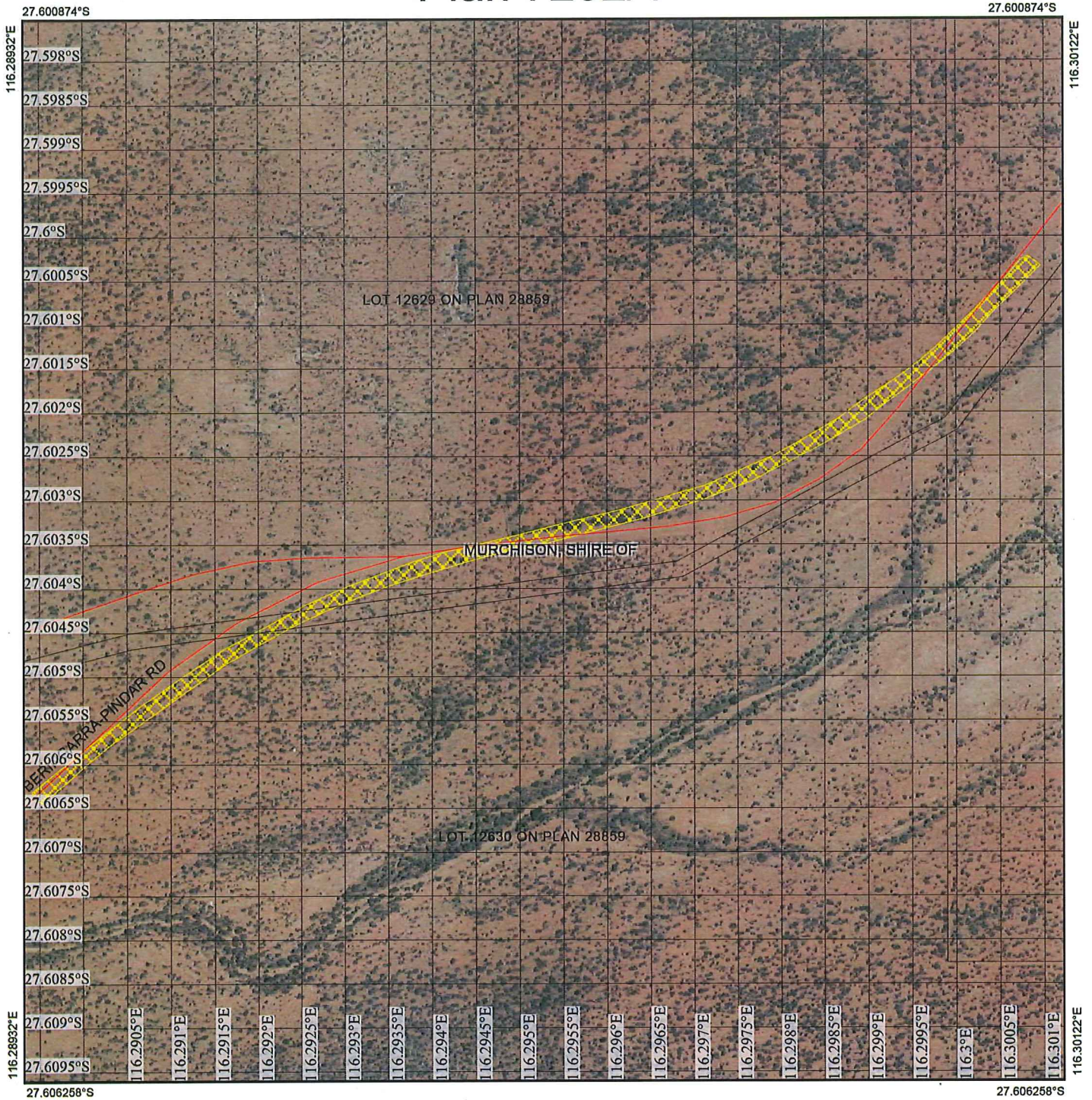


Mathew Gannaway
MANAGER
CLEARING REGULATION

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

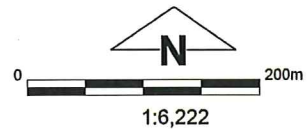
22 December 2016

Plan 7202/1



Legend

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



(Approximate when reproduced at A4)
GDA 94 (Lat/Long)

Geocentric Datum of Australia 1994

 Date 22/12/2016

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.: 7202/1
Permit type: Purpose Permit

1.2. Applicant details

Applicant's name: Shire of Murchison

1.3. Property details

Property: LOT 12630 ON PLAN 28859, SOUTH MURCHISON
LOT 12629 ON PLAN 28859, SOUTH MURCHISON
CROWN RESERVE 8885, SOUTH MURCHISON
ROAD RESERVE - 11668858, SOUTH MURCHISON

Colloquial name: Unnamed Road
Local Government: SHIRE OF MURCHISON
Authority: Midwest
DER Region: GERALDTON
DPaW District: Murchison and Mullewa
LCDC: SOUTH MURCHISON
Localities: SOUTH MURCHISON

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
2.3		Mechanical Removal	Road realignment

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Granted

Decision Date: 22 December 2016

Reasons for Decision: The clearing application was received on 4 October 2016 and 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 not likely to be at variance to any of the clearing principles.

The Delegated Officer determined that the 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

2.1.1. Description of the native vegetation under application

Vegetation Description	Clearing Description	Vegetation Condition	Comment
Beard vegetation association 326 is described as low woodland over scrub; mulga over bowgada & minnieritchie scrub (Shepherd et al., 2001).	The application is for the clearing of 2.3 hectares of native vegetation within Lots 12629 and 12630 on Plan 28859, Crown Reserve 8885 and unnamed road reserve (PIN 11668858), South Murchison, for the purpose of road realignment.	Completely Degraded; No longer completely/almost completely without native species (Keighery, 1994). To Very Good; Vegetation structure altered; obvious signs of disturbance (Keighery, 1994).	The condition of the vegetation was established via aerial photography.

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

Comments The applicant proposes to clear up to 2.3 hectares of native vegetation within Lots 12629 and 12630 on Plan 28859, Crown Reserve 8885 and unnamed road reserve (PIN 11668858), South Murchison, for the purpose of realigning the Beringarra-Pindar Road to improve road safety. Upon review of aerial imagery, the vegetation within the application area is considered to be in a completely degraded to very good (Keighery, 1994) condition.

The local area (50 kilometre radius) surrounding the application area is extensively vegetated with approximately 99 per cent pre-European vegetation remaining. The application area is mapped as Beard vegetation association 326 and occurs within the Shire of Murchison which retains approximately 100 per cent of its pre-European vegetation extent (Government of Western Australia, 2015). Given the well represented vegetation type within the application area, the area under application is not considered to be a significant remnant in an extensively cleared area nor is it likely to represent significant fauna habitat.

A total of seventeen priority flora species have been recorded within the local area (50 kilometre radius). The closest priority flora species is '*Eremophila mirabilis*' (priority 3) mapped approximately twenty kilometres from the application area. This species is a shrub, 0.3 to two metres high with a preference for clay sands, stony clayey loam and granite country (Western Australian Herbarium, 1998-). Noting the habitat requirements for this species, it is not likely this species would occur within the application area. The application area is not likely to contain suitable habitat for the remaining priority flora taxa, given the differing combination of soil and vegetation types mapped within the application area, and the highly vegetated local area surrounding the application. The proposed clearing is not likely to have a significant impact on the conservation status of the priority flora.

According to available databases, there are no priority ecological communities, threatened ecological communities, rare flora taxa or conservation areas mapped within the local area (50 kilometre radius).

Noting the linear nature of the application area and extent of native vegetation remaining in the local area, the proposed clearing is not likely to 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 proposed clearing may increase the risk of weeds spreading into adjacent vegetated areas. Weed management practices will assist in mitigating this risk.

The assessment of the proposed clearing identified that the clearing is not likely to be at variance to any of the clearing Principles.

Methodology References:
Government of Western Australia (2015)
Keighery (1994)
Western Australian Herbarium (1998-)

GIS Databases:
Hydrography, Hierarchy
Hydrography, Linear
Pre European vegetation
SAC Bio Datasets (Accessed December 2016)

Planning instruments and other relevant matters.

Comments The application area falls within a Native Title Claimant area. The Mullewa Wadjari Community and Wajarri Yamatji native title claimants, Yamatji Marlpa Aboriginal Corporation and Corser Corser Lawyers pursuant to Section 24KA s8 of the *Native Title Act 1993* have been notified inviting the opportunity to provide comments on the application. To date, no comments have been received.

No registered Aboriginal Sites of Significance occur within the application area.

The application was advertised in *The West Australian* newspaper on 31 October 2016 for a 21-day submission period. No public submissions were received in relation to the proposed clearing.

Methodology GIS Databases:
Aboriginal Sites of Significance

4. References

- 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 21/12/2016).