



## CLEARING PERMIT

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

### PERMIT DETAILS

Area Permit Number: 7265/1

File Number: 2011/006806-1

Duration of Permit: 17 December 2016 to 17 December 2018

### PERMIT HOLDER

Shire of Beverley

### LAND ON WHICH CLEARING IS TO BE DONE

Westdale Road reserve (PIN 11343054), Dale

### AUTHORISED ACTIVITY

The Permit Holder shall not clear more than 0.5 hectares of native vegetation or 13 native trees within the area cross hatched yellow on attached Plan 7265/1.

### CONDITIONS

#### [1] Dieback and weed control

- (a) 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*:
- (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;
  - (iii) 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:

- (i) *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.



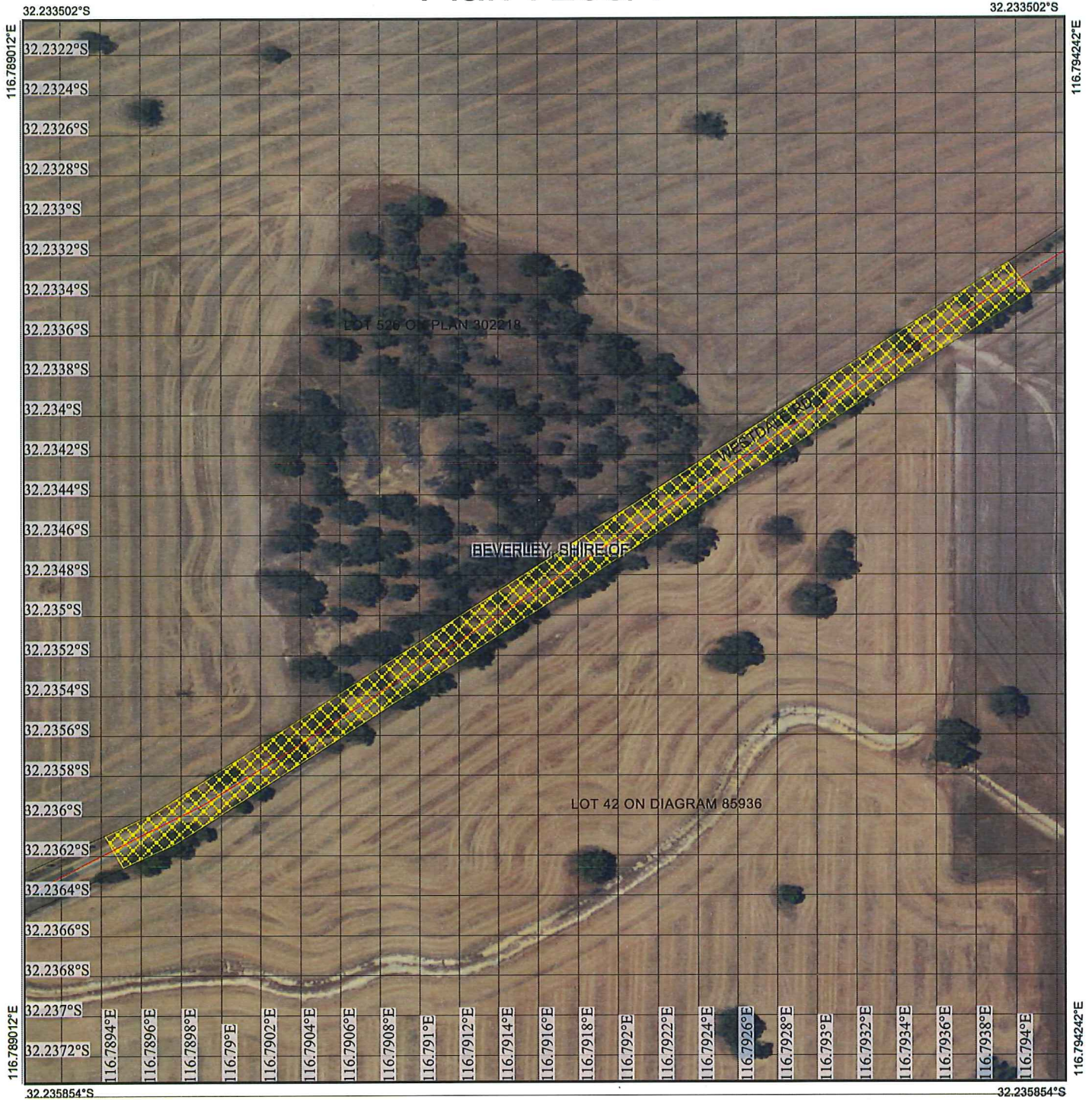
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Dr Anne Mathews  
SENIOR MANAGER  
CLEARING REGULATION


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

17 November 2016

# Plan 7265/1



## Legend

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



1:2,611

(Approximate when reproduced at A4)

GDA 94 (Lat/Long)

Geocentric Datum of Australia 1994

*Anne Mathews* Date *17/11/2015*  
**ANNE MATHEWS**

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.: 7265/1  
Permit type: Area Permit

### 1.2. Applicant details

Applicant's name: Shire of Beverley

### 1.3. Property details

Property: ROAD RESERVE - 11343054, DALE  
Colloquial name: Westdale Road  
Local Government: BEVERLEY, SHIRE OF  
Authority:  
DER Region: Greater Swan  
DPaW District: CENTRAL WHEATBELT  
Localities: DALE

### 1.4. Application

| Clearing Area (ha) | No. Trees | Method of Clearing | For the purpose of:           |
|--------------------|-----------|--------------------|-------------------------------|
| 0.5                | 13        | Mechanical Removal | Road construction or upgrades |

### 1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Grant

Decision Date: 17 November 2016

Reasons for Decision: The clearing permit application received on 2 September 2016 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 may be at variance to principle (e).

The Delegated Officer has determined that the proposal has the potential to impact upon native remnant vegetation in an area that has been extensively cleared. The recommendation for inclusion of weed and dieback management measures will mitigate impacts.

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   |
|--|--|--|---|
| One Beard vegetation association and one Mattiske vegetation complex are mapped within the application area:   | Clearing is located within Westdale Road reserve (PIN 11343054), limited to either 13 native trees or 0.5 hectraes of native vegetation, for the purpose of upgrading a 500 metre section of road to a seven metre seal. | Degraded; Structure severely disturbed; regeneration to good condition requires intensive management (Keighery, 1994). | The northern boundary of the application area is adjacent to a section of remnant vegetation. |
| <b>Beard vegetation association 352</b> is described as medium woodland; york gum (Shepherd et al., 2001).   |  |  | Surrounding area is dominated by intensive farming land use.                                  |
| <b>Mattiske vegetation Mi complex</b> consists of: Open forest of <i>Eucalyptus marginata</i> subsp. <i>marginata</i> – <i>Corymbia calophylla</i> – <i>Allocasuarina fraseriana</i> on broad undulating uplands in perhumid and humid zones (Mattiske and Havel, 1998). |  |  |   |

### 3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

#### Comments

The application is to clear either 0.5 hectares of native vegetation or 13 native trees within Westdale Road reserve (PIN 11343054), Dale, Shire of Beverley, for the purpose of upgrading a 500 metre section of road to a seven metre seal. To ensure potential environmental impacts are adequately assessed, the Delegated Officer has assessed the application based upon the larger clearing area of 0.5 hectares.

The northern boundary of the application area is adjacent to a portion of remnant vegetation. No priority listed flora species or Priority Ecological Communities (PECs) are mapped within the application area (Department of Parks and Wildlife (Parks and Wildlife, 2007-). The application area is not considered to comprise of a high level of biodiversity.

Thirty two species listed as rare or likely to become extinct have been recorded as potentially occurring within the local area (20 kilometre radius) (Parks and Wildlife, 2007-). The proposed clearing may provide habitat for fauna species indigenous to Western Australia including forest red-tailed black-cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus banksii* subsp. *naso*), Baudin's cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus baudinii*) and Carnaby's cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus latirostris*). A desktop review of street imagery did not identify any trees of an age or size to contain hollows suitable for nesting by the conservation significant black cockatoo species (DER, 2016).

Seventy four conservation significant flora species have been recorded within the local area (20 kilometre radius), with no rare flora recorded within the surrounding five kilometres of the application area. Given the distance to the closest known records of declared rare flora, and given that the application area has been subject to historical disturbance, it is considered unlikely that the proposed clearing will significantly impact on declared flora species (Western Australian Herbarium, 1998 -). Furthermore, no mapped Threatened Ecological Communities (TECs) are located within the surrounding area (Parks and Wildlife, 2007-).

The proposed clearing is located within the Avon Wheatbelt Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation of Australia (IBRA) Bioregion and Shire of Beverley. These two localities retain approximately 18.53 per cent and 35.65 per cent of pre-European vegetation. Two sets of broad scale vegetation mapping are available for the site, classifying the area as Beard vegetation association 352, which retains 17.36 per cent of pre-European vegetation within the IBRA Bioregion and Mattiske vegetation association Mi, containing 75.10 per cent of pre-European vegetation (Government of Western Australia, 2015).

The national objectives and targets for biodiversity conservation in Australia has a target to prevent clearance of ecological communities with an extent below 30 per cent of that present pre-1750, below which species loss appears to accelerate exponentially at an ecosystem level (Commonwealth of Australia 2001). The Avon Wheatbelt IBRM and Beard vegetation association are below the 30 per cent threshold level. However, as the application area has been subjected to past disturbances, it is unlikely that the mapped vegetation type is representative of the vegetation under assessment. Considering this, along with the relatively small amount of clearing required, the proposed clearing is unlikely to significantly impact on the recorded vegetation type.

A part of the application area is adjacent to a remnant vegetation in a better condition. The incorporation of weed and dieback management measures will mitigate potential impacts to the adjacent remnant vegetation.

No mapped watercourses or wetlands or conservation reserves are mapped within the application area. The proposed clearing is not considered to cause appreciable land degradation, result in the detrition in the quality of surface or ground water or exacerbate the incidence of flooding.

It has been concluded that the proposed clearing may be at variance to clearing Principle (e), as such the inclusion of weed and dieback management measures will mitigate potential risks.

#### Methodology

##### References:

Commonwealth of Australia (2001)  
Department of Parks and Wildlife (2007 -)  
DER (2016)  
Government of Western Australia (2015)  
Keighery (1994)  
Mattiske (1998)  
Western Australian Herbarium (1998)

##### GIS Datasets:

- Parks and Wildlife Tenure
- SAC Bio datasets - Accessed October 2016
- Pre-European Vegetation
- Hydrology layer

## Planning instruments and other relevant matters.

Comments The application was advertised in *The West Australian* newspaper on 10 October 2016 by the Department of Environment Regulation inviting submissions from the public within a 7 day period. No submissions were received in relation to this application.

## 4. References

- Commonwealth of Australia (2001) National Objectives and Targets for Biodiversity Conservation 2001-2005, Canberra.
- Department of Environment Regulation (DER) (2016) CPS 7265/1 Desktop Assessment (DER Ref: A1327962).
- Government of Western Australia (2015) 2016 Statewide Vegetation Statistics incorporating the CAR Reserve Analysis (Full Report). Current as of August 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.
- Parks and Wildlife (2007- ) NatureMap: Mapping Western Australia's Biodiversity. Department of Parks and Wildlife. URL: <http://naturemap.dpaw.wa.gov.au/>. Accessed October 2016
- 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 Environment and Conservation. <http://florabase.dec.wa.gov.au/>