



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Purpose Permit number:	CPS 7299/2
Permit Holder:	Mr Mathew Welch
Duration of Permit:	From 07 January 2017 to 07 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 *apiary site* establishment and maintenance.

2. Land on which clearing is to be done

APIARY LICENCE NUMBER	LONGITUDE	LATITUDE	DISTRICT	TENURE
115	120.0004	-32.8311	Esperance	Land Administration Act - Unallocated Crown Land (UCL)
116	119.9939	-32.8574	Esperance	Land Administration Act - Unallocated Crown Land (UCL)
117	119.9614	-32.8421	Esperance	Land Administration Act - Unallocated Crown Land (UCL)
193	119.9738	-32.8159	Esperance	Land Administration Act - Unallocated Crown Land (UCL)
309	117.4184	-29.417	Geraldton	Land Administration Act - NINGHAN pastoral lease - Pastoral Lands Board
312	117.4605	-29.4368	Geraldton	Land Administration Act - NINGHAN pastoral lease - Pastoral Lands Board
313	117.5107	-29.4165	Geraldton	Land Administration Act - NINGHAN pastoral lease - Pastoral Lands Board
1535	119.0161	-30.5665	Kalgoorlie	Land Administration Act - Unallocated Crown Land (UCL)
1536	119.0433	-30.5809	Kalgoorlie	Land Administration Act - Unallocated Crown Land (UCL)
1537	119.0717	-30.5954	Kalgoorlie	Land Administration Act - Unallocated Crown Land (UCL)
1581	120.6183	-32.1613	Esperance	Land Administration Act - Unallocated Crown Land (UCL)
1583	120.7985	-31.7486	Kalgoorlie	Land Administration Act - Unallocated Crown Land (UCL)
1584	120.8235	-31.7858	Kalgoorlie	Land Administration Act - Unallocated Crown Land (UCL)

3673	115.3601	-29.9002	Moora	Land Act Reserve Unvested 9393 - Paddock Rabbit Dept (Proposed NR) (other)
5026	115.3927	-30.0441	Moora	Land Act Reserve Unvested 9393 - Paddock Rabbit Dept (Proposed NR) (other)
5117	115.8113	-30.2236	Moora	WATHEROO NATIONAL PARK - CCWA
5154	115.7065	-30.0638	Moora	Land Administration Act - Unallocated Crown Land (UCL)
5184	116.0797	-32.5616	Perth Hills	STATE FOREST 14 - CCWA
5544	115.1513	-29.4958	Moora	Land Administration Act - Unallocated Crown Land (UCL)
5545	115.2031	-29.4874	Moora	Land Administration Act - Unallocated Crown Land (UCL)
5559	115.3859	-29.8802	Moora	Land Act Reserve Unvested 9393 - Paddock Rabbit Dept (Proposed NR) (other)
5715	121.5536	-31.2395	Kalgoorlie	Timber Reserve 199/25 - CCWA
5716	121.5601	-31.314	Kalgoorlie	Land Administration Act - Unallocated Crown Land (UCL)
5717	121.5643	-31.3535	Kalgoorlie	Land Administration Act - Unallocated Crown Land (UCL)
5718	121.5468	-31.384	Kalgoorlie	Land Administration Act - Unallocated Crown Land (UCL)
5719	121.5671	-31.4382	Kalgoorlie	Land Administration Act - Unallocated Crown Land (UCL)
6764	116.2893	-32.4582	Perth Hills	STATE FOREST 14 - CCWA
6765	116.2594	-32.3339	Perth Hills	Moondocks Conservation Park - CCWA
6766	116.4002	-32.4932	Perth Hills	STATE FOREST 14 - CCWA
6767	116.4294	-32.4909	Perth Hills	STATE FOREST 14 - CCWA
6768	116.3456	-32.2869	Perth Hills	STATE FOREST 13 - CCWA
6769	116.3543	-32.2607	Perth Hills	STATE FOREST 13 - CCWA
6770	116.4609	-34.65	Frankland	Shannon State Forest - CCWA
6771	115.8543	-34.1802	Donnelly	STATE FOREST 57 - CCWA
6772	115.8742	-34.15	Donnelly	State Forest 57 - CCWA
6806	115.8684	-33.9404	Blackwood	Nannup State Forest - CCWA
6807	115.8934	-33.8861	Blackwood	Nannup State Forest - CCWA
6856	115.4767	-30.8421	Moora	Crown Freehold - Department interest
6861	115.3325	-29.9843	Moora	South Eneabba Nature Reserve -- R 31030 -- Nature Reserve -- CCWA
7122	115.9189	-33.7048	Blackwood	East Kirup State Forest - CCWA
7123	115.9495	-33.7017	Blackwood	Wilga State Forest - CCWA
7124	115.9549	-33.6723	Blackwood	Wilga State Forest - CCWA
7125	115.9789	-33.6986	Blackwood	Wilga State Forest - CCWA
7128	116.0409	-33.7502	Blackwood	Wilga State Forest - CCWA
7129	116.0608	-33.7239	Blackwood	Wilga State Forest - CCWA
7130	116.079	-33.692	Blackwood	Wilga State Forest - CCWA
7131	116.119	-33.68	Blackwood	Wilga State Forest - CCWA
7140	116.2167	-34.5442	Donnelly	Warren State Forest - CCWA
7142	115.9357	-33.9257	Blackwood	Nannup State Forest - CCWA

7216	115.765	-34.1849	Donnelly	Barlee Brook State Forest - CCWA
7218	116.422	-31.9205	Perth Hills	STATE FOREST 13 - CCWA
7220	116.2877	-32.1308	Perth Hills	Jarrahdale State Forest - CCWA
7221	116.152	-32.5852	Perth Hills	Dwellingup State Forest - CCWA
7222	116.2402	-32.5966	Perth Hills	Dwellingup State Forest - CCWA
7223	116.2702	-32.6048	Perth Hills	Dwellingup State Forest - CCWA
7227	115.8638	-34.016	Blackwood	Nannup State Forest - CCWA
7228	115.9876	-33.9998	Blackwood	Dalgarup National Park - CCWA
7230	116.3497	-34.4352	Donnelly	Tone State Forest - CCWA
7231	116.3689	-34.4178	Donnelly	Tone State Forest - CCWA
7232	118.9883	-30.5534	Kalgoorlie	Land Administration Act - Unallocated Crown Land (UCL)
7257	117.479	-29.415	Geraldton	Land Administration Act - NINGHAN pastoral lease - Pastoral Lands Board
7382	115.6651	-30.3438	Moora	Crown Freehold - Dept Interest
7383	115.6948	-30.3351	Moora	Crown Freehold - Dept Interest
7384	115.6947	-30.3636	Moora	Crown Freehold - Dept Interest
7397	117.5475	-29.4108	Geraldton	Land Administration Act - NINGHAN pastoral lease - Pastoral Lands Board

3. Area of clearing

- (a) The Permit Holder must not clear more than 3.25 hectares of native vegetation in total.
- (b) The Permit Holder must not clear more than 0.05 hectares for each of the *apiary sites* described in condition 2 of this Permit.
- (c) The clearing described in conditions 3(a) and 3(b) of this Permit may only occur within a 500 metre radius of the coordinates of each *apiary site* described in condition 2 of this Permit, subject to the Permit Holder having the power to clear native vegetation for those activities under any written law.

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 within *apiary sites* described in condition 2 and the type of clearing in condition 3 of this Permit to the extent of activities permitted under an authority granted to the Permit Holder under Part 8A of the *Conservation and Land Management Regulations 2002*.

6. Clearing not authorised

This Permit does not authorise the Permit Holder to clear trees that have a diameter, at average adult human chest height, of 10 centimetres or greater.

PART II – MANAGEMENT CONDITIONS

7. 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.

8. Method of clearing

- (a) The Permit Holder must comply with the directions of the relevant District Apiary Officer of the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions prior to undertaking clearing within *apiary sites* described in condition 2 of this Permit.
- (b) The Permit Holder may only clear native vegetation using minimal impact methods, such as hand mowers or raking.

9. 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) shall only move soils in *dry conditions*;
- (c) ensure that no *dieback* or *weed*-affected soil, *mulch*, *fill* or other material is brought into the area to be cleared; and
- (d) 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:

apiary site/s means the land specified in an apiary authority as the land to which an apiary licence granted under Part VIII Division 2 of the CALM Act, or an apiary permit granted under Part VIII Division 1 of the CALM Act;

CALM Act means the *Conservation and Land Management Act 1984*;

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

dry conditions means when soils (not dust) do not freely adhere to rubber tyres, tracks, vehicle chassis or wheel arches;

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 Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions species-led ecological impact and invasiveness ranking summary, regardless of ranking; or
- (c) not indigenous to the area concerned.



James Widenbar
MANAGER
CLEARING REGULATION

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

11 January 2018



1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 7299/2
Permit type: Purpose Permit

1.2. Applicant details

Applicant's name: Mr Mathew Welch

1.3. Property details

Property: Various locations within the mid and south west of Western Australia
Local Government Authority: Various

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
3.25		Mechanical Removal	Apiculture

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Granted
Decision Date: 11 January 2018
Reasons for Decision: The clearing permit application has been assessed against the clearing principles, planning instruments and other matters in accordance with section 51O of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*.

The Delegated Officer determined that the proposed clearing may be at variance to clearing principles (f) and (h) and is not likely to be at variance to the remaining clearing principles.

Implementing hygiene management practices will limit the risk of weeds and dieback spreading within conservation estate.

In deciding to grant a permit the Delegated Officer had regard to the Permit Holder having obtained authority from the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA) for the apiary sites.

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 proposed clearing falls within various vegetation associations between Geraldton and Esperance.	Clearing of 0.05 hectares to establish or maintain 65 apiary sites, totalling 3.25 hectares.	Good; Structure significantly altered by multiple disturbance; retains basic structure/ability to regenerate (Keighery, 1994). To Degraded; Structure severely disturbed; regeneration to good condition requires intensive management (Keighery, 1994).	The vegetation condition was ascertained through aerial imagery.

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

Comments This amendment has been made to include the 42 additional apiary sites approved by the DBCA for Natural Apiculture WA Pty Ltd's apiary authority, giving a total of 65 sites that require the clearing of up to 3.25 hectares, in total, of native vegetation.

The 65 apiary sites occur within various properties, State Forests, Conservation Park, Timber Reserves, Crown Leases, Crown Reserves and unallocated Crown land parcels across the mid and south west of Western Australia. The apiary sites are located within areas permitted under the *Conservation and Land Management Act 1984* (CALM Act).

The proposed clearing may be in the form of minimal impact methods such as pruning, scrub rolling or slashing vegetation. Up to approximately 0.05 hectares may be necessary within each apiary site for access or

placement of beehives. Clearing for a firebreak may also be required and has been factored into the 0.05 hectares.

Several of the apiary sites occur within close proximity to records of rare and priority flora, however as the apiary sites have been approved for use by the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA) and several have been previously cleared, it is considered that the apiary sites are unlikely to comprise a high level of biodiversity and that the proposed clearing is unlikely to have a detrimental impact on rare or priority flora.

Several of the apiary sites occur within 200 metres of watercourses or wetlands. The application therefore may involve clearing wetland dependent vegetation. Noting the relatively small scale of the proposed clearing, it is considered that impacts to riparian vegetation and water quality are unlikely to be significant.

Several of the apiary sites are located within conservation areas managed by DBCA. Noting the relatively small scale of the proposed clearing at each site, it is considered that the proposed clearing is unlikely to significantly impact on the environmental values of these conservation areas. However it is considered that accessing and working within the apiary sites will increase the risk of introduction and spread of weeds and dieback within these conservation areas. Hygiene management practices will minimise this risk.

Noting the relatively small scale of the proposed clearing, that the apiary sites have been approved for use by DBCA, it is considered that the proposed clearing is unlikely to have a significant impact on fauna habitat, threatened or priority ecological communities, the incidence or intensity of flooding, the quality of surface or ground water or land degradation. It is also considered that the apiary sites are unlikely to be significant as remnants of native vegetation within a highly cleared landscape.

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

Methodology

GIS Datasets:
Department of Parks and Wildlife Tenure
Hydrography, linear (hierarchy)
SAC Biodatasets December 2017

Planning instruments and other relevant matters.

Comments

Apiarists generally have a preference to use existing cleared areas for apiary site locations and existing tracks/firebreaks for access them, to keep maintenance to a minimum. However, in some cases apiary sites may need to be established in new locations, or an existing site may not have been used for a number of years and clearing of regrowth may be required.

Approvals to establish apiary sites are managed under the CALM Act. As part of this process, authority to access lands is obtained from the relevant land managers.

DBCA's Parks and Wildlife Services' 'General Conditions for using Apiary Authorities on Crown Land in Western Australia' state that an apiarist must liaise with the local Parks and Wildlife apiary officer to gain final approval prior to using or entering a nominated apiary site, and that if an apiary site is no longer suitable for use, the local Parks and Wildlife officer can request the apiarist to relocate (Parks and Wildlife, 2013).

The clearing permit application was advertised on 31 October 2017 on the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation's website, inviting submissions from the public within a seven day period. No submissions were received in relation to this application.

Methodology

References:
Department of Parks and Wildlife (2013)

4. References

- Department of Parks and Wildlife (2013) General Conditions for using Apiary Authorities on Crown Land in Western Australia. Department of Parks and Wildlife, Western Australia.
- Keighery, B.J. (1994) Bushland Plant Survey: A Guide to Plant Community Survey for the Community. Wildflower Society of WA (Inc). Nedlands, Western Australia