

CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

PERMIT DETAILS

Area Permit Number: 7394/1

File Number:

2011/006806-1

Duration of Permit: 6 May 2017 to 6 May 2019

PERMIT HOLDER

Shire of Beverley

LAND ON WHICH CLEARING IS TO BE DONE

Lot 29285 on Deposited Plan 91069, Beverley

AUTHORISED ACTIVITY

The Permit Holder shall not clear more than 0.12 hectares of native vegetation within the area cross hatched yellow on attached Plan 7394/1.

CONDITIONS

1. 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) ensure that no dieback or 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.

2. Retain vegetative material and topsoil, revegetation and rehabilitation

The Permit Holder shall:

- retain the vegetative material and topsoil removed by clearing authorised under this Permit and stockpile the vegetative material and topsoil in an area that has already been cleared.
- within 12 months of undertaking clearing, revegetate and rehabilitate the redundant road alignment that is no longer required for it intended purpose by:
 - re-shaping the surface of the old road so that it is consistent with the surrounding 5 metres of uncleared land;
 - ripping the ground on the contour to remove soil compaction; and
 - (iii) deliberately laying the vegetative material and topsoil retained under condition 2(a) over the old road alignment.

Definitions

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

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;

optimal time means the period from May to June;

revegetate/ed/ion means the re-establishment of a cover of local provenance native vegetation in an area using methods such as natural regeneration, direct seeding and/or planting, so that the species composition, structure and density is similar to pre-clearing vegetation types in that area;

rehabilitate/ed/ion means actively managing an area containing native vegetation in order to improve the ecological function of that area; and

weed/s means any plant -

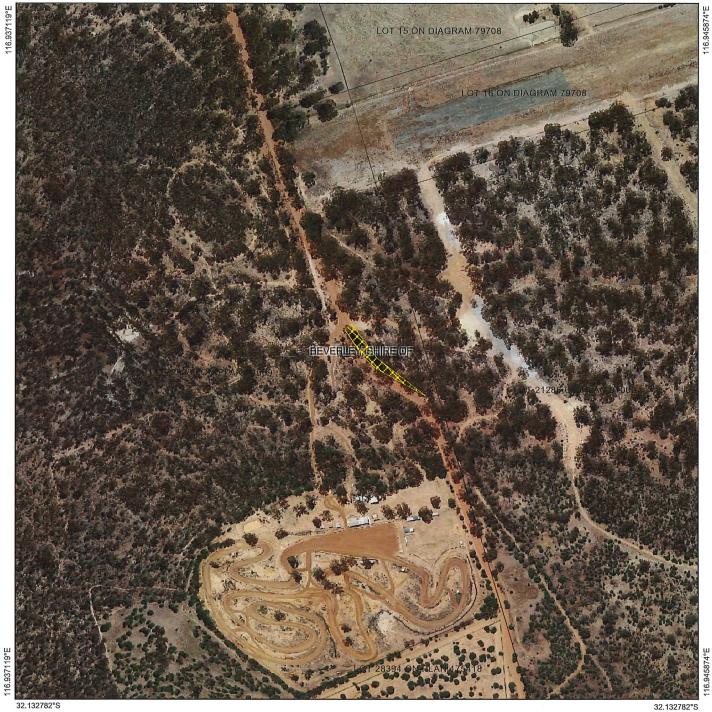
- (a) that is a declared pest under section 22 of the *Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act* 2007; or
- (b) published in a Department of Parks and Wildlife Regional Weed Rankings Summary, regardless of ranking; or
- (c) not indigenous to the area concerned.

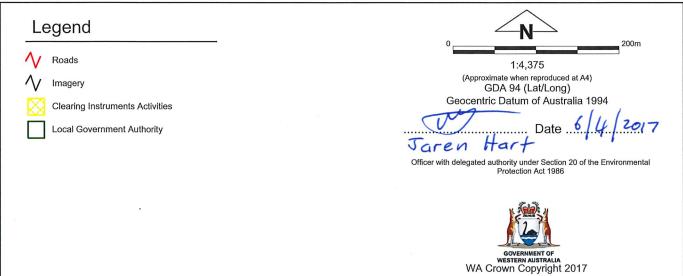
Jaren Hart A/MANAGER

CLEARING REGULATION

Officer delegated under Section 20 of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

6 April 2017







Clearing Permit Decision Report

1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.:

7394/1

Permit type:

Area Permit

1.2. Applicant details

Applicant's name:

Shire of Beverley

1.3. Property details

Property:

LOT 29285 ON DEPOSITED PLAN 91069, BEVERLEY

Colloquial name: Local Government

BEVERLEY, SHIRE OF

Authority: DER Region:

Greater Swan

DPaW District:

CENTRAL WHEATBELT

Localities: BEVERLEY

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)

No. Trees

Method of Clearing

For the purpose of:

0.12 Mechanical Removal

Road construction or upgrades

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit

Granted

Application:

Decision Date:

06 April 2017

Reasons for Decision:

The clearing permit application has been assessed against the clearing principles, planning instruments and other matters in accordance with section 510 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*, and it has been concluded that the proposed clearing may be at variance to Principle (d) and is not likely to be at variance to any of the remaining clearing principles.

Through assessment the Delegated Officer determined that the proposed clearing may impact the environmental values of adjacent vegetation, that may be representative of a threatened ecological community, through the introduction or spread of weeds and dieback, and is otherwise unlikely to have any significant environmental impacts.

Weed and dieback management measures, as well as revegetating the redundant road alignment will minimise impacts to the adjacent vegetation.

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 Beard vegetation association 352: Medium woodland; York gum (Shepherd et al., 2001). Clearing Description
The application is for the clearing of 0.12 hectares of native vegetation within Lot 29285 on Deposited Plan 91069, Beverley, for the purpose of road widening.

Vegetation Condition Degraded; Structure severely disturbed; regeneration to good condition requires intensive management (Keighery, 1994). Comment

The condition and structure of the vegetation within the application area was determined by photos supplied by the applicant (Shire of Beverley, 2017).

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

Comments

The application is to clear up to 0.12 hectares of native vegetation within Lot 29285 on Deposited Plan 91069, Beverley, for the purpose of road widening.

The local area considered in the assessment of this application is defined as a 10 kilometre radius measured from the perimeter of the proposed clearing area.

According to the available datasets, 17 priority and two rare flora species have mapped within the local area. An on ground survey indicated that the proposed clearing area does not contain rare or priority flora species (Department of Parks and Wildlife, 2017) (Parks and Wildlife, 2017).

The application area is adjacent to an intact portion of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* listed Eucalyptus Woodlands of the Western Australian Wheatbelt threatened ecological community (TEC) (Parks and Wildlife, 2017). The application area is in a degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition and is unlikely to be a representation of the TEC however, may be acting as a buffer to the TEC (Parks and Wildlife, 2017). Given the degraded (Keighery, 1994) nature and small linear amount of clearing any potential impacts to the TEC are not likely to be significant.

Weed and dieback management as well as revegetating the redundant road alignment is likely to mitigate the potential impacts to adjoining vegetation and TEC.

According to the available datasets, eleven threatened fauna, one fauna protected under international agreement and nine priority fauna have been recorded within the local area (of Parks and Wildlife, 2007-). This includes but not limited to, Carnaby's cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus latirostris*), woylie (*Bettongia penicillata subsp. ogilbyi*), chuditch (*Dasyurus geoffroii*), malleefowl (*Leipoa ocellata*) and quokka (*Setonix brachyurus*) (Department of Parks and Wildlife, 2007-). Given the size and degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition of the vegetation under application, it is considered that the application area is unlikely to contain significant habitat for fauna indigenous to Western Australia.

The vegetation under application is represented by Beard Vegetation Association 352 which has 17 per cent of its pre-European vegetation extent remaining within the Avon Wheatbelt IBRA Bioregion (Government of Western Australia, 2016).

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 vegetation type mapped within the application area is below the 30 per cent threshold level. As the application area has been subjected to past disturbances it is unlikely the mapped vegetation type is represented in the application area. Considering this along with the relatively small amount of clearing required, the proposed clearing is unlikely to significantly impact on the recorded vegetation type.

The application area is within an extensively cleared landscape with approximately 15 per cent of pre-European vegetation remaining within 10 kilometres of the proposed clearing area. However, the vegetation under application is unlikely to provide habitat for conservation significant flora or fauna therefore is not considered significant as a remnant.

There are no wetlands or watercourses mapped within the application area. Given this, it is considered that the proposed clearing is unlikely to impact on vegetation growing in association with a wetland, deteriorate the quality of groundwater or surface water, or cause or exacerbate flooding. It is also considered that the proposed clearing is unlikely to contribute to or cause land degradation.

According to the available datasets, no conservation areas have been mapped within the local area.

Given the above, the proposed clearing may be at variance to Principle (d) and is not likely to be at variance to any of the remaining clearing Principles.

Methodology

References:

Commonwealth of Australia (2001) Department of Parks and Wildlife (2007-) Department of Parks and Wildlife (2017) Government of Western Australia (2016) Keighery (1994)

GIS datasets:

- Hydrography linear
- Parks and Wildlife Tenure
- SAC Bio datasets accessed March 2017

Planning instruments and other relevant matters.

Comments

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

The application was advertised in The West Australian newspaper on 2 January 2017 for a 21-day submission period. No public submissions have been received.

Methodology

GIS datasets:

Aboriginal Sites of Significance

4. References

Commonwealth of Australia (2001) National Objectives and Targets for Biodiversity Conservation 2001-2005, Canberra. Department of Parks and Wildlife (2017) Advice received in relation to CPS 7394/1 - Shire of Beverley (DER Ref:A1407900). Government of Western Australia (2016). 2016 Statewide Vegetation Statistics incorporating the CAR Reserve Analysis (Full Report). Current as of October 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.

Parks and Wildlife (2007-) NatureMap: Mapping Western Australia's Biodiversity. Department of Parks and Wildlife. URL: http://naturemap.dpaw.wa.gov.au/. Accessed March 2017.

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.

Shire of Beverley (2017) Photos of the application area in relation to Clearing Permit Application CPS 7394/1 – Shire of Beverley (DER Ref:A1407952).