GOVERNMENT OF
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

PERMIT DETAILS

Area Permit Number: CPS 7433/1
Duration of Permit: From 17 June 2017 to 17 June 2019

PERMIT HOLDER

Darren Bradley Wolfe
Samantha Wolfe

LAND ON WHICH CLEARING IS TO BE DONE

Lot 2011 on Deposited Plan 133497, Bornholm

AUTHORISED ACTIVITY

The Permit Holder shall not clear more than 0.31 hectares of native vegetation within the area cross-hatched yellow on attached Plan 7433/1.

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.

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;
weed/s means any plant -

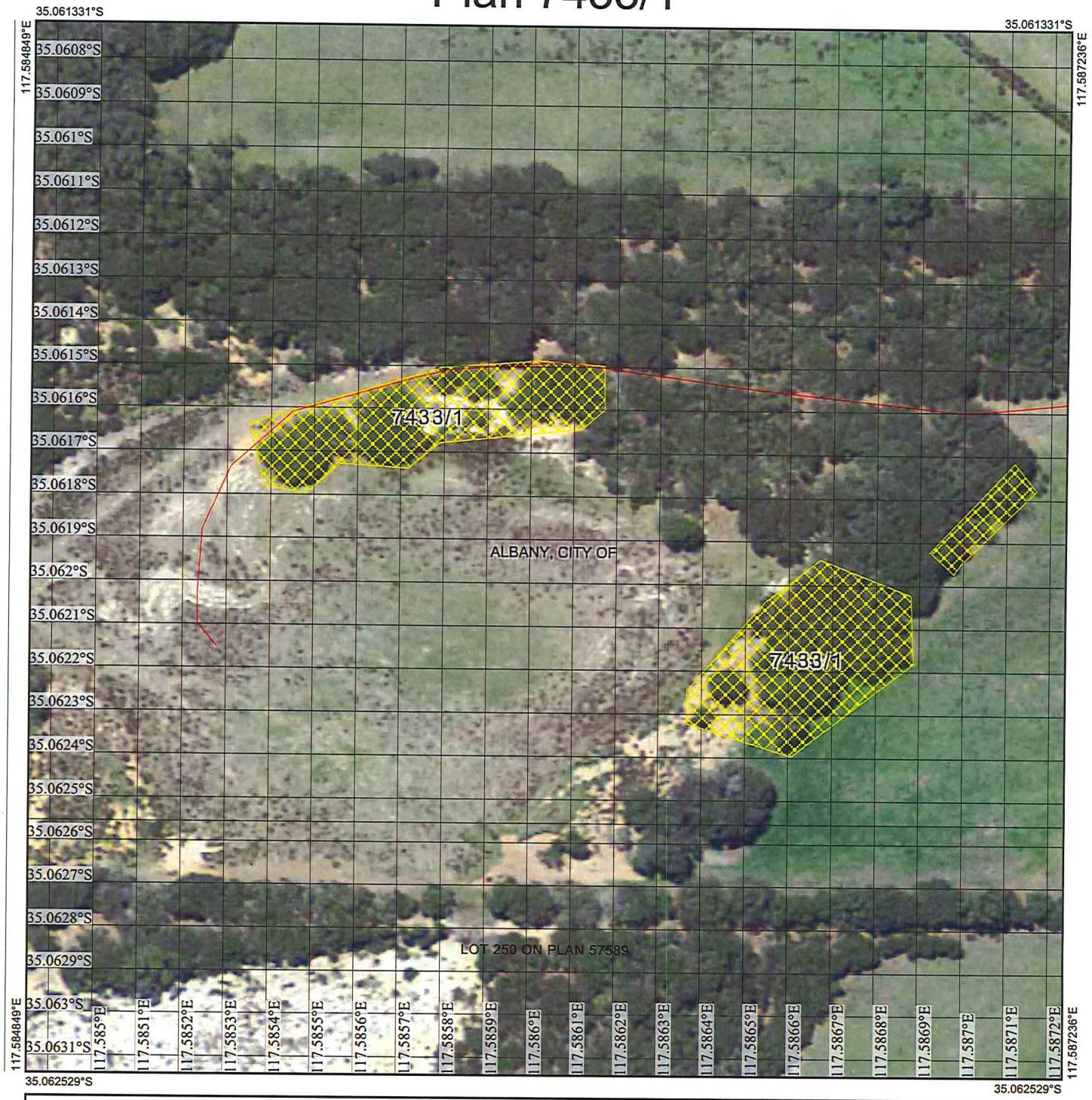
(a) that is a declared pest under section 22 of the Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act 2007; or
(b) published in a Department of Parks and Wildlife Regional Weed Rankings Summary, regardless of ranking; or
(c) not indigenous to the area concerned.

Emma Bramwell
A/ MANAGER
CLEARING REGULATION

Officer delegated under Section 20
of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

16 May 2017

Plan 7433/1



Legend

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

N

0 50m

1:1,153

(Approximate when reproduced at A4)

GDA 94 (Lat/Long)

Geocentric Datum of Australia 1994

..... Date 16/05/17

Officer delegated under section 20 of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

GOVERNMENT OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Government of Western Australia
Department of Environment Regulation

Clearing Permit Decision Report

1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 7433/1
Permit type: Area Permit

1.2. Applicant details

Applicant's name: Mr Darren Wolfe

1.3. Property details

Property: LOT 2011 ON PLAN 133497, BORNHOLM
Colloquial name:
Local Government Authority: ALBANY, CITY OF
DER Region: South Coast
DPaW District: ALBANY
LCDC:
Localities: BORNHOLM

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
0.31		Mechanical Removal	Extractive industry

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Granted
Decision Date: 16 May 2017
Reasons for Decision: The clearing permit application was received on 30 December 2016 and has been assessed against the clearing principles, planning instruments and other matters in accordance with section 51O 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 proposed clearing is not likely to result in any significant environmental impacts.

The Delegated Officer determined that the proposed clearing may impact the environmental values of adjacent vegetation through the possible introduction or spread of weeds and dieback. To minimise these impacts, the clearing permit contains conditions requiring weed and dieback management measures.

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 application area is mapped as Beard vegetation association 3, which is described as Medium forest; *Eucalyptus marginata* (jarrah) - *Corymbia calophylla* (marri) (Shepherd et al, 2001)	The application is to clear 0.31 hectares of native vegetation within Lot 2011 on Deposited Plan 133497, Bornholm, for the purpose of agricultural lime extraction.	Completely Degraded; No longer intact, completely/almost completely without native species (Keighery, 1994).	The condition of the vegetation within the application area was determined via a site inspection conducted by Department of Environment Regulation (DER) officers on 28 March 2017.

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

Comments The application is to clear 0.31 hectares of native vegetation within Lot 2011 on Deposited Plan 133497, Bornholm, for the purpose of agricultural lime extraction.

A DER site inspection identified that the application area contained regrowth vegetation consisting of *Agonis flexuosa* (peppermint), over an understorey of exotic weeds, and was in Completely Degraded (Keighery 1994) condition (DER, 2017). The application area is on the periphery of a larger remnant, which has connectivity to the West Cape Howe National Park.

The soils within the application area have been mapped at a regional scale by the Department of Agriculture and Food Western Australia as the Broke System (Map unit 254Br), and are described as a poorly drained plain with low granitic rises, along the coast of the Warren-Denmark Southland. Non-saline wet soil and pale deep sand soils also occur.

According to available databases, one rare flora species and 18 priority flora species have been recorded within the local area (defined as a 10 kilometre radius measured from the perimeter of the application area) (Western Australian Herbarium 1998-). Noting the presence of a sandy slope within the application area, it is possible that *Synaphea incurva* (Priority 1) occurs within the application area. The Department of Parks and Wildlife (Parks and Wildlife) noted that the application is for the purpose of lime extraction, and advised that this species has not been recorded in association with limestone and is therefore not likely to occur within the application area (Parks and Wildlife, 2017a). Parks and Wildlife advised that the vegetation within the application area has no known threatened (rare) flora (Parks and Wildlife, 2017b). Noting this, the application area is not likely to include or be necessary for the continued existence of rare flora.

According to available databases, no threatened or priority ecological communities are mapped within the application area. Parks and Wildlife advised that the vegetation within application area has no known threatened or priority ecological communities, and is unlikely to be significant within a regional (local) context (Parks and Wildlife, 2017b). Noting this, the application area is not likely to comprise a high level of floristic diversity, or comprise or be necessary for the maintenance of a threatened ecological community.

According to available databases, 13 threatened fauna, 13 fauna protected under international agreement, two other specially protected fauna, and eight priority fauna have been recorded within the local area (Parks and Wildlife, 2007-). Approximately half of these species are associated with wetland and/or ocean habitats, which are not present within the application area.

The peppermint within the application area provides suitable habitat for the threatened fauna western ringtail possum (*Pseudocheirus occidentalis*) (Parks and Wildlife, 2017a; Parks and Wildlife, 2017b). During the DER site inspection, no western ringtail possum dreys or scats were observed within the application area or within the immediately adjoining vegetation (DER, 2017). Noting the extent of the proposed clearing and the condition of the vegetation, the application area is not likely to comprise significant habitat for this species.

The threatened fauna Carnaby's cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus latirostris*), Baudin's cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus baudinii*) and forest red-tailed black cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus banksii* subsp. *naso*) have a preference for foraging habitat that includes jarrah and marri woodlands (as per the mapped vegetation association within which the application area is located), and forest heathland and woodland dominated by proteaceous plant species such as *Banksia* spp., *Hakea* spp. and *Grevillea* spp. (Commonwealth of Australia, 2012). The application area did not contain suitable foraging habitat for these species (DER, 2017).

Noting the size of the application area and the condition of the vegetation, and the presence of native vegetation in better condition located immediately north and south of the application area, the application area is not likely to comprise significant habitat for fauna indigenous to Western Australia.

The application area is located within the Warren Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation of Australia (IBRA) bioregion and the City of Albany, which retain approximately 79 and 36 per cent of their pre-European vegetation extents respectively (Government of Western Australia, 2016). The application area is mapped as Beard vegetation association 3, of which there is approximately 78 per cent of the pre-European extent remaining within the Warren IBRA bioregion (Government of Western Australia, 2016).

The national objectives and targets for biodiversity conservation includes a target to prevent the clearance of ecological communities with an extent below 30 per cent of that present pre-European settlement (Commonwealth of Australia, 2001). The Warren bioregion, City of Albany and mapped vegetation association retain more than the 30 per cent minimum threshold for representation. Noting the size of the application area and the condition of the vegetation, the application area is not likely to be significant as a remnant in an area that has been extensively cleared.

According to available databases, no watercourses or wetlands have been mapped within the application area. The application area is not likely to include vegetation growing in association with a watercourse or wetland.

The West Cape Howe National Park is located approximately one kilometre south of the application area. Noting the separation distance, the proposed clearing is not likely to impact on the environmental values of this conservation area. However, the proposed clearing may impact the environmental values of adjacent vegetation through the possible introduction or spread of weeds and dieback.

Noting the size of the application area, the proposed clearing is not likely to cause deterioration in the quality of groundwater or surface water, cause or exacerbate the incidence or intensity of flooding, or cause appreciable land degradation.

Noting the above, the proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to the clearing principles.

Implementing weed and dieback hygiene management practices will limit the risk of weeds and dieback spreading within adjacent vegetation.

Methodology

References:
Commonwealth of Australia (2001)
Commonwealth of Australia (2012)
DER (2017)

Government of Western Australia (2016)
Parks and Wildlife (2007-)
Parks and Wildlife (2017a)
Parks and Wildlife (2017b)
Western Australian Herbarium (1998-)

GIS datasets:
- SAC Bio datasets accessed April 2017
- Soils, statewide

Planning instruments and other relevant matters.

Comments

The application was advertised on the Department of Environment Regulation's website on 30 January 2017 for a 21 day submission period, and re-advertised on 21 April 2017 for a 14 day submission period. No public submissions have been received in relation to this application.

The City of Albany advised that the proposed clearing is located within the area approved for the purpose of extractive industry (City of Albany, 2017).

During the DER site inspection on 28 March 2017, DER officers observed potential unlawful clearing within a portion of the original application area. This portion was excluded from the application area and referred to DER's Compliance and Enforcement division for investigation.

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

Methodology

References:
City of Albany (2017)

GIS datasets
- Aboriginal Sites Register

4. References

City of Albany (2017) Advice for Clearing Permit Application CPS 7433/1, 30 January 2017. City of Albany. DER Ref: A1366565.

Commonwealth of Australia (2001) National Objectives and Targets for Biodiversity Conservation 2001-2005, Canberra.

Commonwealth of Australia (2012) EPBC Act referral guidelines for three threatened black cockatoo species. Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Populations and Communities, Canberra.

Department of Environment Regulation (DER) (2017) Site Inspection and Report for CPS 7433/1. Site inspection undertaken 28 March 2017. Department of Environment Regulation, Western Australia.

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

Department of Parks and Wildlife (Parks and Wildlife) (2017a) Species and Communities advice for Clearing Permit Application CPS 7433/1, 21 March 2017, Department of Parks and Wildlife. DER Ref: A1409911

Department of Parks and Wildlife (Parks and Wildlife) (2017b) Regional advice for Clearing Permit Application CPS 7433/1, 10 March 2017, Department of Parks and Wildlife. DER Ref: A1391992.

Keighery, B.J. (1994) Bushland Plant Survey: A Guide to Plant Community Survey for the Community. Wildflower Society of WA (Inc). Nedlands, Western Australia.

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.

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, Department of Parks and Wildlife (1998-). Text used with permission (https://florabase.dpaw.wa.gov.au/help/copyright). Accessed on 19 April 2017.