



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Purpose Permit number:	CPS 7442/1
Permit Holder:	Indian Ocean Farms Pty Ltd
Duration of Permit:	13 May 2017 – 13 May 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 installing and maintaining power lines and associated fire breaks

2. Land on which clearing is to be done

Lot 12479 on Plan 26727, Eneabba
Rose Thomson Road reserve (PIN 11674865), Eneabba
Garibaldi Willis Road reserve (PIN 11597955), Warradarge

3. Area of Clearing

The Permit Holder must not clear more than 0.6 hectares of native vegetation within the combined areas cross-hatched yellow on attached Plan 7442/1-A and Plan 7442/1-B.

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.

PART II – MANAGEMENT CONDITIONS

5. 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.

6. Dieback and weed control

When undertaking any clearing 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.



Simon Weighell
A/MANAGER
CLEARING REGULATION





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

13 April 2017

Plan 7442/1-A



Legend

-  Areas approved to clear
-  Roads
-  LGA
-  Cadastre
- Virtual Mosaic (LGATE-V001)



1:7,156

MGA94
Geocentric Datum of Australia 1994

S. Weighell Date *13/4/17*
S Weighell



Officer with delegated authority under Section 20
of the Environmental Protection Act 1986



Plan 7442/1-B



Legend

-  Areas approved to clear
 -  Roads
 -  LGA
 -  Cadastre
- Virtual Mosaic (LGATE-V001)



1:825

MGA 94
Geocentric Datum of Australia 1994

S. Weighell Date *13/4/17*
S Weighell

Officer with delegated authority under Section 20
of the Environmental Protection Act 1986





1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 7442/1
Permit type: Purpose Permit

1.2. Applicant details

Applicant's name: Indian Ocean Farms Pty Ltd

1.3. Property details

Property: ROAD RESERVE - 11674865, ENEABBA
ROAD RESERVE - 11597955, WARRADARGE
LOT 12479 ON PLAN 26727, ENEABBA
Local Government Authority: CARNAMAH, SHIRE OF
DER Region: Midwest
DPaW District: MOORA
LCDC: Carnamah
Localities: ENEABBA

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
0.6		Mechanical Removal	Water/gas/cable/pipeline/power installation

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Granted
Decision Date: 13 April 2017
Reasons for Decision: The clearing permit application was received on 11 January 2017 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 has 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, however, weed and dieback management measures will minimise impacts.

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 379 described as "Shrublands; scrub-heath on lateritic sandplain in the central Geraldton Sandplain Region" and Beard vegetation association 49 described as "Shrublands; mixed heath" (Shepherd et al., 2001)	The application is to clear 0.6 hectares of native vegetation within Lot 12479 on Plan 26727 and Rose Thomson Road reserve (PIN 11674865), Eneabba, and Garibaldi Willis Road reserve (PIN 11597955), Warradarge, for the purpose of installing and maintaining power lines and associated fire breaks.	Pristine: Pristine or nearly so, no obvious signs of disturbance. Excellent: Vegetation structure intact; disturbance affecting individual species; weeds are non-aggressive species. Very Good; Vegetation structure altered; obvious signs of disturbance (Keighery, 1994).	The condition of the vegetation within the application area was determined via a review of aerial imagery, photographs and flora surveys (Williams & Son 2017a; Williams & Son 2017b). The portion of the application area along Rose Thomson Road is considered to be in pristine to excellent condition and the portion of the application area along Garibaldi-Willis Road is considered to be in excellent to very good condition.

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

Comments

The application is to clear 0.6 hectares of native vegetation within Lot 12479 on Plan 26727 and Rose Thomson Road reserve (PIN 11674865), Eneabba, and Garibaldi Willis Road reserve (PIN 11597955), Warradarge, for the purpose of installing and maintaining power lines and associated fire breaks.

According to available databases, nine rare flora species and 47 priority flora species have been mapped within the local area (10 kilometre radius). Of the 47 priority flora species, the records of 14 species occur within the same mapped soil and vegetation types as the application area. Of the nine rare flora species, two species occur within the same mapped soil and vegetation types as the application area.

Two flora surveys were commissioned by the applicant; one for the portion of the application area along Rose Thomson Road and one for the portion of the application area along Garibaldi-Willis Road (Williams & Son, 2017a; Williams & Son, 2017b). The survey of the application area along Rose Thomson Road recorded two priority flora species, *Allocasuarina ramosissima* (P3) and *Banksia fraseri* var *crebra* (P3) (Williams & Son, 2017a). The survey of the application area along Garibaldi-Willis Road recorded one priority flora species, *Banksia cypholoba* (P3) (Williams & Son, 2017b).

Priority 3 flora species are species that are known from several locations, and the species do not appear to be under imminent threat, or from few but widespread locations with either large population size or significant remaining areas of apparently suitable habitat, much of it not under imminent threat (Smith, 2017). Officer level advice has been received from the Department of Parks and Wildlife (Parks and Wildlife) outlining that the potential impacts to the recorded priority flora species from the proposed clearing are unlikely to be significant with respect to their conservation (Parks and Wildlife, 2017).

No rare flora species were recorded in either flora survey (Williams & Son, 2017a; Williams & Son, 2017b).

The proposed clearing of 0.6 hectares along a narrow linear corridor is not expected to result in the loss of any populations of conservation significant flora.

No threatened or priority ecological communities are mapped within the application area.

One fauna species listed as rare or likely to become extinct under the *Wildlife Conservation Act 1950* has been recorded within the local area; Carnaby's cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus latirostris*) (Department of Parks and Wildlife, 2007-). The priority 3 *Hylaeus globuliferus* (bee) has also been recorded within the local area (Department of Parks and Wildlife, 2007-).

Noting the linear and narrow nature of the application area, the local area having approximately 46 per cent native vegetation remaining, and the substantial area of remnant vegetation in similar condition located immediately west of Rose Thomson Road, the application area is not likely to contain significant habitat for fauna indigenous to Western Australia.

The application area is located within the Geraldton Sandplains Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation of Australia (IBRA) bioregion and the Shire of Carnamah which retain approximately 45 and 41 per cent of their pre-European vegetation extents respectively (Government of Western Australia, 2016).

The application area is mapped as Beard vegetation associations 49 and 379, of which there is approximately 36 and 24 per cent of the pre-European extents remaining respectively within the Geraldton Sandplains 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). Noting the size and narrow, linear nature of the application area, and the extent of vegetation remaining in the local area, the vegetation under application is not likely to be significant as a remnant in an area that has been highly cleared.

According to available databases, no watercourses or wetlands have been mapped within the application area.

The application area does not intersect with any conservation areas.

The proposed clearing is not likely to deteriorate the quality of groundwater or surface water, cause or exacerbate flooding or cause appreciable land degradation.

Noting the above, the proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to the clearing principles. Implementing hygiene management practices will limit the risk of weeds and dieback spreading within adjacent vegetation.

Methodology

References:
Commonwealth of Australia (2001)
Department of Parks and Wildlife (2007-)
Department of Parks and Wildlife (2017)
Government of Western Australia (2016)
Smith (2017)
Williams & Son (2017a)
Williams & Son (2017b)

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

Planning instruments and other relevant matters.

- Comments** The application was advertised on the Department of Environment Regulation's website on 28 February 2017 for a 21 day submission period. The application was also advertised in *The West Australian* newspaper. One public submission has been received in relation to this application. The submission objected to the application and raised concerns regarding:
- choice of location of the application area;
 - high biodiversity;
 - threatened flora species; and
 - priority flora species.

The assessment outlined in Section 3 has not identified any significant environmental impacts that would warrant the refusal of the application.

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

- 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 (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.
- Department of Parks and Wildlife (Parks and Wildlife) (2017) Species and Communities and Regional advice for Clearing Permit Application CPS 7442/1, 12 April 2017, Department of Parks and Wildlife. DER Ref: A1412035.
- 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.
- Smith M.G. (2017) Threatened and Priority Flora List, 8 March 2017. Department of Parks and Wildlife: Kensington, WA.
- Williams & Son (2017a), Report on Flora and other Environmental factors relating to application to clear native vegetation in the Rose Road area in the Shire of Carnamah, unpublished report prepared for Blair Fox Pty Ltd, 17 February 2017.
- Williams & Son (2017b), Report on Flora and other Environmental factors relating to application to clear native vegetation in the Garibaldi-Willis Road area in the Shire of Carnamah, unpublished report prepared for Blair Fox Pty Ltd, 26 February 2017.