



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

PERMIT DETAILS

Area Permit Number: 7458/1
File Number: 2016/001754
Duration of Permit: 9 July 2017 to 9 July 2019

PERMIT HOLDER

Shire of Esperance

LAND ON WHICH CLEARING IS TO BE DONE

Lot 872 on Deposited Plan 187608, Pink Lake
Lot 691 on Plan 9468, Pink Lake

AUTHORISED ACTIVITY

The Permit Holder shall not clear more than 0.48 hectares of native vegetation within the area hatched yellow on attached Plan 7458/1.

CONDITIONS

1. 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*:
 - (i) clean earth-moving machinery of soil and vegetation prior to entering and leaving the area to be cleared;
 - (ii) ensure that no *weed*-affected soil, *mulch*, *fill* or other material is brought into the area to be cleared; and
 - (iii) restrict the movement of machines and other vehicles to the limits of the areas to be cleared.
- (b) At least once in each 12 month period for the term of this Permit, the Permit Holder must remove or kill any *weeds* growing within areas cleared under this Permit.

Definitions

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

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.

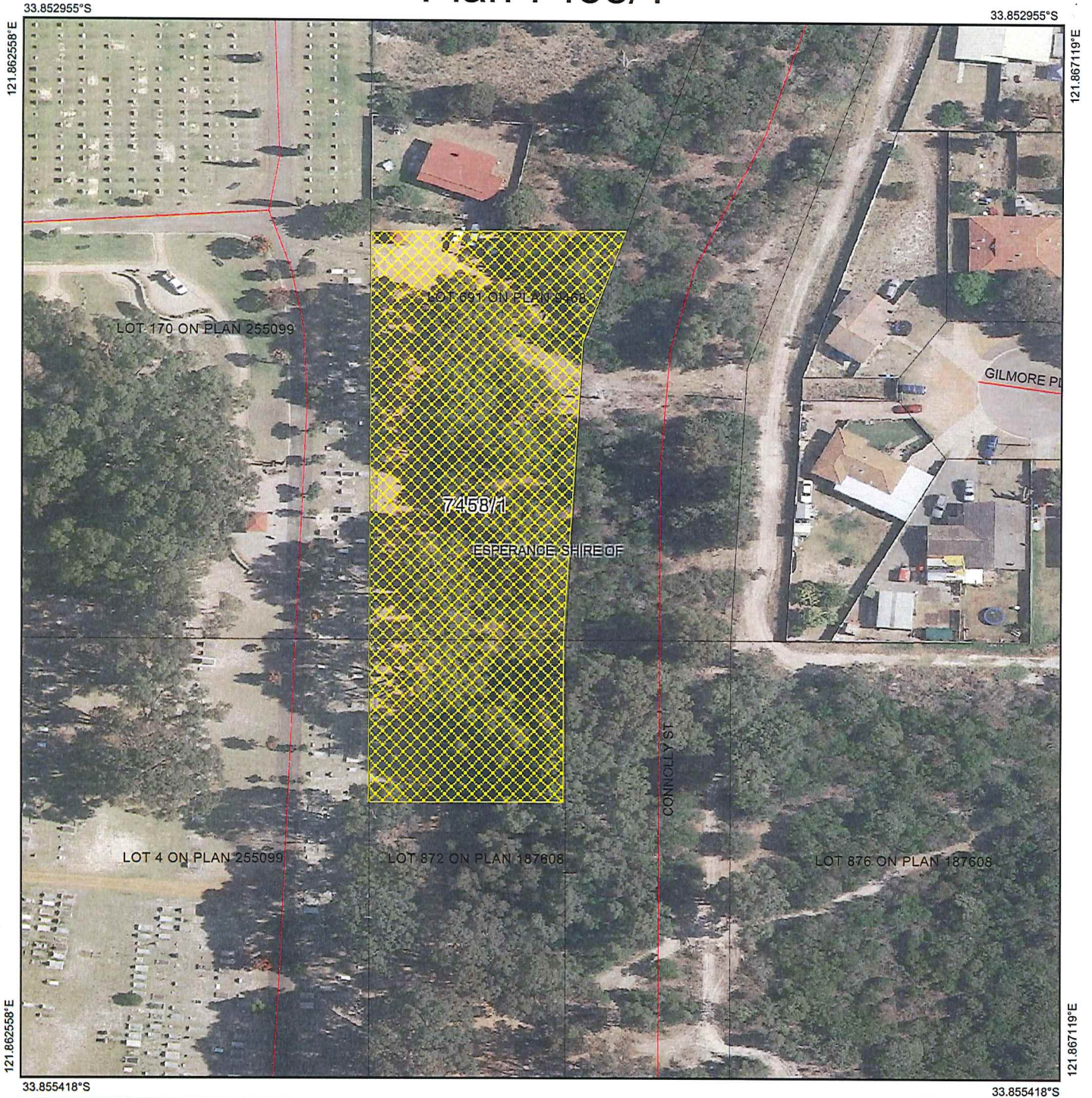


Mathew Gannaway
MANAGER
CLEARING REGULATION

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

13 June 2017

Plan 7458/1



Legend

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



1:1,000
 (Approximate when reproduced at A4)
 GDA 94 (Lat/Long)
 Geocentric Datum of Australia 1994

Matthew Gannaway Date 13 June 2017

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



1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 7458/1
Permit type: Area Permit

1.2. Applicant details

Applicant's name: Shire of Esperance

1.3. Property details

Property: Lot 872 on Deposited Plan 187608, Pink Lake
Lot 691 on Plan 9468, Pink Lake

Local Government Authority: Esperance, Shire of
DER Region: Goldfields
DPaW District: Esperance

Localities: Pink Lake

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
0.48		Mechanical Removal	Carpark for the Esperance Cemetery

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Grant
Decision Date: 13 June 2017

Reasons for Decision: The clearing permit application was received on 2 February 2017 and has been assessed against the clearing principles, planning instruments and other matters in accordance with section 51O of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*. 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 may impact the environmental values of adjacent remnant vegetation through the possible introduction or spread of weeds. Weed management measures will minimise impacts to this remnant vegetation.

The Delegated Officer determined that the proposed clearing is unlikely to have any significant environmental 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 has been mapped as Beard vegetation association 42 which is described as Shrublands; mallee & <i>Acacia</i> scrub on south coastal dunes (Shepherd et al., 2001).	The applicant proposes to clear 0.48 hectares of native vegetation within Lot 872 on Deposited Plan 187608 and Lot 691 on Plan 9468, Pink Lake, for the purpose of a carpark for the Esperance Cemetery.	Good; Structure significantly altered by multiple disturbance; retains basic structure/ability to regenerate (Keighery, 1994). to Completely Degraded; No longer intact, completely/almost completely without native species (Keighery, 1994).	The condition and description of the vegetation within the application area was determined via a site inspection conducted by Department of Environment Regulation (DER) officers in March 2017 (DER, 2017) and the Shire of Esperance's site inspection report (Shire of Esperance, 2017). The native vegetation within the application area is in a good to completely degraded (Keighery 1994) condition (DER, 2017).

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

Comments	<p>The applicant proposes to clear 0.48 hectares of native vegetation within Lot 872 on Deposited Plan 187608 and Lot 691 on Plan 9468, Pink Lake, for the purpose of a carpark for the Esperance Cemetery.</p> <p>A site inspection by DER officers identified that the application area is comprised of large <i>Eucalyptus</i> sp. trees over <i>Acacia</i> sp. shrubs and the understorey is dominated by exotic species. The vegetation is considered to be in a good to degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition (DER, 2017). The Shire of Esperance inspection report identified that the application area includes planted non-endemic species (Shire of Esperance, 2017).</p> <p>Thirteen fauna species listed as rare or likely to become extinct have been mapped within the local area (20 kilometre radius) (Department of Parks and Wildlife, 2007-), including the Carnaby's cockatoo (<i>Calyptorhynchus latirostris</i>). The application area is located within the Carnaby's cockatoo non-breeding range. Black cockatoos forage on the seeds, nuts and flowers of a large variety of plants including Proteaceous species (<i>Banksia</i>, <i>Hakea</i> and <i>Grevillea</i>), as well as <i>Allocasuarina</i> and <i>Eucalyptus</i> species, <i>Corymbia calophylla</i> and a range of introduced species, especially seeds from cones of <i>Pinus</i> species (Shah 2006; Valentine and Stock 2008).</p> <p>Noting the DER site inspection indicates that the application area contains large <i>Eucalyptus</i> trees, <i>Acacia</i> shrubs and weeds, it is considered that the application area is not likely to contain suitable foraging for black cockatoo species. The Department of Parks and Wildlife advised that "the tuart trees on the site have been planted and do not occur naturally. Whilst Carnaby's cockatoos may periodically feed off the tuarts it is not certain how critical this patch of trees is for roosting" (Department of Parks and Wildlife, 2017). Given that the application area is surrounded by vegetation in a similar or better condition, it is considered that the application area is not likely to contain significant foraging habitat for fauna indigenous to Western Australia.</p> <p>The disturbance caused by the proposed clearing may increase the risk of weeds being introduced into adjacent areas of remnant vegetation. Weed management measures will minimise impacts to surrounding native vegetation.</p> <p>The vegetation within the application area is mapped as Beard vegetation association 42 of which there is approximately 95 per cent of pre-European extent remaining within the Esperance Plains 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). Noting the vegetation type within the application area is not considered a representative of the mapped vegetation association, the proposed clearing is not considered to be a significant remnant within an extensively cleared area.</p> <p>There are no wetlands or watercourses mapped within the application area, therefore the proposed clearing is not likely to impact on riparian vegetation or water quality, cause or exacerbate the incidence or intensity of flooding or result in water erosion.</p> <p>No rare or priority flora species or priority or threatened ecological communities (TEC) are mapped within the application area. The rare flora species and TEC mapped within the local area do not occur within the same vegetation and soil type as the application area. Considering this, it is unlikely the proposed clearing will impact on the conservation status of rare flora or a TEC.</p> <p>The assessment of the proposed clearing identified that it is not considered likely for the application area to comprise of a high level of biological diversity, contain significant fauna habitat, contain habitat suitable for rare or priority flora species, consist of a TEC and is not likely to lead to land degradation in the form of wind or water erosion or increase in the incidence or intensity of flooding.</p> <p>The assessment of the application identified that the proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to any of the clearing Principles. Implementing hygiene management practices will limit the risk of weeds spreading within adjacent vegetation.</p>
Methodology	<p>References:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Commonwealth of Australia (2001)DER (2017)Government of Western Australia (2016)Keighery (1994)Department of Parks and Wildlife (2007-)Department of Parks and Wildlife (2017)Shah (2006)Shire of Esperance (2017)Valentine and Stock (2008) <p>GIS Databases:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Hydrography, linearNLWRA, Current Extent of Native VegetationSAC Bio Datasets (accessed March 2017)South Coast Significant Wetlands

Planning instruments and other relevant matters.

Comments There are no Aboriginal Sites of Significance mapped within the application area.

The application area is within a Priority 3 area of the Esperance Water Reserve, which is a Public Drinking Water Source Area (PDWSA). Officer level advice from the Department of Water (DoW) outlines that "there are two public water supply bores located approximately 500m to the south of the proposed clearing. The purpose for the clearing is to provide car parking space for the Esperance cemetery. The DoW guidelines for landuse in PDWSA's, *Water quality protection note #25 land use compatibility tables for PDWSA*, consider cemeteries compatible in P3 areas, and therefore a carpark associated with a compatible land use is also compatible" (DoW 2017).

The application was advertised in *The West Australian* newspaper on 27 February 2017 and online on 21 February 2017 by DER inviting submissions from the public within a 21 day period. No submissions from the public were received in relation to this application.

Methodology References:
DoW (2017)

GIS Databases:
Aboriginal Sites of Significance
Public Drinking Water Source Areas

4. References

- Commonwealth of Australia (2001) National Objectives and Targets for Biodiversity Conservation 2001-2005, Canberra.
- Department of Environment Regulation (DER) (2017) Site Inspection Report for Clearing Permit Application CPS 7458/1. Site inspection undertaken 14 March 2017. Department of Environment Regulation, Western Australia. DER Ref: 1425657.
- Department of Parks and Wildlife (Parks and Wildlife) (2007-) NatureMap: Mapping Western Australia's Biodiversity. Department of Parks and Wildlife. URL: <http://naturemap.dec.wa.gov.au/>. Accessed March 2017.
- Department of Parks and Wildlife (Parks and Wildlife) (2017) Regional Advice for Clearing Permit Application CPS 7458/1. Department of Parks and Wildlife. DER Ref: A1432857.
- Department of Water (DoW) (2017) Direct Interest Response regarding Public Drinking Water Source Areas for Clearing Permit Application CPS 7548/1. Department of Water, Western Australia. DER Ref: A1391199.
- 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.
- Shah, B. (2006) Conservation of Carnaby's Black-Cockatoo on the Swan Coastal Plain, Western Australia. December 2006. Carnaby's Black-Cockatoo Recovery Project. Birds Australia, Western Australia.
- 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 Esperance (2017) Supporting Information for clearing permit application CPS 7458/1. Shire of Esperance. DER Ref: A1369342.
- Valentine, L.E. and Stock, W. (2008) Food Resources of Carnaby's Black Cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus latirostris*) in the Gnangara Sustainability Strategy Study Area. Edith Cowan University and Department of Environment and Conservation. December 2008.