

CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Purpose Permit number: CPS 7504/1

Permit Holder: Shire of Murchison

Duration of Permit: 28 July 2017 – 28 July 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 road construction.

2. Land on which clearing is to be done

Lot 215 on Deposited Plan 220578, Murchison

3. Area of Clearing

The Permit Holder must not clear more than 6.52 hectares of native vegetation within the area cross hatched yellow on attached Plan 7504/1.

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 for the activities described in condition 1 of this Permit to the extent that the Permit Holder has the power to carry out works involving clearing for those activities under the *Local Government Act 1995* or any other written law.

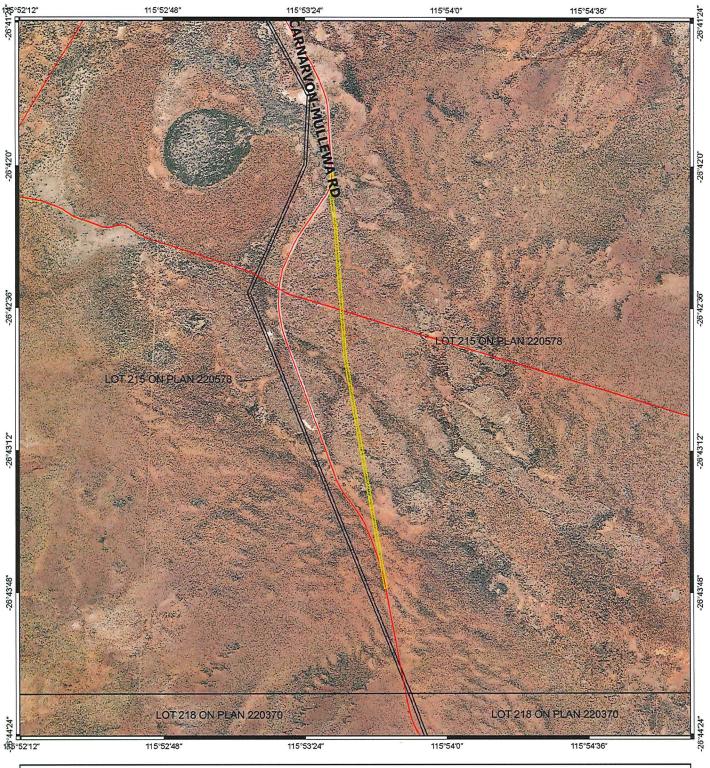
Simon Weighell A/MANAGER

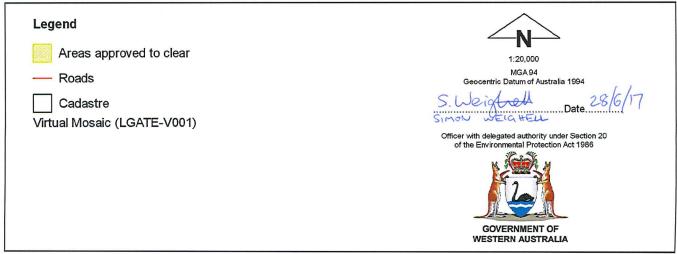
CLEARING REGULATION

Officer delegated under Section 20 of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

28 June 2017

Plan 7504/1







Clearing Permit Decision Report

1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.:

7504/1

Permit type:

Purpose Permit

1.2. Applicant details

Applicant's name:

Shire of Murchison

1.3. Property details

Property:

LOT 215 ON PLAN 220578, MURCHISON

Local Government Authority:

MURCHISON, SHIRE OF

DER Region:
DPaW District:
Localities:

Midwest GERALDTON MURCHISON

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)

No. Trees

Method of Clearing

For the purpose of:

6.52 Mechanical Removal

Road construction or upgrades

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit

Granted

Application:

Decision Date:

28 June 2017

Reasons for Decision:

This application was received on 23 February 2017.

The clearing 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 is not likely to be at variance to the clearing Principles.

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

The vegetation under application has been mapped as Beard vegetation association 29 which is described as "Sparse low woodland; mulga, discontinuous in scattered groups" (Shepherd et al., 2001).

Clearing Description The application is to clear 6.52 hectares of

clear 6.52 hectares native vegetation within Lot 215 on Plan 220578, Murchison for the purpose of road construction.

Vegetation Condition

Good; Vegetation structure altered; obvious signs of disturbance (Keighery, 1994).

Comment

The condition of the vegetation was determined by digital aerial imagery and images supplied by the applicant (Shire of Murchison, 2017).

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

Comments

The application to clear up to 6.52 hectares of native vegetation for the purpose of road construction is unlikely to have any significant environmental impacts. The vegetation under application falls within the Murchison Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation of Australia (IBRA) bioregion which retains above 99 per cent native vegetation cover (Government of Western Australia, 2016). The application area has been mapped as mulga woodlands which are well represented within the local area (20 kilometre radius surrounding the application area). The local area retains approximately 99 per cent native vegetation.

No fauna or flora species listed as rare or likely to become extinct under the *Wildlife Conservation Act 1950* have been recorded within the local area. No fauna species listed as Priority by the Department of Parks and Wildlife have been recorded within the local area. Although four Priority 1 or 2 flora species have been recorded in the local area, as the required habitat type is not present within the application area, they are not likely to be impacted.

No threatened ecological communities are mapped over the application area and no conservation areas occur in the local area.

The Priority Ecological Community (PEC), 'Mount Narryer calcrete groundwater assemblage type on Murchison Palaeodrainage on Mt Narryer Station' (Priority 1), approximately 13,500 hectares in size, has been mapped within the application area. The Department of Parks and Wildlife has advised that, "the end land use may have an impact [on] the groundwater faunal assemblage" (Department of Parks and Wildlife, 2017). Given the linear nature of the proposed clearing, size of the PEC, and extent of vegetation surrounding the application area, the proposed clearing is not likely to result in significant impacts to the PEC.

Given the above, the proposed clearing is not likely to impact on rare or priority flora, a priority or threatened ecological community, conservation reserves, significant fauna habitat or significant remnant vegetation within a highly cleared landscape.

As no wetlands or watercourses are mapped within the application area, given its linear nature and the extent of vegetation within the local area, the proposed clearing is not likely to impact on riparian vegetation, contribute to or cause land degradation, deteriorate the quality of ground water or surface water and is not likely to cause or exacerbate flooding.

Given the above, clearing the vegetation under application is not likely to be at variance to the clearing Principles.

Methodology

References:

Government of Western Australia (2016) Department of Parks and Wildlife (2017)

GIS Datasets: SAC Bio Datasets (accessed June 2017) Hydrography, linear NLWRA, Current Extent of Native Vegetation IBRA Australia Aerial Imagery DPaW Tenure

Planning instruments and other relevant matters.

Comments

The clearing permit application was advertised on the Department of Environment Regulation website on 13 March 2017 with a 21 day submission period. No public submissions have been received in relation to this application.

No Aboriginal Sites of Significance have been mapped within the application area.

Methodology

GIS Datasets:

Aboriginal Sites Register System

4. References

Department of Parks and Wildlife (Parks and Wildlife) (2017) Species and Communities PEC advice received in relation to Clearing Permit Application CPS 7504/1. Received 27 March 2017 (DER ref: A1409671).

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.

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 Murchison (2017) Documents submitted in support of clearing permit Application CPS 7504/1. Received 23 February 2017 and 7 April 2017 (DER ref: A1382083, A1438902).