



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

PERMIT DETAILS

Area Permit Number: 7575/1
File Number: 2017/000603-1
Duration of Permit: From 21 October 2017 to 21 October 2019

PERMIT HOLDER

Griffith Owen Roberts
Susan Fay Roberts

LAND ON WHICH CLEARING IS TO BE DONE

Lot 1 on Diagram 90385

AUTHORISED ACTIVITY

The Permit Holder shall not clear more than 15.5 hectares of native vegetation within the area cross-hatched yellow on attached Plan 7575/1.

CONDITIONS

1. 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*:

- (a) clean earth-moving machinery of soil and vegetation prior to entering and leaving the area to be cleared;
- (b) ensure that no *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:

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 Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions Regional Weed Rankings Summary, regardless of ranking; or
- (c) not indigenous to the area concerned.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Emma Bramwell", written over a horizontal line.

Emma Bramwell
A/MANAGER
CLEARING REGULATION

Officer delegated under Section 20 of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

19 September 2017

Plan 7575/1



Legend

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



1:2,500

MGA 94

Geocentric Datum of Australia 1994

E Bramwell Date: 19/09/17
E BRAMWELL

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



GOVERNMENT OF
WESTERN AUSTRALIA



1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 7575/1
Permit type: Area Permit

1.2. Applicant details

Applicant's name: Mr Griffith Roberts

1.3. Property details

Property: LOT 1 ON DIAGRAM 90385, DIAMOND TREE
Local Government Authority: MANJIMUP, SHIRE OF
DBCA Region/District: South Coast/Donnelly
Localities: DIAMOND TREE

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
15.5		Mechanical Removal	Horticulture and dam construction

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Grant
Decision Date: 19 September 2017
Reasons for Decision: This clearing permit application was received on 2 May 2017. The application was originally to clear for the purpose of horticulture, aquaculture and dam construction. During assessment, the purpose of the proposed clearing was amended to horticulture and dam construction.

The application 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 may be at variance to clearing principle (f), and is not likely to be at variance to the remaining 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

Clearing Description The clearing of 15.5 hectares of native vegetation within Lot 1 on Diagram 90385, Diamond Tree for the purposes of horticulture and dam construction.

Vegetation Description The vegetation within the application area is mapped within the following South West vegetation associations (Government of Western Australia, 2017):

- 68, Tall open forest of *Corymbia calophylla-Eucalyptus diversicolor* on upper slopes with *Allocasuarina decussata-Banksia grandis* on upper slopes in hyperhumid and perhumid zones.
- 221: Tall open forest of *Eucalyptus diversicolor* with mixtures of *Corymbia calophylla* on valley slopes and low forest of *Agonis juniperina-Banksia seminuda-Callistachys lanceolata* on valley floors in the perhumid zone.

A site inspection of the application area undertaken by officers of the former Department of Environment Regulation (DER) officers on 1 June 2017 described the vegetation within the application area as (DER, 2017):

- Tall Open/Closed *Eucalyptus diversicolor* Forest with *Corymbia calophylla*, *Eucalyptus marginata* and *Banksia grandis* in a very good condition (Keighery, 1994).
- Approximately 0.5 hectares of the application area is described as introduced blackberry (*Rubus* sp. Weed of National Environmental Significance) over, *Pteridium esculentum* and *Lepidosperma* sp. on a completely degraded condition.

Vegetation Condition Very Good; Vegetation structure altered; obvious signs of disturbance (Keighery, 1994).
To:

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

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

Comments The vegetation within the application area is described in section 2.1 and predominantly consists of a Tall, Open (Keighery, 1994) *Eucalyptus diversicolor* (karri) forest. The local area is defined as a 10 kilometre radius surrounding the application area.

The local area is highly vegetated, retaining approximately 53 per cent of its pre-European native vegetation. The mapped vegetation associations are well represented within the local area and retain approximately 86 per cent and 64 per cent pre-European extent respectively (Government of Western Australia, 2017). The application area is bordered on three sides by the Donnelly State forest. DER's site inspection noted that adjoining vegetation shows varying ages of growth (DER, 2017).

One minor, non-perennial watercourse is mapped within the application area. Given this, the proposed clearing may impact on vegetation growing in association with a watercourse. DER's site inspection identified that the watercourse originates within the application area and that there is minimal riparian vegetation associated with it (DER, 2017). On this basis, the proposed clearing may impact riparian vegetation, however the impacts are not likely to be significant.

Three conservation significant flora species have been recorded from within the local area. The habitat preferences for two of these species are not present within the application area. The third species is known from a single historical record within the local area, and is not likely to be present within the application area.

DER's site inspection identified that approximately 0.5 hectares of the application area contains introduced species blackberry (*Rubus* sp.), which is a 'weed of national environmental significance' (DER, 2017). Noting the proximity of the application area to the Donnelly State Forest, the proposed clearing may cause the spread of weeds into the adjacent vegetation. Weed management will mitigate this risk.

Noting the extent of native vegetation in the local area, presence of adjoining vegetation, highly represented vegetation types, absence of recent conservation-significant flora records from the local area and absence of suitable habitat trees for black cockatoo species; the proposed clearing is not likely to impact on rare or priority flora, priority or threatened ecological communities, or significant habitat for indigenous fauna, and the application area is not likely to be considered a significant remnant within an extensively cleared landscape.

Noting the minor nature of the mapped watercourse, the gently sloping topography, the presence of adjoining vegetation and the varying ages of growth (indicating previous disturbance), the proposed clearing is not likely to cause appreciable land degradation, deterioration in the quality of surface or underground water, and is not likely to cause or exacerbate the incidence or intensity of flooding.

Given the above, the proposed clearing may be at variance to principle (f) and is not likely to be at variance to the remaining clearing principles.

Methodology References:
DER (2017)
Government of Western Australia (2017)

Planning instruments and other relevant matters.

Comments The application was originally to clear 15.5 hectares of native vegetation on Lot 1 on Diagram 90385 for the purpose of horticulture, aquaculture and dam construction. During assessment of the application, the applicant provided a copy of a letter from the Shire of Manjimup noting that the applicant is not pursuing aquaculture at this time. The purpose of the proposed clearing has been amended to horticulture and dam construction.

The application area is zoned 'Priority Agriculture' under the town planning scheme. The Shire of Manjimup advised that it has no objections to the proposed clearing (Shire of Manjimup, 2017). The applicant provided a copy of a letter from the Shire of Manjimup which acknowledges that the applicant is not proposing to submit an application for development approval for 'Aquaculture' at this time and will pursue only the construction of a dam set back more than 20 metres from all boundaries of Lot 1, and states that the Shire of Manjimup has no objection to the construction of the dam however approval will be required to sell marron from the property or to construct a dam within 20 metres of the property boundary.

The application area is located within the Warren River and Tributaries Surface Water Area as proclaimed under the *Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914* (RIWI Act). The application area is also located within the Upper Lefroy Surface Water Allocation Subarea, which is fully allocated and the variable take has not been set (DoW, 2017). The applicant provided a copy of a letter from the former Department of Water which states that it has been determined that there are no watercourses entering Lot 1, and as such the proposed works will result in a 'spring dam' and will not be subject to licencing under the RIWI Act (sections 5c and 17) is not required.

The application area is located within 'Zone D' of the Warren River Water Reserve of the *Country Areas Water Supply Act 1914* (CAWS Act) (DoW, 2017). 'Zone D' is a low salinity risk part of the catchment, where CAWS Act policy and guidelines provide for the grant of a water licence subject to the retention of riparian vegetation and the retention of native vegetation on at least 10 per cent of the holding area. Should the clearing permit be granted, greater than 10 per cent of the property would remain vegetated (DoW, 2017).

The clearing permit application was advertised on 22 May 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.

The intended landuse has the potential to release additional nutrients and chemicals into the waterway, and to mitigate these risks, best practice measures such as adhering to manufacturer application rates for fertilisers, pesticides and herbicides, and the use of the slow release organic fertilisers, composts and manures for the horticultural landuse, are encouraged (DoW, 2017).

Methodology References:
DoW (2017)
Shire of Manjimup (2017)

4. References

- Department of Environment Regulation (2017) Site Inspection Report for Clearing Permit Application CPS 7575/1. Site inspection undertaken 1 June 2017. Department of Environment Regulation, Western Australia (DWER Ref: A1510267).
- Department of Water (DoW) (2017) Advice received in relation to clearing Permit Application CPS 7575/1. Received 30 May 2017 (DER ref. A1441060).
- Gibson N., Keighery B., Keighery G., Burbidge A. and Lyons M. (1994) A Floristic Survey of the Southern Swan Coastal Plain. Western Australian Department of Conservation and Land Management and the Western Australian Conservation Council.
- Government of Western Australia (2017) 2016 South West Vegetation Complex Statistics. Current as of December 2016. Department of Parks and Wildlife, Perth.
- Shire Of Manjimup (2017) Advice received in relation to clearing Permit Application CPS 7575/1. Received 8 June 2017. DWER ref: A1449960.