



## CLEARING PERMIT

*Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986*

<b>Purpose Permit number:</b>	CPS 7581/1
<b>Permit Holder:</b>	City of Busselton
<b>Duration of Permit:</b>	26 August 2017 – 26 August 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 maintaining the Obstacle Limitation Surface for the Busselton-Margaret River Airport.

**2. Land on which clearing is to be done**

Lot 51 on Plan 5398, Yoongarillup  
Lot 57 on Plan 5398, Yoongarillup  
Vasse Highway Road Reserve (PIN 11614360), Yalyalup

**3. Area of Clearing**

The Permit Holder must not clear more than 5.292 hectares of native vegetation within the area hatched yellow on attached Plan 7581/1.

**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.

**6. Clearing not authorised**

This Permit does not authorise the Permit Holder to clear native vegetation that grows less than 1 metre in height.

**PART II – MANAGEMENT CONDITIONS**

**7. 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:

- (a) avoid the clearing of native vegetation;
- (b) minimise the amount of native vegetation to be cleared; and
- (c) reduce the impact of clearing on any environmental value.



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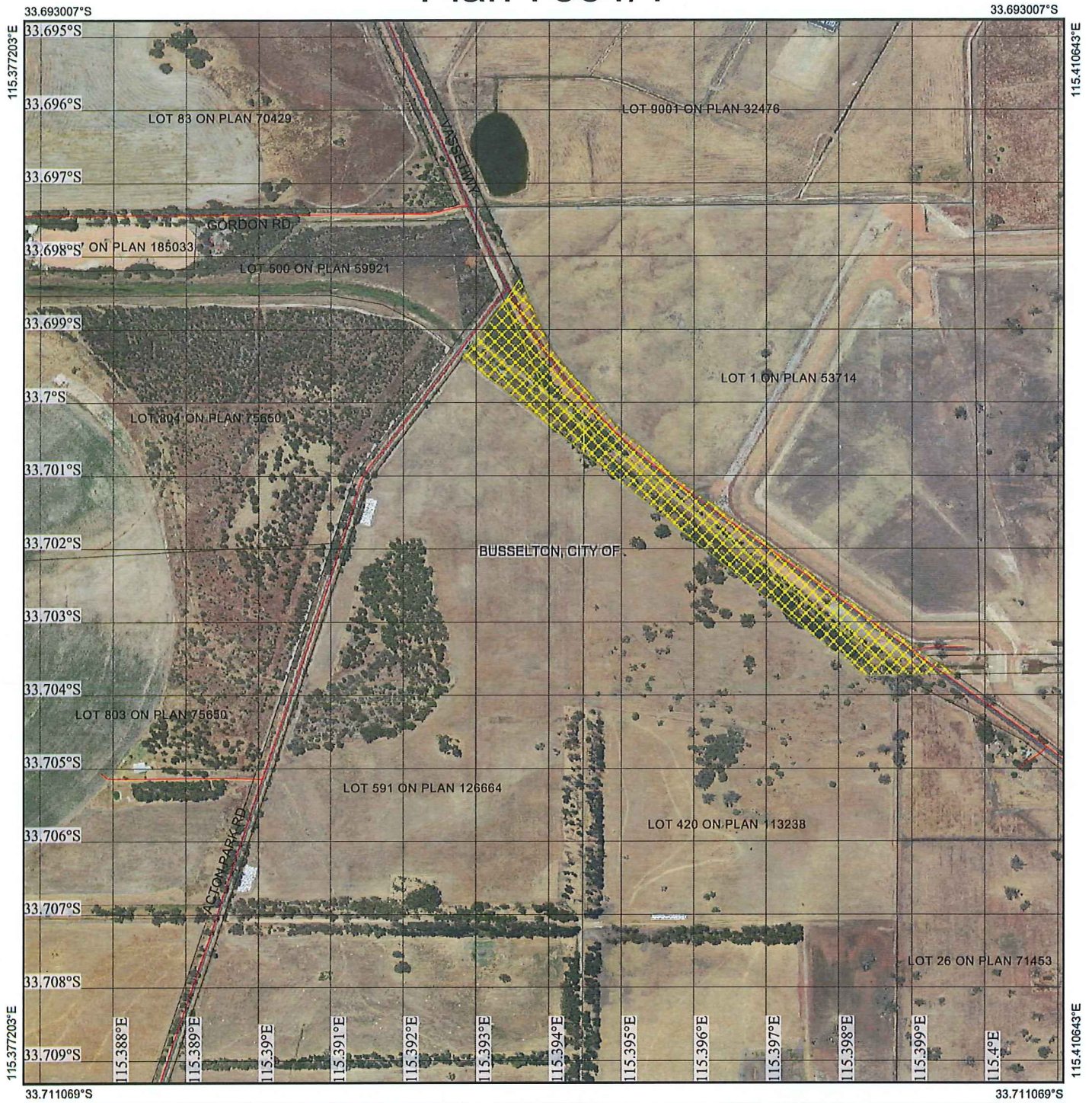
Mathew Gannaway  
MANAGER  
CLEARING REGULATION  
DEPARTMENT OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATION

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

25 July 2017

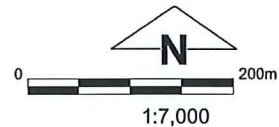


# Plan 7581/1



## Legend

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



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

*Matthew Gannaway* Date 25/07/2017

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





## 1. Application details

### 1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 7581/1  
Permit type: Purpose Permit

### 1.2. Proponent details

Applicant's name: City of Busselton

### 1.3. Property details

Property: Lot 51 on Plan 5398 and Lot 57 on Plan 5398, Yoongarillup and Vasse Highway Road reserve (PIN 11614360), Yalyalup  
Local Government Authority: City of Busselton  
DER Region: Greater Swan  
DPaW District: Blackwood  
Localities: Yoongarillup and Yalyalup

### 1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
5.292	0	Mechanical	Maintaining the Obstacle Limitation Surface for the Busselton-Margaret River Airport

### 1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Granted  
Decision Date: 25 July 2017  
Reasons for Decision: The clearing permit application was received on 2 May 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 at variance to Principle (f), and is not likely to be at variance to any of the remaining clearing Principles.  
  
The Delegated Officer determined that the proposed clearing is unlikely to have any significant environmental impacts.

## 2. Background

### 2.1. Existing environment and information

Vegetation Description	Clearing Description	Vegetation Condition	Comment
Mapped Matiske vegetation complex Abba is described as a mixture of open forest of <i>Corymbia calophylla</i> (Marri) - <i>Eucalyptus marginata</i> (Jarrah) - <i>Banksia</i> species and woodland of <i>Corymbia calophylla</i> (Marri) with minor occurrences of <i>Corymbia haematoxylon</i> (Mountain Marri). Woodland of <i>Eucalyptus rudis</i> (Flooded Gum) - <i>Melaleuca</i> species along creeks and on flood plains (Matiske and Havel, 1998).	The clearing of 5.292 hectares of native vegetation within Lot 51 on Plan 5398 and Lot 57 on Plan 5398, Yoongarillup and Vasse Highway Road reserve (PIN 11614360), Yalyalup, for the purpose of maintaining the Obstacle Limitation Surface for the Busselton-Margaret River Airport.	Completely Degraded; The structure of the vegetation is no longer intact and the area is completely without or almost completely without native species (Keighery, 1994).  to  Very Good; Vegetation Structure altered, obvious signs of disturbance (Keighery, 1994).	The condition and description of the vegetation was determined by a site inspection undertaken by former Department of Environment Regulation officers on 9 May 2017 (DER, 2017).

## 3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

**Comments** The application is to clear up to 5.292 hectares of native vegetation for the purpose of maintaining the Obstacle Limitation Surface for the Busselton-Margaret River Airport. While the application is for 5.292 hectares, approximately 3 hectares of the application area contains native vegetation, with the remaining area consisting of roads and areas devoid of native vegetation. The applicant has advised that only trees and shrubs greater than, or with the potential to grow greater than 1 metre in height will be cleared from the application area.

The vegetation types varied across the application area. The majority of vegetation within the Vasse Highway Road reserve (PIN 11614360) consists of *Eucalyptus rudis*, *Eucalyptus marginata* and *Corymbia calophylla* over a completed degraded understorey. The vegetation within Lot 57 on Plan 5398, Yoongarillup, consists of a range of native and non-native overstorey species, over a completed degraded understorey dominated by *Watsonia* species. The overstorey transitions from *Pinus pinaster* at the south-eastern end of the application

area, to *Eucalyptus rudis*, *Eucalyptus marginata* and *Corymbia calophylla* in the mid-section, with the northwest end of the lot containing *Melaleuca* shrublands in a degraded condition. Occasional native understorey grasses were noted. The vegetation within Lot 51 on Plan 5398, Yoongarillup was in a very good to degraded condition, with edge effects evident and consisted of a *Melaleuca* shrubland.

Sixty three species of priority flora and sixteen species of threatened flora have been recorded within the local area. The former Department of Parks and Wildlife (Parks and Wildlife) have advised that four priority flora and four threatened flora species may occur within the application area (Parks and Wildlife, 2017). Based on the condition of the vegetation within the application area, the priority and threatened flora species are only considered likely to occur within the 0.4 hectares of *Melaleuca* shrubland that occurs at the northern extent of the application area. However, Parks and Wildlife advised that as the City of Busselton will only remove trees greater than or with the potential to grow greater than one metre, with the shrubland vegetation not proposed to be impacted, impacts of the proposed clearing on conservation significant vegetation should be minimal (Parks and Wildlife, 2017).

There is a number of Priority and Threatened Ecological Communities mapped within the local area with the closest mapped occurrence being the 'Banksia Dominated Woodlands of the Swan Coast Plain' Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation for Australia region Threatened Ecological Community (TEC) which occurs approximately 300 metres to the north of the application area. The vegetation found within the application area is not representative of this TEC (DER, 2017). Parks and Wildlife have advised that the shrubland at the northern extent of the application area is considered to be an example of Floristic Community Type (FCT) 10a, Shrublands on dry clay flats, which is a State listed TEC. This FCT is also included in the group of vegetation types that comprise the Federally listed 'Claypans of the Swan Coastal Plain' critically endangered TEC (Parks and Wildlife, 2017). However, as the shrubland vegetation is not proposed to be impacted, the proposed clearing is not likely to significantly impact this TEC. The remainder of the vegetation within the application area is not considered to be representative of any mapped Priority Ecological Community or TEC.

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). The vegetation within the application area is mapped as Mattiske vegetation complex Abba, which retains approximately 6.6 per cent (3359 hectares) of its pre-European vegetation extent (Government of Western Australia, 2017). The local area (10 kilometres) retains approximately 14 per cent native vegetation cover (4601 hectares). Based on the condition and type of vegetation within the application area, the majority of the application area is not considered to be representative of this complex with only the 0.4 hectare *Melaleuca* shrubland considered to be representative. The applicant has advised that only one immature *Eucalyptus* tree located close to the road verge, one *Melaleuca* shrub and some dead plant material will be removed from within the 0.4 hectare *Melaleuca* shrubland. As the shrubland vegetation is not proposed to be impacted, the proposed clearing is not likely to significantly impact the *Melaleuca* shrubland. Noting the extent of the proposed clearing, vegetation condition within portions of the application area, the clearing not likely to impact on rare or priority flora and is not likely to impact on a PEC or TEC, the application area is not considered a significant remnant within a highly cleared landscape.

A number of conservation significant fauna are known to occur within the local area including the western ringtail possum and black cockatoo species (Parks and Wildlife, 2007-). The DER site inspection did not identify possum dreys or any mature *Agonis flexuosa* within the application area and no trees with the potential to contain black cockatoo nesting hollows (DER, 2017). While the black cockatoo species may forage in the application area, the vegetation within the application area is unlikely to be considered significant foraging habitat given the lack of proteaceous species. The proposed clearing is not likely to impact conservation significant ground dwelling indigenous fauna given that understorey species will not be cleared.

The closest conservation area is located approximately 2.8 kilometres from the application area. Given the distance from the application area, and the relatively small size of the proposed clearing, the clearing is unlikely to have any direct or indirect impacts on the environmental values of the conservation area.

A portion of the application area including the *Melaleuca* shrubland is mapped as a multiple use wetland and the application area contains a man-made conveyance, therefore the proposed clearing is at variance to Principle (f). Given the condition of the vegetation, the linear nature of the clearing and relatively few trees to be cleared, the proposed clearing is not likely to have a significant impact on the values of this wetland, 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, the proposed clearing is at variance to Principle (f) and is not likely to be at variance to the remaining clearing principles.

#### Methodology

References:  
Commonwealth of Australia (2001)  
Parks and Wildlife, (2007-)  
Parks and Wildlife (2017)  
DER (2017)  
Government of Western Australia (2017)  
Keighery (1994)  
Mattiske and Havel (1998)

GIS Databases:

- Hydrography, linear
- Hydrography, hierarchy
- Parks and Wildlife tenure
- SAC bio datasets accessed June 2017
- Virtual mosaic

**Planning instruments and other relevant matters.**

**Comments** No Aboriginal sites of significance have been mapped within the application area.

The application area is zoned as rural under the town planning scheme.

The clearing permit application was advertised on 24 May 2017 with a 21 day submission period. No public submissions have been received in relation to this application.

**Methodology** References:

GIS Databases:

- Aboriginal sites register system
- Town Planning Scheme Zones

**4. References**

- Commonwealth of Australia (2001) National Objectives and Targets for Biodiversity Conservation 2001-2005, Canberra.
- Department of Parks and Wildlife (2017) Advice received regarding Clearing Permit Application CPS 7441/1. Department of Parks and Wildlife. Western Australia. DER Ref: A1478100 & A1478101
- Department of Parks and Wildlife (2007- ) NatureMap: Mapping Western Australia's Biodiversity. Department of Parks and Wildlife. URL: <http://naturemap.dpaw.wa.gov.au/>. Accessed 12/06/2017
- Department of Environment Regulation (2017) Site Inspection Report for Clearing Permit Application CPS 7581/1. Site inspection undertaken 9 May 2017. Department of Environment Regulation, Western Australia DER Ref: A1480748
- Government of Western Australia (2017). 2016 South West Vegetation Complex Statistics. Current as of December 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.
- Mattiske, E.M. and Havel, J.J. (1998) Vegetation Complexes of the South-west Forest Region of Western Australia. Maps and report prepared as part of the Regional Forest Agreement, Western Australia for the Department of Conservation and Land Management and Environment Australia.