



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Purpose Permit number:	7675/1
Permit Holder:	City of Bunbury
Duration of Permit:	13 October 2017 - 13 October 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

Parade Road reserve (PIN 1169632), Withers
Lot 3001 on Deposited Plan 43554, Withers

3. Area of Clearing

The Permit Holder must not clear more than 0.35 hectares of native vegetation within the area hatched yellow on attached Plan 7675/1.

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.

PART II – MANAGEMENT CONDITIONS

6. Western Ringtail Possum Management

- In relation to the area cross hatched yellow on attached Plan 7644/1, the Permit Holder must engage a *fauna specialist* to inspect that area immediately prior to, and for the duration of, clearing, for the presence of western ringtail possum(s) (*Pseudocheirus occidentalis*).
- Clearing must cease in any area where a western ringtail possum (*Pseudocheirus occidentalis*) is identified until either:
 - the individual has been removed by a *fauna specialist*; or
 - the individual has moved on from that area to adjoining *suitable habitat*.
- Any western ringtail possum (*Pseudocheirus occidentalis*) individuals removed in accordance with condition 2(b)(i) of this Permit must be relocated by a *fauna specialist* to *suitable habitat*.

- (d) Where a western ringtail possum(s) (*Pseudocheirus occidentalis*) is identified under condition 2(a) of this Permit, the Permit Holder must provide the following records to the *CEO* as soon as practicable:
- (i) the number of individuals identified;
 - (ii) the date each individual was identified;
 - (iii) the location where each individual was identified recorded using a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit set to Geocentric Datum Australia 1994 (GDA94), expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings or decimal degrees;
 - (iv) the number of individuals removed and relocated;
 - (v) the date each individual was removed;
 - (vi) the date each individual was relocated;
 - (vii) the location where each individual was relocated to, recorded using a GPS unit set to GDA94, expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings or decimal degrees; and
 - (viii) details pertaining to the circumstances of any death of, or injury sustained by, an individual.

DEFINITIONS

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

CEO: means the Chief Executive Officer of the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (Western Australia);

fauna specialist: means a person who holds a tertiary qualification specializing in environmental science or equivalent, and has a minimum of two years work experience in fauna identification and surveys of fauna native to the region being inspected or surveyed, or who is approved by the *CEO* as a suitable fauna specialist for the bioregion, and who holds a valid fauna licence issued under the *Wildlife Conservation Act 1950*;

suitable habitat: means habitat known to support western ringtail possums (*Pseudocheirus occidentalis*) within the known current distribution of the species. This often includes stands of myrtaceous trees (usually Peppermint Tree (*Agonis flexuosa*)) growing near swamps, watercourses or floodplains, and at topographic low points which provide cooler, often more fertile, conditions; and

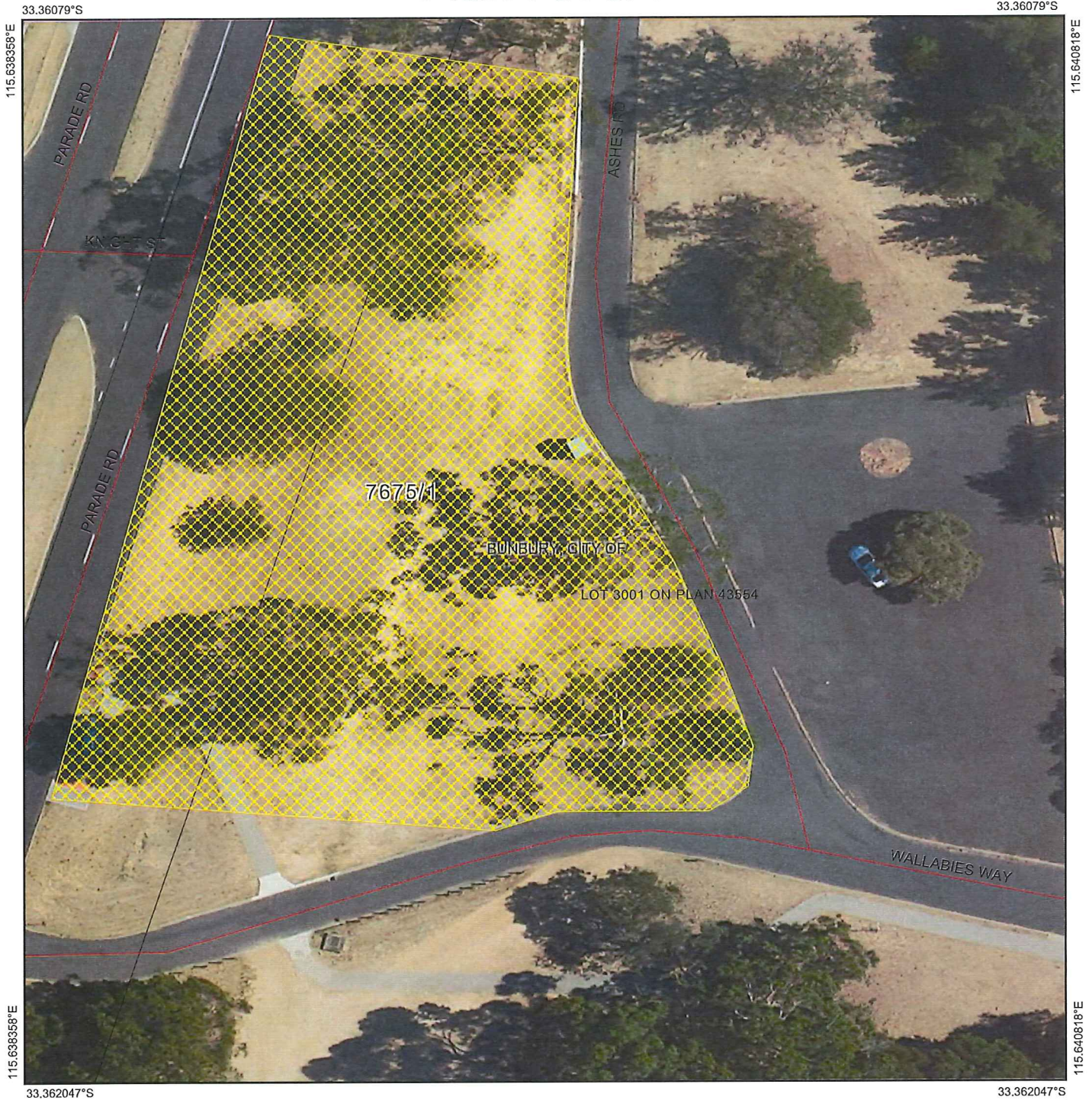


Samara Rogers
A/MANAGER
CLEARING REGULATION

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

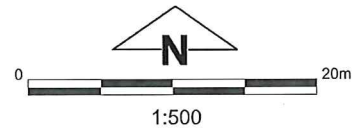
13 September 2017

Plan 7675/1



Legend

-  Cadastre
-  Cadastre (Search)
-  Imagery
-  Clearing Instruments Activities
-  Roads
-  Local Government Authority



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

Samara Rogers
Date 13/9/17
Officer with delegated authority under Section 20 of the Environmental Protection Act 1986



1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: CPS 7675/1
Permit type: Purpose Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Applicant's name: City of Bunbury

1.3. Property details

Property: LOT 3001 ON PLAN 43554, WITHERS ROAD RESERVE - 1169632, WITHERS
Local Government Authority: CITY OF BUNBURY
DWER Region: Greater Swan
DBCA District: WELLINGTON
Localities: WITHERS

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
0.35	0	Mechanical Removal	Road construction

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Grant
Decision Date: 13 September 2017
Reasons for Decision: The clearing permit application was received on 30 June 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 may be at variance to principle (b) and is not likely to be at variance to any of the remaining clearing principles.

The Delegated Officer also determined that the application area contains suitable habitat for western ringtailed possums (*Pseudocheirus occidentalis*). A condition requiring a fauna specialist to be on site during clearing will assist in mitigating the risk of injury to/death of western ringtailed possum individuals.

The Delegated Officer determined that the proposed clearing is not likely to have any significant environmental impacts.

2. Background

2.1. Existing environment and information

Vegetation Description	Clearing Description	Vegetation Condition	Comment
The vegetation within the application area has been mapped as Swan Coastal Plain vegetation complex 'Yoongarillup Complex' which is described as Woodland to tall woodland of <i>Eucalyptus gomphocephala</i> (Tuart) with <i>Agonis flexuosa</i> in the second storey. Less consistently an open forest of <i>Eucalyptus gomphocephala</i> (Tuart) - <i>Eucalyptus marginata</i> (Jarrah) - <i>Corymbia calophylla</i> (Marri). South of Bunbury is characterized by <i>Eucalyptus rudis</i> (Flooded Gum)- <i>Melaleuca</i> species open forests. (Government of Western Australia, 2017).	The applicant proposes to clear 0.35 hectares of native vegetation within Parade Road reserve (PIN1169632 and Lot 3301 on Deposited Plan 43554, Withers), for the purposes of road construction.	Completely Degraded; No longer intact, completely/almost completely without native species (Keighery, 1994).	The condition and description of the vegetation was determined by a site inspection undertaken by Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) officers (DWER, 2017) and aerial imagery. The application area is 'parkland cleared' with scattering of isolated native trees or shrubs (DWER, 2017).

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

Comments The application is to clear up to 0.35 hectares of native vegetation within Parade Road reserve (PIN1169632 and Lot 3301 on Deposited Plan 43554, Withers), for the purposes of road construction.

A site inspection by DWER officers was undertaken on 1 August 2017, determined that the vegetation within the application area is 'parkland cleared' and is in a completely degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition. The vegetation consisted of 2 *Agonis flexuosa* (Peppermint trees), 2 *Banksia attenuata*, and 1 *Melaleuca raphiophylla* (paperbark) and a number of non-native trees scattered throughout, with no understorey present (DWER, 2017).

The application area is identified as potential habitat for four 'specially protected' fauna species; Forest Red-tailed Black-Cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus banksii subsp. naso*), Baudin's Cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus baudinii*), Carnaby's Cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus latirostris*), and western ringtail possum (WRP) (*Pseudocheirus occidentalis*) (Parks and Wildlife, 2007-). The application area also falls within the mapped distribution of WRP. The Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attraction's (DBCA) advised that it "is unlikely that any Black Cockatoo species will occupy this area" and it was "possible that some western ringtail possums may be present" (DBCA, 2017).

The DWER site inspection observed two peppermint trees within the application area. One peppermint tree was immature and unlikely to be a suitable habitat for western ringtail possums, while the second tree was mature but showed no evidence to indicate that it was being used by western ringtail possums (DER, 2017). Given the above, the application area comprises of potential suitable habitat for WRP. Given the completely degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition of the vegetation and that the peppermint trees showed no signs of use by WRP's, it is not likely that the vegetation within the application area is significant as habitat for fauna indigenous to Western Australia. A fauna management measure requiring a fauna spotter onsite during clearing, to ensure that any WRP's relocate to adjoining vegetation, will further minimise the potential impact to this species.

Given the completely degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition of the vegetation and lack of understorey species, the relatively small size of the application area, the lack of hollow bearing trees and the presence of vegetation in better condition nearby, the proposed clearing is not likely to impact on rare or priority flora, a priority or threatened ecological community, conservation reserves within the local area and is not likely to be classified as clearing a significant remnant within a highly cleared landscape.

No wetlands or watercourses are mapped within the application area and given the completely degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition of the vegetation, lack of understorey species and small size of the application area, the proposed clearing is not likely to contribute to or cause land degradation, deteriorate the quality of ground water, cause or exacerbate flooding.

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

Methodology References:
Keighery (1994)
DBCA (2017)
DWER (2017)

GIS Databases:
- Hydrography, linear
- DBCA tenure
- SAC bio datasets accessed August 2017
- Virtual mosaic

Planning instruments and other relevant matters.

Comments The applicant proposes to clear 0.35 hectares of native vegetation within Lot 3001 On Plan 43554, Withers and Road Reserve - 1169632, Withers, for the purpose of road construction.

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

The application area is zoned district distributor road under the town planning scheme.

The clearing permit application was advertised on 31 July 2017 with a 14 day submission period. No public submissions have been received in relation to this application.

Methodology GIS Databases:
- Aboriginal sites register system
- Town Planning Scheme Zones

4. References

- DBCA (2017) Wildlife Advice for Clearing Permit Application CPS 7675/1. Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions, Western Australia (DWER Ref: A1509229).
- DBCA (2017) NatureBase - Fauna Species Profile. Accessed at <http://www.naturebase.net/content/view/840/1288/>. Accessed 13/07/2017. Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions, Western Australia.
- DWER (2017) Site Inspection Report, Site inspection undertaken by Department of Water and Environmental Regulation officers on 1 August 2017. Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER ref: A1500711).
- 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.
- Parks and Wildlife (2007-) NatureMap: Mapping Western Australia's Biodiversity. Department of Parks and Wildlife. URL: <http://naturemap.dpaw.wa.gov.au/>. Accessed July 2017.
- 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