



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Purpose Permit number:	CPS 7705/1
Permit Holder:	Shire of Jerramungup
Duration of Permit:	10 February 2018 to 10 February 2023

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 widening.

2. Land on which clearing is to be done

Stock Road, road reserve (PIN 11639951), Jerramungup

3. Area of Clearing

The Permit Holder must not clear more than 0.25 hectares of native vegetation within the area cross-hatched yellow on attached Plan 7705/1.

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. Avoid, minimise and reduce the impacts and extent of 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:

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

7. 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.

PART III – RECORD KEEPING AND REPORTING

8. Records must be kept

The Permit Holder must maintain the following records for activities done pursuant to this Permit, in relation to the clearing of native vegetation authorised under this Permit:

- (a) the location where the clearing occurred, 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;
- (b) the date that the area was cleared;
- (c) the size of the area cleared (in hectares); and
- (d) actions taken to avoid, minimise and reduce the impacts and extent of clearing in accordance with condition 6 of this Permit.

9. Reporting

- (a) The Permit Holder must provide to the CEO on or before 30 June of each year, a written report:
 - (i) of records required under condition 8 of this Permit; and
 - (ii) concerning activities done by the Permit Holder under this Permit between 1 January and 31 December of the preceding calendar year.
- (b) If no clearing authorised under this Permit was undertaken between 1 January to 31 December of the preceding calendar year, a written report confirming that no clearing under this permit has been carried out, must be provided to the CEO on or before 30 June of each year.
- (c) Prior to 10 November 2022 the Permit Holder must provide to the CEO a written report of records required under condition 8 of this Permit where these records have not already been provided under condition 9(a) of this Permit.

DEFINITIONS

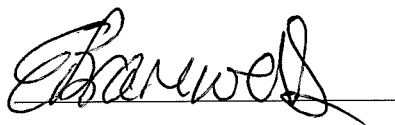
The following meanings are given to terms used in this Permit:

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 Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions species-led ecological impact and invasiveness ranking summary, regardless of ranking; or
- (c) not indigenous to the area concerned.



Emma Bramwell
A/ MANAGER
CLEARING REGULATION

Officer delegated under Section 20 of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

9 January 2018

Plan 7705/1



Legend

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



1:38,730

(Approximate when reproduced at A4)
GDA 94 (Lat/Long)

Geocentric Datum of Australia 1994

E Bramwell Date *09/01/18*
E Bramwell

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



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1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 7705/1
Permit type: Purpose Permit

1.2. Applicant details

Applicant's name: Shire of Jerramungup

1.3. Property details

Property: Stock Road Reserve (PIN 11639951), Jerramungup
Local Government Authority: JERRAMUNGUP, SHIRE OF
DWER Region: South Coast
DBCAs District: GREAT SOUTHERN
Localities: JERRAMUNGUP

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
0.25		Mechanical Removal	Road widening

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Granted
Decision Date: 9 January 2018

Reasons for Decision: The clearing permit application was received on 26 July 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 clearing principle (f) and is not likely to be at variance to the remaining clearing principles.

The Delegated Officer noted that the proposed clearing may impact on native vegetation growing in association with a watercourse, however determined that the proposed clearing is unlikely to have any significant environmental impacts. The Delegated Officer also determined that the proposed clearing may increase the risk of weeds being introduced or spread into adjacent native vegetation. Weed management measures will minimise impacts to adjacent native vegetation.

2. Site Information

Clearing Description: The application is to clear up to clear 0.25 hectare of native vegetation in four locations within a 1.2 kilometre stretch of Stock Road reserve (PIN 11639951), Jerramungup, for the purpose of road widening.

Vegetation Description: The application area is mapped as three Beard vegetation associations:

- 940, described as shrublands; mallee scrub, black marlock / shrublands; tallerack mallee-heath;
- 931, described as medium woodland; yate; and
- 942, described as mosaic: medium woodland; yate / shrublands; mallee scrub, black marlock (Shepherd et al, 2001).

A fauna and flora survey and vegetation assessment provided by the applicant (applicant's survey) identified five vegetation types within the application area:

- fragmented mallee and sub-mallee habitat;
- sheoak dominated woodland habitat; and
- extensive weed incursions (Elson, 2017).

Vegetation Condition: Very Good; Vegetation structure altered; obvious signs of disturbance (Keighery, 1994).
To
Completely Degraded; No longer intact, completely/almost completely without native species (Keighery, 1994).

On review of aerial photography and photographs of the application area provided in the applicant's survey (refer to Figures 1 and 2 below), the western-most portion of the application area appears to contain vegetation in very good (Keighery, 1994) condition, the central two portions of the application area appear to contain vegetation in very good (Keighery, 1994) to degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition, and the eastern-most portion of the application area appears to contain vegetation in good (Keighery, 1994) to completely degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition.

- Soil and Landform Type:** The application area is mapped within three land subsystems:
- Yarmarlup 3 Subsystem (Map Unit 243Ya_3), described as gently undulating sandy (gravelly) rises and long gently inclined valley slopes; sandy (gritty) duplexes, sandy earths, semi-wet and wet soils (mapped over approximately 50 per cent of the application area);
 - Yarmarlup 6 Subsystem (Map Unit 243Ya_6), described as areas of significant rock outcrop (mapped over approximately 25 per cent of the application area); and
 - Yarmarlup 2 Subsystem (Map Unit 243Ya_2), described as rises and low hills (mapped over approximately 25 per cent of the application area) (Schoknecht et al., 2004).

Comment: The local area referred to in the below assessment is defined as the area within a 10 kilometre radius of the application area.

Figure 1: Map of application area



Figure 2: Photographs of vegetation within the application area



Photo 1: *Banksia caleyi* in poor health; small populations of *Banksia falocata*, *Banksia caleyi* and *Banksia cirsioides* intact.



Photo 2: Variety of weeds present within sections of the Stock Road reserve.

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

The application is to clear 0.25 hectares of native vegetation in four locations within a 1.2 kilometre stretch of Stock Road reserve. At two of these locations, clearing is proposed to be conducted up to one metre from the existing back slope on both sides of the road. At the other two of these locations, clearing is proposed to be conducted up two metres from the existing back slope on one side of the road.

According to available databases and advice received from the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA), 17 priority flora species and three rare flora species have been recorded within the local area. Of these, one rare flora species and three Priority 3 flora species (being species that are known from several locations and do not appear to be under imminent threat (Jones, 2015)) have been recorded from the same soil and vegetation types as found within the application area, as discussed below.

- *Acacia errabunda* (Priority 3) is known from 25 records at sites generally in the vicinity of creeklines, winter-wet areas, gullies supporting loamy or clayey soils (FloraBase website, January 2018). The nearest record of this species occurs adjacent to a watercourse approximately 240 metres from the western-most portion of the application area. Noting that this species appears to favour sites adjacent to watercourses, and that less than 0.001 hectares (10 square metres) of the application area occurs adjacent to a watercourse, it is unlikely that this species occurs within the application area.

- *Acacia mutabilis* subsp. *stipulifera* (Priority 3) is known from 29 records at sites generally supporting loamy or clayey soils (FloraBase website, January 2018). The nearest record of this species occurs 9.3 kilometres from the western-most portion of the application area. Noting the distance to this record, it is unlikely that this species occurs within the application area.
- *Melaleuca polycephala* (Priority 3) is known from 26 records at sites generally associated with lower landscape positions supporting clayey soils (FloraBase website, January 2018). The nearest record of this species occurs in close proximity to a watercourse approximately 2.1 kilometres from the eastern-most portion of the application area. Noting that this species appears to favour low-lying areas, and that the application area is generally located on gently undulating terrain, it is unlikely that this species occurs within the application area.
- The rare flora species is known from 24 records at sites generally associated with breakaways, ridges and rocky outcrops (FloraBase website, January 2018). The nearest occurrence is approximately 8.2 kilometres from the application area. On review of photographs of the application area provided in the applicant's survey, the application area is not likely to contain suitable habitat for this species.

According to available databases, four fauna specially protected under the *Wildlife Conservation Act 1950* have been recorded within the local area (DBCA, 2007-). These are the malleefowl (*Leipoa ocellata*; listed as rare or likely to become extinct), western whipbird (western mallee) (*Psophodes nigrogularis* subsp. *oberon*; listed as Priority 5 by DBCA), Carnaby's cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus latirostris*; listed as rare or likely to become extinct) and chuditch (*Daysyurus geoffroii*; listed as rare or likely to become extinct). The applicant's survey recorded a total of 84 avian species, 25 reptile species, four frog species, two native mammal species and four introduced mammal species (Elson, 2017). Carnaby's cockatoo was recorded in a small area of *Banksia sessilis* along the north east section of Stock Road reserve (Elson, 2017). Noting the extent of the proposed clearing, the condition of the vegetation within the application area and that the proposed clearing is confined to one or two metres from the existing back slope of the road, the application area is unlikely to comprise significant habitat for indigenous fauna including the abovementioned conservation significant species.

According to available databases, several occurrences of the ecological community 'Proteaceae dominated kwongan shrublands of the southeast coastal floristic province of Western Australia' occur within the local area. This ecological community is listed as Priority 3 by DBCA and as a threatened ecological community (TEC) under the Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act). The Approved Conservation Advice for this TEC specifies a number of criteria for vegetation to be considered representative of this TEC (Department of the Environment, 2014). Noting this, as well as the extent of the proposed clearing, the condition of the vegetation and the mapped vegetation types within the application area, the application area is not likely to comprise the whole or part of, or be necessary for the maintenance of, a 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 remaining extents of native vegetation within the bioregion, local government authority and mapped vegetation associations are above the 30 per cent threshold (Government of Western Australia, 2016). Aerial imagery indicates that the local area retains approximately 20 per cent native vegetation cover. Noting this, the application occurs in an extensively cleared landscape. However, noting that the application area does not contain significant habitat for conservation significant fauna or flora, it is considered that the application area is unlikely to be significant as a remnant.

According to available databases, one minor non-perennial watercourse intersects with the application area. Noting this, the vegetation proposed to be cleared may be growing in association with this watercourse. The extent of the proposed clearing in the vicinity of this watercourse is calculated to be less than 0.001 hectares (10 square metres), and is therefore not likely to have a significant impact on the environmental values of this watercourse.

According to available databases, there are a number of privately-managed conservation areas within the local area. None of these conservation areas are directly adjacent to the application area, and are separated from the application area by other areas of remnant vegetation and farmland. Noting this, the proposed clearing is not likely to impact on the environmental values of these conservation areas.

The application area is located within an area mapped as 'Zone A' of an ecological linkage under the South West Regional Ecological Linkage Report (Molloy et al., 2009). Noting the condition of the vegetation within the application area, that the clearing is proposed to be conducted within one or two metres of the existing backslope of the road, and the presence of adjacent vegetation, it is unlikely that the proposed clearing will fragment this ecological linkage.

Noting the linear shape of the application area and the extent of the proposed clearing, the proposed clearing is not likely to result in appreciable land degradation or deterioration in the quality of surface or underground water, and is not likely to cause or exacerbate the incidence or intensity of flooding.

The proposed clearing may be at variance to Principle (f) and is not likely to be at variance to the remaining clearing Principles.

GIS Databases:
 DBCA Estate
 Groundwater salinity
 Hydrography, Linear
 Hydrography, Hierarchy
 Remnant Vegetation
 SAC bio datasets (accessed November 2017)
 Soils, Statewide
 Topographic contours

Planning instruments and other relevant matters.

The application was advertised on the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation's website on 2 August 2017 for a 21 day submission period. No submissions were received during this period.

No registered Aboriginal Sites of Significance occur within the application area.

GIS Database:
Aboriginal Sites of Significance

4. References

- Commonwealth of Australia (2001) National Objectives and Targets for Biodiversity Conservation 2001-2005, Canberra.
- Department of Biodiversity Conservation and Attractions (DBCA) (2007-) NatureMap: Mapping Western Australia's Biodiversity. Department of Parks and Wildlife. URL: <http://naturemap.dpaw.wa.gov.au/>. Accessed November 2017
- Department of Biodiversity Conservation and Attractions (DBCA) (2017) Advice provided in relation to clearing permit application CPS 7705/1, received 23 November 2017 (DWER Ref: A1583868).
- Department of the Environment (2014) Approved Conservation Advice for Proteaceae Dominated Kwongan Shrublands of the southeast coastal floristic province of Western Australia. Canberra: Department of the Environment and Energy. Available from: <http://www.environment.gov.au/biodiversity/threatened/communities/pubs/126-conservation-advice.pdf>. In effect under the EPBC Act from 1 February 2014.
- Elson, S. (2017) Fauna and Flora Survey/Vegetation Assessment of Stock Road Jerramungup. September 2016 (DER Ref: A1487065).
- 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.
- Jones, A. (2015) Threatened and Priority Flora List, 11 November 2015. Department of Parks and Wildlife: Kensington, WA.
- Keighery, B.J. (1994) Bushland Plant Survey: A Guide to Plant Community Survey for the Community. Wildflower Society of WA (Inc). Nedlands, Western Australia.
- Schoknecht, N., Tille, P. and Purdie, B. (2004) Soil-landscape mapping in South-Western Australia – Overview of Methodology and outputs' Resource Management Technical Report No. 280. Department of Agriculture.
- 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.
- Wilkins, P., Gilfillan, S., Watson, J. and Sanders, A. (ed). (2006) *The Western Australian South Coast Macro Corridor Network – a bioregional strategy for nature conservation*. Department of Conservation and Land Management (CALM) and South Coast Regional Initiative Planning Team (SCRIPT), Albany, Western Australia.