GOVERNMENT OF
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

PERMIT DETAILS
Area Permit Number: 7706/1
File Number: DER2015/002564-1
Duration of Permit: 9 December 2017 to 9 December 2019

PERMIT HOLDER
City of Armadale

LAND ON WHICH CLEARING IS TO BE DONE
Lot 84 on Diagram 35336, Kelmscott
Lot 98 on Plan 9794, Kelmscott

AUTHORISED ACTIVITY
The Permit Holder shall not clear more than 0.74 hectares of native vegetation within the area cross-hatched yellow on attached Plan 7706/1.

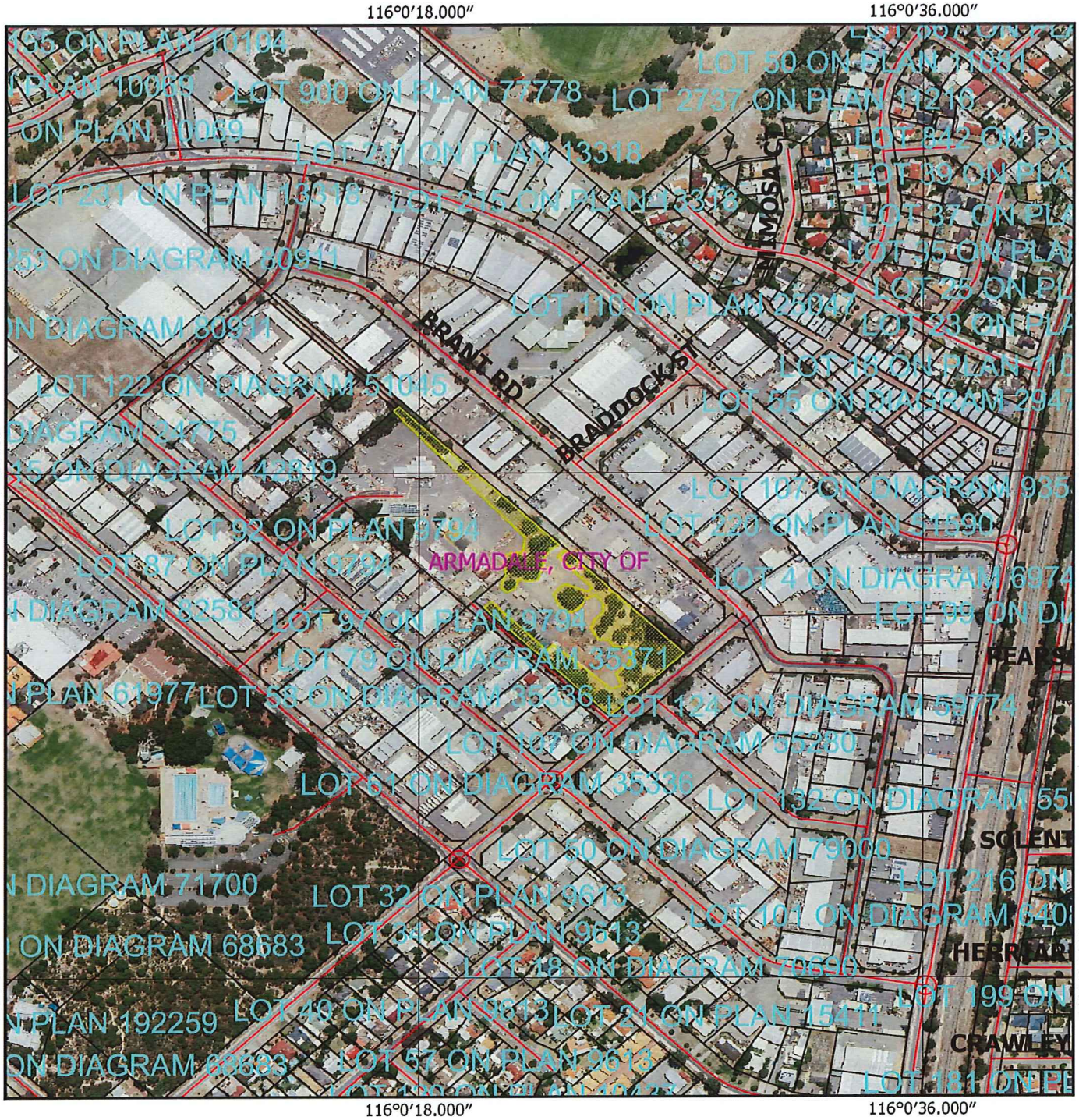
CONDITIONS
Nil.

Emma Bramwell
A/MANAGER
CLEARING REGULATION

Officer delegated under Section 20
of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

10 November 2017

Plan 7706/1



Legend

- Areas approved to clear
- Roads
- LGA
- Cadastre

Virtual Mosaic

N

1:4,000

MGA 94
Geocentric Datum of Australia 1994

50 0 50 100 150 200 m

E BRAMWELL ..... Date 10/11/17

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

GOVERNMENT OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Government of Western Australia
Department of Water and Environmental Regulation

Clearing Permit Decision Report

1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 7706/1
Permit type: Area Permit

1.2. Applicant details

Applicant's name: City of Armadale

1.3. Property details

Property: LOT 98 ON PLAN 9794, KELMSCOTT
LOT 84 ON DIAGRAM 35336, KELMSCOTT
Local Government Authority: ARMADALE, CITY OF
DWER Region: Greater Swan
DBCA District: SWAN COASTAL
Localities: KELMSCOTT

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
0.74		Cutting	Building or structure

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Granted
Decision Date: 10 November 2017
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 is not likely to be at variance to any of the clearing principles.

The Delegated Officer determined that the proposed clearing is unlikely to have any significant environmental impacts. Although not required to do so for this application, the applicant is proposing to revegetate degraded portions of the nearby 'Fletcher Park' reserve with tree species that will provide foraging habitat for black cockatoo species.

2. Site Information

2.1. Existing environment and information

2.1.1. Description of the native vegetation under application

Vegetation Description The application area is mapped as Heddle 'Forrestfield' vegetation complex, described as open forest of *Corymbia calophylla* (marri) - *Eucalyptus wandoo* (wandoo) - *Eucalyptus marginata* (jarrah) to open forest of jarrah - marri - *Allocasuarina fraseriana* (sheoak) - *Banksia* species, with fringing woodland of *Eucalyptus rudis* (flooded gum) in the gullies that dissect this landform (Heddle et al, 1980).

Clearing Description The application is to clear 0.74 hectares of native vegetation within Lot 84 on Diagram 35356 and Lot 98 on Plan 9794, Kelmscott, for the purpose of a works depot development.

Vegetation Condition Completely Degraded; No longer intact, completely/almost completely without native species (Keighery, 1994).

Comment The condition and description of the vegetation within the application area was determined from supporting documentation and a habitat tree survey provided by the applicant (Coterra Environment, 2017; City of Armadale, 2015).

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

Comments The application is to clear up to 0.74 hectares of native vegetation for the purpose of enabling redevelopment of the applicant's works depot.

The local area for the purpose of this assessment is defined as a 10 kilometre radius measured from the perimeter of the application area.

Supporting documentation indicates that the application area is within an area of urban development that has been parkland cleared, and that the vegetation within the application area is in completely degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition consisting of 74 trees of predominantly marri with occasional sheoak, over *Xanthorrhoea*

preissii, Callistemon sp. and *Acacia saligna.*

According to available datasets, 16 rare flora and 45 Priority flora have been recorded within the local area (DBCA, 2007-). In addition, seven threatened and three priority ecological communities have been mapped within the local area. The nearest conservation area is Bush Forever site 62, located approximately 222 metres from the application area and separated by urban development. Noting the condition of the vegetation within the application area and the absence of understorey, and the extent of the proposed clearing, the proposed clearing is not likely to impact on rare or priority flora, priority or threatened ecological communities, or the environmental values of nearby conservation areas.

According to available datasets, 49 fauna species specially protected under the *Wildlife Conservation Act 1950* have been recorded within the local area (DBCA, 2007-). Of these, the application area contains suitable foraging habitat and may provide suitable breeding habitat for threatened species forest red-tailed black-cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus banksii* subsp. *naso*), Baudin's cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus baudinii*) and Carnaby's cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus latirostris*). Carnaby's cockatoo is listed as endangered and Baudin's cockatoo and forest red-tailed cockatoo are listed as vulnerable under the Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act).

Black cockatoos breed in large hollow-bearing trees, generally within woodlands or forests or in isolated trees (Commonwealth of Australia, 2012). These species nest in hollows in live or dead trees of *Eucalyptus diversicolor* (karri), *Corymbia calophylla* (marri), *Eucalyptus wandoo* (wandoo), *Eucalyptus gomphocephala* (tuart), *Eucalyptus salmonophloia* (salmon gum), *Eucalyptus marginata* (jarrah), *Eucalyptus rudis* (flooded gum), *Eucalyptus loxophleba* (York gum), *Eucalyptus accedens* (powder bark), *Eucalyptus megacarpa* (bullich) and *Eucalyptus* sp. (blackbutt) (Commonwealth of Australia, 2012). Black cockatoos have a preference for foraging habitat that includes jarrah and marri woodlands and forest heathland and woodland dominated by proteaceous plant species such as *Banksia* sp., *Hakea* sp. and *Grevillea* sp. (Commonwealth of Australia, 2012). The applicant's habitat tree survey identified that approximately 49 marri trees within the application area had a diameter greater than 50 centimetres and were of a suitable size for black cockatoo nesting, however no hollows were observed (City of Armadale, 2015). The applicant's habitat tree survey noted that black cockatoos utilise the application area for foraging, and were observed foraging during the survey (City of Armadale, 2015). Noting that the application area is within an area of urban development, and that nearby conservation areas contain suitable fauna habitats in a similar or better condition compared with the application area, it is considered that the application area is unlikely to contain significant habitat for black cockatoos or other indigenous fauna.

The National Objectives 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 Environmental Protection Authority recognises that the Perth Metropolitan Region is a 'constrained area', where there is a modified objective to retain at least 10 per cent of the pre-European of each ecological community (EPA, 2006). The application area is located within the Swan Coastal Plain Warren Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation of Australia (IBRA) bioregion and the City of Armadale, and is mapped as Heddle 'Forrestfield' vegetation complex, all of which retain greater than 10 per cent of their pre-European vegetation extents (Government of Western Australia, 2017). The local area retains approximately 34 per cent (10,902 hectares) native vegetation cover, a large portion of which is contained within conservation areas, and the proposed clearing will have a negligible impact on this current extent. Noting this, the application area is not likely to comprise a significant remnant in an extensively cleared area.

According to available databases, no wetlands or watercourses are mapped within the application area. The application area is not likely to contain native vegetation growing in association with a wetland or watercourse.

Noting the condition of the vegetation within 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 flooding.

Given the above, the proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to any of the clearing principles.

Methodology

References:
City of Armadale (2015)
Commonwealth of Australia (2001)
Commonwealth of Australia (2012)
EPA (2006)
DBCA (2007-)
Coterra Environment (2017)
Government of Western Australia (2017)
Keighery (1994)

GIS Databases:
DBCA tenure
Hydrography, linear DOW
NWLRA, Extent of Native Vegetation
Pre-European vegetation

SAC Bio datasets – Accessed (November 2017)
Soils, statewide

Planning instruments and other relevant matters.

Comments There are no Aboriginal Sites of Significance mapped within the application area.

The application was advertised online on 17 August 2017 by DWER inviting submissions from the public within a 21 day period. No submissions were received in relation to this application.

Although not required to do so for this application, the applicant is proposing to revegetate degraded portions of the nearby 'Fletcher Park' reserve with tree species that will provide foraging habitat for black cockatoo species (Coterra Environment, 2017)..

Methodology References:
Coterra Environment (2017)

GIS Databases:
Aboriginal Sites of Significance

4. References

City of Armadale (2015) Environmental Tree Survey – Lot 84 Williams Road. City of Armadale (DWER Ref: A1487001).

Commonwealth of Australia (2001) National Objectives and Targets for Biodiversity Conservation 2001-2005, Canberra.

Commonwealth of Australia (2012) EPBC Act referral guidelines for three threatened black cockatoo species. Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Populations and Communities, Canberra.

Coterra Environment (2017) COAWIL01: City of Armadale EPBC Act Self-Assessment Report. Coterra Environment. West Perth, Western Australia (DWER Ref: A1487001).

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 October 2017.

Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) (2008) Environmental Guidance for Planning and Development. Guidance Statement No. 33. Environmental Protection Authority. Western Australia.

Government of Western Australia (2017). 2016 South West Vegetation Complex Statistics. Current as of December 2016. WA Department of Parks and Wildlife, Perth.

Heddle, E.M., Loneragan, O.W., and Havel, J.J. (1980) Vegetation Complexes of the Darling System, Western Australia. In Department of Conservation and Environment, Atlas of Natural Resources, Darling System, Western Australia.

Keighery, B.J. (1994) Bushland Plant Survey: A Guide to Plant Community Survey for the Community. Wildflower Society of WA (Inc). Nedlands, Western Australia.