



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

PERMIT DETAILS

Area Permit Number: CPS 7731/1
File Number: DER2017/001460-1
Duration of Permit: From 13 January 2018 to 13 January 2020

PERMIT HOLDER

Ms Suzanne Hunt

LAND ON WHICH CLEARING IS TO BE DONE

LOT 90 ON PLAN 6201, LOWER KING

AUTHORISED ACTIVITY

The Permit Holder shall not clear more than 0.2 hectares of native vegetation within the area hatched yellow on attached Plan 7731/1.

CONDITIONS

1. 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.

2. Dieback and 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* and *dieback*:

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

dieback means the effect of *Phytophthora* species on native vegetation;

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.



James Widenbar
MANAGER
CLEARING REGULATION






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

13 December 2017

Plan 7731/1



Legend

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



1:1,500
 (Approximate when reproduced at A4)
 GDA 94 (Lat/Long)
 Geocentric Datum of Australia 1994

Sum Date *13/12/17*

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



1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 7731/1
Permit type: Area Permit

1.2. Applicant details

Applicant's name: Ms Suzanne Hunt

1.3. Property details

Property: LOT 90 ON PLAN 6201, LOWER KING
Local Government Authority: ALBANY, CITY OF
DER Region: South Coast
DPaW District: ALBANY
Localities: LOWER KING

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
0.2		Mechanical Removal	Hazard reduction or fire control

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Granted

Decision Date: 13 December 2017

Reasons for Decision: The clearing permit application was received on 14 August 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 considers that while the application area contains suitable habitat for black cockatoo species, noting the vegetation condition, small size and presence of higher quality habitat in nearby conservation areas, the application area is not considered significant habitat and the proposed clearing has a low risk of significant impact to black cockatoo habitat.

The Delegated Officer notes that the proposed clearing may indirectly impact on the environmental values of adjacent vegetation through the introduction or spread of weeds and dieback. To address this matter, the clearing permit contains a condition requiring the Permit Holder to implement weed and dieback management measure.

The Delegated Officer also had regard to planning and other matters, and notes that the application area is zoned residential under the Town Planning Scheme. The purpose of the applied clearing is linked to future development that is consistent with the zoning.

In determining to grant a clearing permit the Delegated Officer determined that the proposed clearing is of low risk and is not likely 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

Vegetation Description	Clearing Description	Vegetation Condition	Comment
Beard vegetation association 978 which is described as Low forest; jarrah, <i>Eucalyptus staeri</i> & <i>Allocasuarina fraseriana</i> (Shepherd et al., 2001).	The application is to clear 0.2 hectares of native vegetation within Lot 90 on Plan 6201, Lower King, for the purpose of fire hazard reduction for future development.	Good; Structure significantly altered by multiple disturbance; retains basic structure/ability to regenerate (Keighery, 1994). To: Completely Degraded; No longer intact, completely/almost completely without native species (Keighery, 1994).	The condition of the vegetation was determined by aerial imagery.

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

Comments The application is to clear 0.2 hectares native vegetation within Lot 90 on Plan 6201, Lower King, for the purpose of fire hazard reduction for future development. The application area is next to two adjoining residential lots also subject to applications to clear 0.2 hectares, each, for the purpose of hazard reduction (CPS 7730/1 and CPS 7732/1).

The application area has been identified as a potential habitat for specially protected fauna species, including forest red-tailed black-cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus banksii subsp. naso*), Baudin's cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus baudinii*) and Carnaby's cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus latirostris*). 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 application area contains eucalyptus trees which are suitable foraging habitat for Black cockatoos. Noting the presence of higher quality vegetation within the nearby Bakers Junction Nature Reserve (1328 hectares), Conservation Reserve managed by the City of Albany (160 hectares) and Bon Accord Nature reserve (12.69 hectares), located within five kilometres, the application area is not likely to contain significant habitat. Given the presence of suitable habitat for black cockatoos, the proposed clearing may be at variance to Principle (b).

The local area (10 kilometre radius) has numerous rare or priority flora species recorded, however no rare or priority flora species, or priority or threatened ecological communities are recorded within, or adjacent to the application area. The closest rare flora species is recorded within 2600 metres of the application area, within a conservation area. The application area does not have the appropriate soil type to support this species.

The *National Objectives and Targets for Biodiversity Conservation* includes a target that does not support the clearing of ecological communities with an extent below 30 per cent of that present pre-European settlement (Commonwealth of Australia 2001). The application area is located within the Jarrah Forrest Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation of Australia (IBRA) bioregion and City of Albany, which retain approximately 54 and 40 per cent of their pre-European vegetation extents respectively (Government of Western Australia 2016). Aerial imagery indicates that the local area retains approximately 35 per cent native vegetation cover. Noting these extents and the condition of the native vegetation within the application area, the application area is not likely to be a significant remnant in an extensively cleared landscape.

The disturbance resulting from the proposed clearing will increase the risk of weeds spreading into adjacent land. Appropriate weed management will assist in mitigating this risk.

The application area is approximately five hundred metres from the nearest mapped watercourse and therefore is not likely to contain any riparian vegetation. Given the small size of the application area (0.2 hectares, and a total of 0.6 hectares combined with applications CPS 7730/1 and CPS 7732/1), the proposed clearing is not likely to contribute to or cause land degradation, deteriorate the quality of ground water or surface water, is not likely to cause or exacerbate flooding and is not likely to impact on nearby conservation areas.

The assessment of the application identified 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.

Methodology References:
- Commonwealth of Australia (2001)
- Commonwealth of Australia (2012)
- Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (2007-)
- Government of Western Australia (2016)

GIS Datasets:
- Hydrography, linear
- Pre-European Vegetation
- IBRA WA (Regions - Sub Regions)
- Virtual mosaic
- SAC bio datasets accessed October 2017:

Planning instruments and other relevant matters.

Comments No Aboriginal Sites of Significance have been mapped within the application area.

The application area is zoned residential under the Town Planning Scheme.

The clearing permit application was advertised on 6 September 2017 on the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation's website, inviting submissions from the public within a 14 day period. No submissions were received in relation to this application.

Methodology GIS datasets:
- Aboriginal Sites of Significance
- Town Planning Scheme Zones

4. References

- 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: Carnaby's cockatoo, Baudin's cockatoo and Forest red-tailed black cockatoo. Commonwealth of Australia.
- Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (2007-) NatureMap: Mapping Western Australia's Biodiversity. Department of Environment and Conservation. URL: <http://naturemap.dpaw.wa.gov.au/>. Accessed July 2016.
- 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.
- Keighery, B.J. (1994) Bushland Plant Survey: A Guide to Plant Community Survey for the Community. Wildflower Society of WA (Inc). Nedlands, Western Australia.
- 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.