



GOVERNMENT OF
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

PERMIT DETAILS

Area Permit Number: 7746/1
File Number: 2017/001504-1
Duration of Permit: 3 March 2018 to 3 March 2020

PERMIT HOLDER

Johnnie Bequir Kaufmann
Amy-Lee Kaufmann

LAND ON WHICH CLEARING IS TO BE DONE

Lot 50 on Deposited Plan 43854, Wundowie

AUTHORISED ACTIVITY

The Permit Holder shall not clear more than one hectare of native vegetation within the area cross-hatched yellow on attached Plan 7746/1.

CONDITIONS

1. 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:

- (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. 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 1 of this Permit.

3. Reporting

The Permit Holder must provide to the CEO the records required under condition 2 of this Permit, when requested by the CEO or delegated officer.

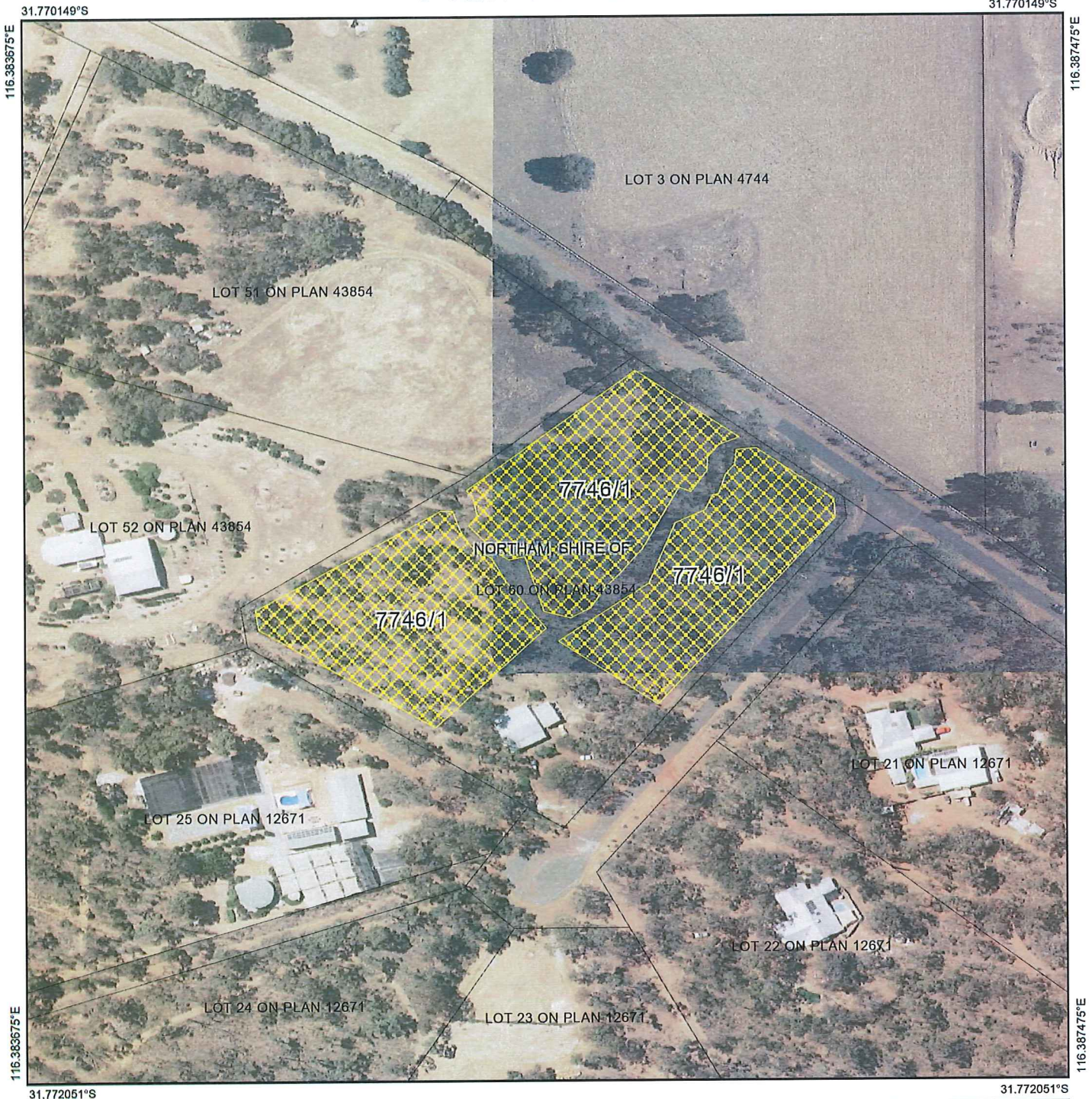
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Emma Bramwell', written over a horizontal line.

Emma Bramwell
A/MANAGER
CLEARING REGULATION

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

30 January 2018

Plan 7746/1



Legend

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



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

Geocentric Datum of Australia 1994

E Bramwell Date *30/01/18*

E Bramwell

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



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WESTERN AUSTRALIA
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1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 7746/1
Permit type: Area Permit

1.2. Applicant details

Applicant's name: Mrs Amy-Lee Kaufmann
Mr Johnnie Kaufmann

1.3. Property details

Property: Lot 50 on Deposited Plan 43854, Wundowie
Local Government Authority: NORTHAM, SHIRE OF
DWER Region: Swan
DBCAs District: PERTH HILLS
Localities: WUNDOWIE

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
1 (as revised)		Mechanical Removal	Horse paddocks

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Granted
Decision Date: 30 January 2018
Reasons for Decision: The clearing permit application was received on 21 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 is not likely to be at variance to the clearing principles.

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

2. Site Information

Clearing Description: The revised application is to clear up to one hectare of native vegetation within Lot 50 on Deposited Plan 43854, Wundowie, for the purpose of horse paddocks.

Vegetation Description: The application area is mapped as Heddle vegetation complex 'Yalanbee Complex', described as mixture of open forest of *Eucalyptus marginata* subsp. *thalassica-Corymbia calophylla* (marri) and woodland of *Eucalyptus wandoo* (wandoo) on lateritic uplands in semiarid to perarid zones (Heddle et al., 1980).

A site inspection of the application area conducted by officers of the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) on 15 November 2017 (the site inspection) identified that the vegetation with the application area consists predominately of open woodland of jarrah (*Eucalyptus marginata*) and wandoo with a small pocket of sheoak (*Allocasuarina* sp.) and parrotbush (*Banksia sessilis*), over understorey comprising of the dominant species *Acacia* sp., *Hibbertia* sp., *Scaevola* sp., *Gastrolobium spinosum*, *Scaevola pilosa*, *Ptilotus manglesii*, *Tetraria octandra*, *Waitzia nitida*, *Kennedia coccinea*, *Tricoryne elatior*, *Synaphea* sp., and *Tetraria* sp. Jarrah Forest (R. Davis 7391) (DWER, 2017). Areas of high weed infestation were observed, with the most notable being wild oats and blowfly grass (DWER, 2017).

Vegetation Condition: Good; Structure significantly altered by multiple disturbance; retains basic structure/ability to regenerate (Keighery, 1994).
To
Degraded: vegetation structure severely impacted by disturbance. (Keighery, 1994).

On review of aerial photography and photographs of the application area taken during the site inspection (refer to Figures 1 and 2 below), the south-western portion of the application area appears to contain vegetation in a degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition, the other two portions of the application area appear to contain vegetation in good (Keighery, 1994) to degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition.

Soil and Landform Type: The application area is mapped within land subsystems Yalanbee Subsystem (Map Unit 253 WnYA) described as Residual plateau at the top of the landscape shallowly dissected by Pindalup valleys, pisolitic gravelly, yellowish brown soils that vary in texture from loamy sands to clays, with pockets of pale sands and areas of outcropping laterite (Schoknecht et al., 2004).

The site inspection identified that the soils within the application area comprise gravelly yellowish brown soils with some lateritic outcrops (DWER, 2017).

Comment:

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

Figure 1: Map of application area



Figure 2: Photographs of vegetation within the application area



Photo 1 taken in the central section of SW corner application area: *Eucalyptus marginate* with a ground cover consisting predominately of weeds.



Photo 2 taken in the central section of NW corner application area: *Eucalyptus marginate* and *Eucalyptus wandoo* with a ground cover of native species and some weeds.

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

The revised application is to clear up to one hectare of native vegetation for the purpose of horse paddocks. Historical imagery (1985) shows that the property was largely previously cleared, with the exception of a few trees.

According to available databases three priority flora species and no rare flora species have been recorded within the local area. Two of priority flora species were Priority 4 species and the other being a Priority 3 species. Priority 4 species are considered to have been adequately surveyed, and are considered not currently threatened or in need of special protection and Priority 3 flora species (being species that are known from several locations and do not appear to be under imminent threat (Jones, 2015)). The following have been recorded from the same soil and vegetation types as found within the application area.

- *Hibbertia montana* (Priority 4) is known from 93 records at sites, generally in habitat that consists of open woodlands (wandoo, jarrah and marri) with loam over granite, lateritic soils and gravel (Flora Base website, January 2018). The nearest record of this species is adjacent to buildings (cleared area) approximately 500 metres north of the application area.
- *Tetratheca pilifera* (Priority 3) is known from 29 records at sites generally of open woodlands supporting gravelly soils (FloraBase website, January 2018). The nearest record of this species occurs 1.3 kilometres south of the application area with the species recorded within the Great Eastern Hwy road reserve, the collection date of this species was from 1989.
- *Cyanicula ixiooides* subsp. *ixiooides* (Priority 4) is known from 33 records at sites generally associated with open woodlands supporting laterite and gravel (FloraBase website, January 2018). The nearest record of this species is in a cleared paddock adjacent to a house approximately four kilometres south of the application area, the date of the collection was 1938.

Noting the vegetation and soil types identified during the site inspection (DWER, 2017) and the habitat preference for the abovementioned priority flora species, it is likely that the application area contains suitable habitat for the three species. However, all three species are wide spread and locally common and should they be impacted upon from the proposed clearing it is unlikely to affect the conservation status of the species.

According to available databases, 10 fauna specially protected under the *Wildlife Conservation Act 1950* have been recorded within the local area (DBCA, 2007-). Of the species identified, the application area may contain habitat for 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 jarrah and a small section of parrotbush which are suitable foraging habitat for black cockatoos (DWER, 2017). Noting the size of the proposed clearing, and the presence of vegetation in similar or better condition within the nearby Woondowing Nature Reserve (13,786 hectares) and Kwolyinie Nature Reserve (1630 hectares), the application area is not likely to comprise significant habitat for black cockatoos.

According to available databases, there have been no threatened ecological communities (TEC) or priority ecological communities (PEC) recorded within the local area. Noting the type and condition of the vegetation within the application area, it is unlikely that the application area comprises the whole or a part of, or is necessary for the maintenance of a TEC or a PEC.

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 and mapped vegetation complex are above the 30 per cent threshold (Government of Western Australia, 2016). Aerial imagery indicates that the local area retains approximately 60 per cent native vegetation cover. Noting this, the presence of vegetation in similar or better condition within the nearby nature reserves, and that the application area is not likely to comprise significant habitat for conservation significant fauna, it is considered that the application area is unlikely to be significant as a remnant in an extensively cleared landscape.

According to available databases, no wetlands or watercourse intersect the application area. The site inspection did not record any wetland or watercourse within the application area (DWER, 2017). Noting this, the vegetation within the application area is not growing in association with a watercourse or wetland.

According to available databases, there are two nature reserves and two 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, roads and farmland. Noting this, the proposed clearing is not likely to impact on the environmental values of these conservation areas.

Noting the soil type, the extent of the proposed clearing and that there are no wetlands or watercourses within the application area, 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.

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

Planning instruments and other relevant matters.

The original application was to clear up to two hectares of native vegetation on Lot 50 on Deposited Plan 43854 for the purpose of horse paddocks. During assessment, the application was reduced to one hectare.

The orange arrows in Figure 1 indicate two portions of Lot 50 on Deposited Plan 43854 that have been cleared. DWER's investigation of this clearing determined that the clearing was exempt from the requirement for a clearing permit under Regulation 5 item 10 of the *Environmental Protection (Clearing of Native Vegetation) Regulations 2004*, being clearing for fence lines. The investigation has been closed.

The applicant has received development approval from the Shire of Northam for the keeping of two horses, removal of trees and shrubs and erection of a 1.8 metre high solid panel fence, subject to conditions including two that relate to the clearing of native vegetation:

- All mature trees in the horse paddock are to be fenced with ring lock fencing to prevent horses damaging the trees.
- Prior to removing any native vegetation, clearing approval is required from the DWER.

The application was advertised on DWER's website on 28 September 2017 for a 14 day submission period. One submission was received during this period, outlining concerns including the following:

- The vegetation/property is in one of the Australian Government's biodiversity hotspots, 99.5 per cent of vegetation remaining within the Shire of Northam is of regional conservation significance.
- The property is in a known feeding and breeding area for Carnaby's cockatoo and no studies have been undertaken to identify fauna and flora of conservation significance.
- The Shire of Northam has approved one hectare for the keeping of two horses, why is the application for two hectares.

In relation to the first two dot points, these matters have been considered through the assessment and addressed in this report. In relation to the third dot point, the applicant has reduced the extent of proposed clearing to one hectare in accordance with the Shire of Northam's planning approval. Two other matters were raised in the submission, however these are outside of the scope of the assessment of clearing impacts.

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

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 (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 Water and Environmental Regulation (2017) Site Inspection Report for CPS 7746/1. Undertaken 15 November 2017 (DWER Ref:A1600933).
- 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.
- Heddl, 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.
- 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.

GIS Databases:

Aboriginal Sites of Significance
Department of Biodiversity Conservation and Attractions Estate
Groundwater salinity
Hydrography, Linear
Hydrography, Hierarchy
Remnant Vegetation
SAC bio datasets (accessed December 2017)
Soils, Statewide
Topographic contours