



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Purpose Permit number:	CPS 7759/1
Permit Holder:	Rottneest Island Authority
Duration of Permit:	22 February 2018 – 22 February 2020

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 fence construction and maintenance.

2. Land on which clearing is to be done

Lot 10976 on Deposited Plan 216860.

3. Area of Clearing

The Permit Holder must not clear more than 0.5966 hectares of native vegetation within the area hatched yellow on attached Plan 7759/1.

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.

PART II – MANAGEMENT CONDITIONS

5. 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.

6. 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:

- 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;
- the date that the area was cleared;
- the size of the area cleared (in hectares); and
- actions taken to avoid, minimise and reduce the impacts and extent of clearing in accordance with condition 5 of this Permit.

7. Reporting

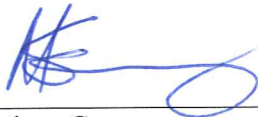
The Permit Holder must provide to the CEO the records required under condition 6 of this Permit, when requested by the CEO or Delegated Officer.

DEFINITIONS

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

CEO: means the Chief Executive Officer of the Department responsible for the administration of the clearing provisions under the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*.

Delegated Officer: means the person appointed by the CEO to administer the clearing provisions under the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*.



Mathew Gannaway
MANAGER
CLEARING REGULATION



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

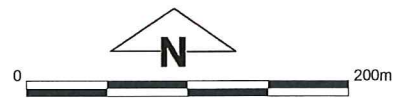
22 January 2018

CPS 7759/1 - Plan



Legend

-  Imagery
-  Clearing Instruments Activities



1:4,515
 (Approximate when reproduced at A4)
 GDA 94 (Lat/Long)
 Geocentric Datum of Australia 1994

Matthew Gannaway Date 22/01/2018

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



1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 7759/1
Permit type: Purpose Permit

1.2. Applicant details

Applicant's name: Rottnest Island Authority
Application received date: 6 September 2017

1.3. Property details

Property: Lot 10976 on Deposited Plan 216860, Rottnest Island
DPaW District: Greater Swan
Localities: Rottnest Island

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
0.5966		Cutting	Fence construction and maintenance

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Grant
Decision Date: 22 January 2017

Reasons for Decision: The clearing permit application 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.

Through assessment it has been determined that the clearing is unlikely to have any significant environmental impacts.

Given the above, the Delegated Officer decided to grant a clearing permit.

2. Site Information

Clearing Description: The applicant proposes to clear up to 0.5966 hectares of native vegetation for the purpose of fence construction and maintenance.

The applicant advised that existing tracks will be utilised where possible and trees will be avoided or pruned as a first preference to minimise removal of vegetation (Rottnest Island Authority, 2017b).

Vegetation Description The application area is mapped as Beard vegetation association 15 which is described as Low forest; cypress pine (Shepherd et al., 2001).

The vegetation within the application area is described as (Rottnest Island Authority, 2017a):

- Closed low heath dominated by *Acanthocarpus preissii* with *Lepidosperma gladiatum*, *Guichenotia ledifolia* and **Trachyandra divaricate*;
- Closed forest of *Melaleuca lanceolata* with occasional *Callitris preissii* and *Acacia rostellifera* over weeds; and
- Non-native trees including Aleppo Pine, Olive, Norfolk Pine, *Eucalyptus gomphocephala* and *Agonis flexuosa*.

Vegetation Condition Vegetation condition within the application is described as (Keighery, 1994):

- Completely Degraded: The structure of the vegetation is no longer intact and the area is completely or almost completely without native species; too
- Very Good: Vegetation structure altered; obvious signs of disturbance.

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles, planning instruments and other matters

Three flora species of conservation significance have previously been recorded within 5 kilometres of the application area. Based on the suitability of habitat observed and condition of the vegetation, none of these species are likely to occur within the application area. The proposed clearing is not likely to impact on flora species of conservation significance.

Given the majority of the application area is in a degraded to completely degraded condition, lack of native understorey species, lack of hollow bearing trees and the relatively small size of the application area, the proposed clearing is not likely to impact on significant fauna habitat and is not likely to be classified as clearing a significant remnant within a highly cleared landscape.

The application area is located 30 metres from the Priority 1 Priority Ecological Community (PEC) 'Microbialites and microbial mats of coastal hypersaline lakes'. The applicant advised that no littoral vegetation will be cleared (Rottnest Island Authority 2017b). Therefore, the proposed clearing is not likely to impact on this PEC.

An occurrence of the Threatened Ecological Community '*Callitris preissii* (or *Melaleuca lanceolata*) forests and woodlands, Swan Coastal Plain' is mapped 205 metres to the south of the application area. The majority of the application area has been previously cleared (Rottnest Island Authority, 2017a). Photos provided by the applicant indicate that the proposed clearing area is not representative of this TEC. The proposed clearing is not likely to impact the occurrence of this TEC.

Given the relatively small size and linear nature of the application area, the proposed clearing is not likely to contribute to or cause land degradation, impact surface or groundwater quality and is not likely to cause or exacerbate flooding.

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

Planning instruments and other relevant matters

The application was advertised for a 21 day submission period on 2 October 2017. No submissions relating to this application have been received.

The proposed clearing falls within an Aboriginal Site of Significance. It is the applicant's responsibility to comply with the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972* and ensure that no Aboriginal Sites of Significance are damaged through the clearing process.

The City of Cockburn advised that the Rottnest Island Authority does not require planning approval from the City of Cockburn as they are not subject to the provisions of the *Planning and Development Act 2005* (City of Cockburn, 2017).

4. References

- City of Cockburn (2017) Advice received from the City of Cockburn Manager of Parks and Environment in relation to CPS 7759/1. DWER ref A1539973.
- Keighery, B.J. (1994) Bushland Plant Survey: A Guide to Plant Community Survey for the Community. Wildflower Society of WA (Inc). Nedlands, Western Australia.
- Rottnest Island Authority (2017a) Vegetation descriptions and photos of application area provided by Rottnest Island Authority. DWER ref A1588490.
- Rottnest Island Authority (2017b) CPS 7759/1 - Clearing application and supporting information. Quokka Exclusion Fence Construction and Maintenance. DWER ref A1588490.
- 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.