



## CLEARING PERMIT

*Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986*

### PERMIT DETAILS

Area Permit Number: 7803/1  
File Number: DER2017/001754  
Duration of Permit: From 6 April 2019 to 6 April 2026

### PERMIT HOLDER

Dongara Lime and Gravel Pty Ltd

### LAND ON WHICH CLEARING IS TO BE DONE

Lot 14 on Plan 46523, Yardarino

### AUTHORISED ACTIVITY

The Permit Holder shall not clear more than 2.81 hectares of native vegetation within the area cross-hatched yellow on attached Plan 7803/1.

#### 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. Weed and dieback 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 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.

#### 3. Wind erosion management

The Permit Holder shall not clear native vegetation unless extraction activities occur within 3 months of the authorised clearing being undertaken.

#### 4. Period in which clearing is authorised

The Permit Holder shall not clear any native vegetation after 6 April 2021.

#### 5. Retain vegetative material and topsoil, revegetation and rehabilitation

The Permit Holder shall:

- (a) retain the vegetative material and topsoil removed by clearing authorised under this Permit and stockpile the vegetative material and topsoil in an area that has already been cleared.
- (b) at an *optimal time* following the completion of extractive activities, *revegetate* and *rehabilitate* the area(s) that are no longer required for the purpose for which they were cleared under this Permit by:
  - (i) re-shaping the surface of the land so that it is consistent with the surrounding 5 metres of uncleared land; and

- (ii) ripping the ground on the contour to remove soil compaction; and
- (iii) laying the vegetative material and topsoil retained under condition 5(a) on the cleared area(s).
- (c) within 18 months of laying the vegetative material and topsoil on the cleared area in accordance with condition 5(b) of this Permit:
  - (i) engage an *environmental specialist* to determine the species composition, structure and density of the area *revegetated* and *rehabilitated*; and
  - (ii) where, in the opinion of an *environmental specialist*, the composition structure and density determined under condition 5(c)(i) of this Permit will not result in a similar species composition, structure and density to that of pre-clearing vegetation types in that area, *revegetate* the area by deliberately *planting* and/or *direct seeding* native vegetation that will result in a similar species composition, structure and density of native vegetation to pre-clearing vegetation types in that area and ensuring only *local provenance* seeds and propagating material are used.
- (d) Where additional *planting* or *direct seeding* of native vegetation is undertaken in accordance with condition 5(c)(ii) of this permit, the Permit Holder shall repeat condition 5(c)(i) and 5(c)(ii) within 24 months of undertaking the additional *planting* or *direct seeding* of native vegetation.
- (e) Where a determination by an *environmental specialist* that the composition, structure and density within areas *revegetated* and *rehabilitated* will result in a similar species composition, structure and density to that of pre-clearing vegetation types in that area, as determined in condition 5(c)(i) and (ii) of this permit, that determination shall be submitted for the CEO's consideration. If the CEO does not agree with the determination made under condition 5(c)(ii), the CEO may require the Permit Holder to undertake additional *planting* and *direct seeding* in accordance with the requirements under condition 5(c)(ii).

## 6. Records must be kept

The Permit Holder must maintain the following records for activities done pursuant to this Permit:

- (a) In relation to the clearing of native vegetation authorised under this Permit:
  - (i) 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;
  - (ii) the date that the area was cleared;
  - (iii) the size of the area cleared (in hectares);
  - (iv) actions taken to avoid, minimise and reduce the impacts and extent of clearing in accordance with condition 1 of this Permit; and
  - (v) actions taken to minimise the risk of the introduction and spread of *dieback* and *weeds* in accordance with condition 2 of this Permit.
- (b) In relation to the *revegetation* and *rehabilitation* of areas pursuant to condition 5 of this Permit:
  - (i) the location of any areas *revegetated* and *rehabilitated*, 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;
  - (ii) a description of the *revegetation* and *rehabilitation* activities undertaken;
  - (iii) the size of the area *revegetated* and *rehabilitated* (in hectares);
  - (iv) the species composition, structure and density of *revegetation* and *rehabilitation*; and
  - (v) a copy of the environmental specialist's report.

## 7. 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 6 of this Permit; and
  - (ii) concerning activities done by the Permit Holder under this Permit between 1 January to 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 6 January 2026, the Permit Holder must provide to the CEO a written report of records required under condition 6 of this Permit where these records have not already been provided under condition 7(a) of this Permit.

## 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*;

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

**direct seeding** means a method of re-establishing vegetation through the establishment of a seed bed and the introduction of seeds of the desired plant species;

**environmental specialist:** means a person who holds a tertiary qualification in environmental science or equivalent, and has experience relevant to the type of environmental advice that an environmental specialist is required to provide under this Permit, or who is approved by the CEO as a suitable environmental specialist.

**fill** means material used to increase the ground level, or fill a hollow;

**local provenance** means native vegetation seeds and propagating material from natural sources within 50 kilometres and the same Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation for Australia (IBRA) subregion of the area cleared.

**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;

**optimal time** means the period from April to May for undertaking *planting*;

**planting** means the re-establishment of vegetation by creating favourable soil conditions and planting seedlings of the desired species;

**regenerate/ed/ion** means re-establishment of vegetation from in situ seed banks and propagating material (such as lignotubers, bulbs, rhizomes) contained either within the topsoil or seed-bearing *mulch*;

**rehabilitate/ed/ion** means actively managing an area containing native vegetation in order to improve the ecological function of that area;


**revegetate/ed/ion** means the re-establishment of a cover of *local provenance* native vegetation in an area using methods such as natural *regeneration*, *direct seeding* and/or *planting*, so that the species composition, structure and density is similar to pre-clearing vegetation types in that area.

**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 Regional Weed Rankings Summary, regardless of ranking; or

(c) not indigenous to the area concerned.

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Abbie Crawford  
MANAGER  
NATIVE VEGETATION REGULATION

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




7 March 2019

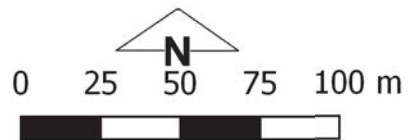


# Plan 7803/1



## Legend

-  CPS areas approved to clear base layers
-  Local Government Authorities
-  Roads
-  Cadastre
- Image



MGA 94  
Geocentric Datum of Australia 1994

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



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# Clearing Permit Decision Report

## 1. Application details

### 1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 7803/1  
Permit type: Area Permit

### 1.2. Applicant details

Applicant's name: Dongara Lime and Gravel Pty Ltd  
Application received date: 10 October 2017

### 1.3. Property details

Property: LOT 14 ON PLAN 46523  
Local Government Authority: IRWIN, SHIRE OF  
Localities: YARDARINO

### 1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	Purpose category:
2.81		Mechanical Removal	Extractive industry

### 1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Granted  
Decision Date: 7 March 2019  
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* (EP Act). It has been concluded that the proposed clearing may be at variance to Principle (g) and is not likely to be at variance to any of the remaining clearing principles.

The proposed clearing may increase the risk of weeds and dieback spreading into adjacent vegetated areas. A weed and dieback management condition has been placed on the permit to mitigate the impact of spreading weeds and dieback into adjacent vegetation.

Through assessment it was determined that the proposed clearing may cause appreciable land degradation in the form of soil erosion. A condition has been added to the permit requiring the Permit Holder to not clear native vegetation unless extractive activities occur within three months.

As the proposed clearing is for a temporary land use, a rehabilitation management condition has been placed on the permit.

In determining to grant a clearing permit subject to conditions, the Delegated Officer determined that the proposed clearing is unlikely to lead to any unacceptable risk to the environment.

## 2. Site Information

**Clearing Description** The applicant proposes to clear 2.81 hectares of native vegetation within Lot 14 on Plan 46523, Yardarino, for the purpose of extracting lime sand.

**Vegetation Description** Mapped Beard vegetation association 17 is described as shrublands comprised of *Acacia rostellifera* thicket (Shepherd et al, 2001).

**Vegetation Condition** Completely degraded: The structure of the vegetation is no longer intact and the area is completely or almost completely without native species (Keighery, 1994).  
To  
Good; Vegetation structure is significantly altered by very obvious signs of multiple disturbance. Retains basic vegetation structure or ability to regenerate to it (Keighery, 1994)

**Soil type** The application area has been mapped as the following soil types;  
Quindalup Central 3 Subsystem - Coastal dune system, no fixed drainage (Schoknecht et al., 2004).



## Comments

The local area considered in the assessment of this application is defined as a 10 kilometre radius measured from the centre of the application area.

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

The applicant proposes to clear 2.81 hectares of native vegetation within Lot 14 on Plan 46523, Yardarino, for the purpose of extracting lime sand.

Nine priority flora species have been recorded within the local area. A priority 1 and priority 2 species have been recorded within 4.5 and 3.5 kilometres of the application area. The priority 1 species was listed in 2014 and is only known from three locations. Very limited information is available on the distribution and habitat preferences of this taxon (DBCA, 2017). The priority 2 species has been recorded occurring in a range of habitats with substrates including sand, gravel and loam (DBCA, 2017). The application area has previously been cleared and subject to grazing and therefore it is unlikely to support priority flora.

The closest priority ecological community (PEC) is mapped approximately 6.8 kilometres north west of the application area and is known as Coastal Saltmarsh (Priority 3). The habitat for this community is coastal areas under tidal influence. The application area does not contain suitable habitat for this PEC.

There are no threatened ecological communities or rare flora mapped within the local area.

Three species of fauna classified as specially protected under the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016* have been recorded within the local area, being; Australian lesser noddy (*Anous tenuirostris* subsp. *Melanops*), Carnaby's cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus latirostris*) and chuditch (*Dasyurus geoffroii*) (DBCA, 2007- ). The mapped vegetation on site (*Acacia rostellifera* thicket) is not representative of habitat suitable to be utilised by the abovementioned species, and given that the local area retains approximately 50 per cent native vegetation, it is unlikely that the vegetation under application provides significant habitat for indigenous fauna.

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 Shire of Irwin retains approximately 45 per cent pre-European vegetation and Beard vegetation association 17 retains approximately 84 per cent pre-European vegetation in the Geraldton Sandplains Bioregion (Government of Western Australia, 2018). These figures are above the 30 per cent threshold, therefore the application area is not likely to represent a significant remnant in an extensively cleared area.

The closest wetland or watercourse to the application area is the Irwin River, located approximately one kilometre north. Given the distance to this watercourse, the proposed clearing is unlikely to impact water quality, consist of riparian vegetation or cause or exacerbate the intensity of flooding.

The application area has been mapped as the Quindalup Central 3 Subsystem which is described as 'Coastal dune system, no fixed drainage'. The degradation risk summary for this subsystem notes that 15 per cent of this map unit has an extreme risk of wind erosion, therefore the proposed clearing may cause appreciable land degradation in the form of wind erosion. The risk of wind erosion will be minimised through the requirement to only clear if extraction occurs within three months of clearing and the requirement to progressively rehabilitate.

The closest conservation reserve to the application area is Beekeepers Nature Reserve which occurs approximately 3.4 kilometres south west of the application area. Given the distance to this conservation area, and that there are no linkage values between conservation reserves and the application area, it is unlikely that the proposed clearing will impact on the environmental values of this or any other conservation area.

The proposed clearing will increase the risk of weeds spreading into adjacent vegetated areas. Weed management practices will assist in mitigating this risk.

Given the above, the proposed clearing may be at variance to Principle (g) (land degradation) and is not likely to be at variance to any of the remaining clearing Principles.

### Planning instruments and other relevant matters.

An Extractive Industry Licence (EIL) was issued by the Shire of Irwin on 11 February 2019. The proponent has obtained the EIL from the Shire of Irwin, subject to several conditions. The licence is approved until 30 June 2020 and was received by DWER on 6 March 2019.

No Aboriginal sites of significance have been mapped within the application area.

The clearing permit application was advertised on DWER's website on 1 November 2017 with a 21 day submission period. No public submissions have been received in relation to this application.

#### 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 June 2017.
- Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA) (2017) Species and Communities Branch flora advice for Clearing Permit Application CPS 7803/1. Received on 14 December 2017 (DWER Ref: A1579869).
- Government of Western Australia (2018). 2016 Statewide Vegetation Statistics incorporating the CAR Reserve Analysis (Full Report). Current as of December 2017. WA Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions.
- 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: an overview of methodology and outputs, Department of Agriculture and Food, Perth.
- 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.