



## CLEARING PERMIT

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

### PERMIT DETAILS

Area Permit Number: 7817/1  
File Number: 2015/001750  
Duration of Permit: From 21 June 2018 to 21 June 2020

### PERMIT HOLDER

City of Gosnells

### LAND ON WHICH CLEARING IS TO BE DONE

Station Street Road Reserve – PIN 11717368, Gosnells  
Station Street Road Reserve – PIN 11717367, Martin  
Lot 313 on Deposited Plan 47440, Gosnells

### AUTHORISED ACTIVITY

The Permit Holder shall not clear more than 0.4133 hectares of native vegetation within the area cross-hatched yellow on attached Plan 7817/1.

### 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. Dieback and Weed control

(a) 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 *dieback* and *weeds*:

- (i) clean earth-moving machinery of soil and vegetation prior to entering and leaving the area to be cleared;
- (ii) ensure that no *weed*-affected soil, *mulch*, *fill* or other material is brought into the area to be cleared;
- (iii) ensure that no known *dieback* affected soil, *mulch*, *fill* or other material is brought into the area to be cleared
- (iv) restrict the movement of machines and other vehicles to the limits of the areas to be cleared.

(b) Prior to leaving the area cross-hatched yellow on attached Plan 7817/1, the Permit Holder must clean earth-moving machinery of soil and vegetation.

#### 3. 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);

- (d) actions taken to avoid, minimise and reduce the impacts and extent of clearing in accordance with condition 1 of this Permit; and
- (e) actions taken to minimise the risk of the introduction and spread of *dieback* and *weeds* in accordance with condition 2 of this Permit.

#### 4. Reporting

The Permit Holder must provide to the *CEO* the records required under condition 3 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*;

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

**dry conditions** means when soils (not dust) do not freely adhere to rubber tyres, tracks, vehicle chassis or wheel arches;

**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;

**soil disease status** means soil types either infested, not infested, uninterpretable or not interpreted with a pathogen.

**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.



Mathew Gannaway  
MANAGER  
CLEARING REGULATION

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

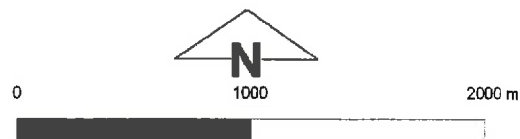
22 May 2018

# Plan 7817/1



### Legend

-  Areas approved to clear
  -  Roads
  -  Local Government Authority  
cadastre
  -  Cadastre
- WANow\_Imagery



MGA 94  
Geocentric Datum of Australia 1994

.....Date 22/05/2018  
 Matthew Gonnaway

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



**GOVERNMENT OF  
WESTERN AUSTRALIA**





# Clearing Permit Decision Report

## 1. Application details

### 1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 7817/1  
Permit type: Area Permit

### 1.2. Applicant details

Applicant's name: City of Gosnells

### 1.3. Property details

Property: Station Street Road Reserve – PIN 11717368, Gosnells  
Station Street Road Reserve – PIN 11717367, Martin  
Lot 313 on Deposited Plan 47440, Gosnells  
Local Government Authority: Gosnells, City of  
Localities: Gosnells

### 1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	Purpose category:
0.4133		Mechanical Removal	Building or structure

### 1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Grant  
Decision Date: 22 May 2018  
Application received date: 16 October 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* (EP Act). It has been concluded that the proposed clearing is at variance to principle (f), and is not likely to be at variance to the remaining principles.

The proposed clearing may cause sedimentation of surface water within the application area, however this impact is considered minimal and short term.

The proposed clearing may result in the spread of dieback and weeds into adjacent areas of remnant vegetation. A dieback and weed management condition has been placed on the clearing permit to minimise this risk.

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

## 2. Site Information

Clearing Description	The application is for the clearing of 0.4133 hectares of native vegetation within Station Street road reserve (PINs 11717367 and 11717368) and portion Lot 313 on Deposited Plan 47440 (being part of Reserve 48327), Gosnells, for the purpose of constructing a road bridge.
Vegetation Description	One vegetation complex is mapped within the application area: Swan Complex; comprised of fringing woodland with localized occurrence of low open forest (Heddlie et al, 1980).  One vegetation association was identified within the application area: <i>Eucalyptus rudis</i> subsp. <i>rudis</i> , <i>Corymbia calophylla</i> and <i>Melaleuca preissiana</i> woodland over mixed weedy grasses and herbs (Golder Associates Pty Ltd, 2017a).
Vegetation Condition	Completely Degraded; No longer intact, completely/almost completely without native species (Keighery, 1994).
Comment	The vegetation condition and description of the application area was determined from information contained within a flora and fauna survey report (Survey) provided by Golder Associates Pty Ltd (Golder Associates Pty Ltd, 2017a).

## 3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

The application is for the clearing of 0.4133 hectares of native vegetation within Station Street road reserve within the abovementioned properties for the purpose of constructing a road bridge. This location is immediately adjacent to and includes vegetation associated with the Swan-Canning River within the City of Gosnells.

A flora and fauna survey identified that the application area is in a Completely Degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition and is parkland cleared with a scattering of upper-storey *Eucalyptus* trees with a groundcover of weeds and rubbish (Golder Associates Pty Ltd, 2017a). The ecological habitat of the application area adjacent to the existing bridge, in particular, has been severely impacted due to historical human activities and because of its position and association with the Swan-Canning River and periodic rises in water levels at flood times.

The Survey determined the upper-storey vegetation comprises of a woodland of scattered Marri (*Corymbia calophylla*), Flooded Gum (*Eucalyptus rudis subsp. rudis*) and Moonah (*Melaleuca preissiana*). Black cockatoos forage on the seeds, nuts and flowers of a large variety of plants including Proteaceous species (*Banksia*, *Hakea* and *Grevillea*), as well as *Allocasuarina* and *Eucalyptus* species, *Corymbia calophylla* and a range of introduced species (Valentine and Stock, 2008). The records of feeding activity for Carnaby's cockatoo on the Swan Coastal Plain reveal that *Banksia* species account for nearly 50 per cent of the diet for Carnaby's cockatoo (Shah, 2006). The application area does not contain the preferred Proteaceae foraging species and no foraging evidence was observed during the Survey (Golder Associates Pty Ltd, 2017a). In addition, as not all of the trees located within the road reserve are proposed to be cleared, the proposed clearing is not likely to significantly impact on the functionality of the ecological linkage associated with the Swan-Canning River.

Black cockatoos breed in large hollow-bearing trees, generally within woodlands or forests or in isolated trees (Commonwealth of Australia, 2012). 'Breeding habitat' for black cockatoos is defined as trees of species known to support breeding within the range of the species which either have a suitable nest hollow or are of a suitable diameter at breast height (DBH) to develop a nest hollow. For most tree species, suitable DBH is 500 millimetres (Commonwealth of Australia, 2012). The Survey identified 26 potential habitat trees, with five of these that had potential suitable hollows. Four of the trees with hollows were occupied by the European honey bee, with others occupied by other avian fauna species such as Galah's. Only one tree was noted as a potentially suitable breeding tree, however its close proximity to the existing road and its precarious lean over the road, as well as being within the footprint of the proposed bridge construction, may also result in the requirement for its removal for safety reasons (Golder Associates Pty Ltd, 2017a). Therefore, the proposed clearing is not likely to impact on significant breeding habitat for black cockatoos.

There are many historical and current records of threatened and priority listed flora species and priority and threatened ecological communities within the local area (10 kilometre radius). None were recorded within the application area during a recent and appropriately timed vegetation Survey (Golder Associates Pty Ltd, 2017a). Given the level of historical local survey effort (demonstrated by the numerous known records), the historical and current land use, and the Completely Degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition of the application area, it is not likely that the application area comprised or is suitable habitat for any conservation significant flora or ecological community, or that it comprises a high level of biological diversity.

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). Within constrained areas (i.e. areas of urban development in cities and major towns) on the Swan Coastal Plain the target for representation of the pre-clearing extent of a particular native vegetation complex is 10 per cent (Environmental Protection Authority, 2006). The application area is located within a constrained area. The vegetation proposed to be cleared forms part of the Swan Coastal Plain's (SCP) Swan vegetation complex (Heddl et al, 1980). This complex has been historically and extensively cleared throughout its known distribution in the SCP where now less than 14 percent of its pre-European extent remains (Government of Western Australia, 2016). Noting this extent within a constrained area and the application area's Completely Degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition, the vegetation within the application area is not considered to be representative of the mapped vegetation complex. Further, given the high level of disturbance, small extent of clearing proposed and absence of conservation significant flora, fauna and ecological communities, the application area is not considered significant as a remnant.

As the application area includes vegetation growing in association with an environment associated with a watercourse, the proposed clearing is at variance to principle (f). While the proposed clearing may increase sedimentation and runoff into the watercourse, the impacts are likely to be minimal and short term and are not likely to cause deterioration in the quality of surface water.

Given the size of the proposed clearing, the Completely Degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition of the vegetation and the purpose is for the construction of a bridge along an existing road, the proposed clearing is not likely to contribute to or cause land degradation, deteriorate the quality of ground water and is not likely to cause or exacerbate flooding.

Given the above, the proposed clearing is at variance to principle (f) and is not likely to be at variance to the remaining clearing principles.

### Planning instruments and other relevant matters.

The clearing permit application was advertised on the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation's (DWER) website on 31 October 2017 for a 21 day public submission period. No submissions have been received in relation to this application.

The application area is located within the Perth Ground Water Area, proclaimed under the *Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914* (RIWI Act). A permit to interfere with the bed and banks of a water course has been obtained from DWER Water Licensing (DWER, 2018, DWER Ref A1630617).

The area under application is located within the Swan Canning Development Control Area. The City of Gosnells received Development Approval from the Western Australian Planning Commission on 3 January 2018 (WAPC, 2018, DWER Ref A1674943).

One Aboriginal Site of Significance has been recorded within the area under application. It is the applicant's responsibility to comply with the requirements of the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972* in respect to this site, and ensure that no Aboriginal Sites of Significance are damaged through the clearing process.

#### 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. Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Populations and Communities, Canberra.
- Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (2018). Water Licensing – Permit to interfere with bed and banks. (DWER Ref A1630617).
- Golder Associates Pty Ltd (2017b) Supporting documentation for City of Gosnells Station Street Bridge clearing application (DWER Ref: A1542469)
- Golder Associates Pty Ltd (2017) Vegetation clearing application and supporting documentation for City of Gosnells Station Street Bridge (DWER Ref: A1544522)
- 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.
- 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.
- Keighery, B.J. (1994) Bushland Plant Survey: A Guide to Plant Community Survey for the Community. Wildflower Society of WA (Inc). Nedlands, Western Australia.
- Shah, B. (2006) Conservation of Carnaby's Black-Cockatoo on the Swan Coastal Plain, Western Australia. December 2006. Carnaby's Black-Cockatoo Recovery Project. Birds Australia, Western Australia.
- Valentine, L.E. and Stock, W. (2008) Food Resources of Carnaby's Black Cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus latirostris*) in the Gnarup Sustainability Strategy Study Area. Edith Cowan University and Department of Environment and Conservation. December 2008.
- Western Australian Planning Commission (2018). Approval to Commence Development (DWER Ref A1674943).

GIS Databases:

SAC Biodatasets (accessed November 2017)

RIWI Act, Areas