



## CLEARING PERMIT

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

### PERMIT DETAILS

Area Permit Number: CPS 7841/1

Duration of Permit: From 19 May 2018 to 19 May 2020

### PERMIT HOLDER

City of Bunbury

### LAND ON WHICH CLEARING IS TO BE DONE

Ocean Drive road reserve (PIN 1301096)

### AUTHORISED ACTIVITY

The Permit Holder shall not clear more than 0.04349 hectares of native vegetation within the area cross-hatched yellow on attached Plan 7841/1.

### 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

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.

### RECORD KEEPING AND REPORTING

#### 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 *weeds* and *dieback* 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*.

#### 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;

**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 Regional Weed Rankings Summary, regardless of ranking; or
- (c) not indigenous to the area concerned.



Emma Bramwell  
A/MANAGER  
CLEARING REGULATION

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

19 April 2018

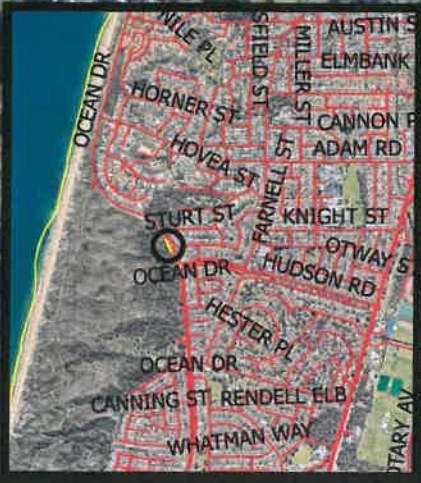
# Plan 7841/1

115°37'26"




-33°21'43"

-33°21'43"



115°37'26"

## Legend

-  Areas approved to clear
-  Roads
-  LGA
- Imagery



10 0 10 m



MGA 94  
Geocentric Datum of Australia 1994

*E. Branwell* Date 19/04/18  
**E. BRANWELL**

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



GOVERNMENT OF  
WESTERN AUSTRALIA





## 1. Application details

### 1.1 Permit application details

Permit application No.: 7841/1  
Permit type: Area Permit

### 1.2 Proponent details

Applicant's name: City of Bunbury

### 1.3 Property details

Property: Ocean Drive Road Reserve (PIN 1301096)  
Local Government Authority: City of Bunbury  
Localities: Withers  
DBCA District: Wellington  
DWER Region: Greater Swan

### 1.4 Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
0.04349		Cutting	Constructing a shared path

### 1.5 Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Granted  
Decision Date: 19 April 2018  
Reasons for Decision: The clearing permit application was received on 30 October 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*.

The Delegated Officer had regard for the supporting information provided by the applicant. The Delegated Officer determined that the proposed clearing is unlikely to lead to an unacceptable risk to the environment, and has granted a permit subject to conditions.

## 2. Site Information

**Clearing Description:** The application is to clear 0.04349 hectares of native vegetation within Ocean Drive Road Reserve (PIN 1301096), Withers, for the purpose of constructing a shared path (refer Figure 1). The proposed clearing is to be undertaken with a chainsaw, and tree stumps are proposed to be removed with an excavator (Ecoedge, 2017).

The proposed clearing will impact a total of five trees and nine shrubs, comprising four *Eucalyptus gomphocephala* (tuart), two *Agonis flexuosa* (peppermint), two *Acacia lasiocarpa* (panjang), *Alyxia buxifolia* (dysentery bush), *Dianella revoluta* (blueberry lily), *Jacksonia furcellata* (grey stinkwood), *Leucopogon* sp., *Phyllanthus calycinus* (false boronia), *Spiridium globulosum* (basket bush) (Ecoedge, 2017).

**Vegetation Description:** The vegetation within the application area is within the Swan Coastal Plain Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation of Australia (IBRA) bioregion and mapped as Quindalup Complex, described as Coastal dune complex consisting mainly of two alliances – the strand and fore-dune alliance and the mobile and stable dune alliance; local variations include the low closed forest of *Melaleuca lanceolata* (Rottnest teatree) - *Callitris preissii* (Rottnest Island pine) and the closed scrub of *Acacia rostellifera* (summer-scented wattle) (Government of Western Australia, 2018).

The vegetation within the application area is described as a tuart woodland over peppermint low open woodland, over low open shrubland of panjang, basket bush, false boronia, *Leucopogon* sp. and dysentery bush over weeds (Ecoedge, 2017).

**Vegetation Condition:** Good: Vegetation structure significantly altered by very obvious signs of multiple disturbances. Retains basic vegetation structure or ability to regenerate (Keighery, 1994).  
To  
Degraded; Structure severely disturbed; regeneration to good condition requires intensive management (Keighery, 1994).

**Soil/Landform Type:** The application area is mapped as Spearwood S1d Phase (211Sp) Dune ridges with moderately deep to very deep siliceous yellow-brown sands, rare limestone outcrop and slopes 3-20% occurring on the eastern slipface (Schoknecht et al., 2004).

**Comment:** The local area referred to in this report is defined as a five kilometre radius around the application area.

Figure 1: Application area (cross-hatched blue)



### 3. Minimisation and mitigation measures

Most of the remnant native vegetation within the road reserve occurs on the western side of the existing road, associated with the Maidens Reserve (Ecoedge, 2017). The applicant has minimised the amount of proposed clearing by designing the works to ensure that the majority of widening required to accommodate the bicycle lane occurs on the eastern side of the road reserve, which is primarily devoid of native vegetation (Ecoedge, 2017).

### 4. Assessment of application against clearing principles

As outlined in Section 2 of this report, the proposed clearing will impact five trees and nine shrubs.

Supporting information provided by the applicant included an assessment of the flora and vegetation conducted in June 2017 (Ecoedge, 2017). The supporting information also included a fauna assessment conducted in June and October 2017 (Harewood, 2017).

No listed threatened or priority flora species were observed within the application area (Ecoedge, 2017). Noting that the proposed clearing is limited to individual plants, the application area is not likely to include, or be necessary for the continued existence of, rare flora.

According to available databases, 32 fauna species specially protected under the *Wildlife Conservation Act 1950* have been recorded within the local area (DBCA, 2007-). The application area may contain suitable habitat for threatened fauna species Carnaby's cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus latirostris*), Baudin's cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus baudinii*), forest red-tailed black cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus banksii* subsp. *naso*), and western ringtail possum (*Pseudocheirus occidentalis*).

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). Black cockatoos breed in large hollow-bearing trees, generally within woodlands or forests or in isolated trees (Commonwealth of Australia, 2012). 'Breeding habitat' for Carnaby's cockatoo 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 (Commonwealth of Australia, 2012). For most tree species, suitable DBH is 500 millimetres (Commonwealth of Australia, 2012).

Three of the five trees within the application area have a DBH of less than 500 millimetres. One of the tuart trees in the application area has a DBH of greater than 500 millimetres, however this tree was not observed to contain hollows of any size (Harewood, 2017). No evidence of black cockatoo foraging, and no existing roosting trees, were observed within the application area (Harewood, 2017). Noting this, the extent of the proposed clearing, and the presence of an adjacent vegetated reserve, the application area is not likely to comprise significant habitat for black cockatoo species.

No evidence of the western ringtail possum, such as dreys, scats or individuals, was found within the application area (Harewood, 2017). This may be attributed to the poor quality of habitat present (Harewood, 2017). Noting this, the extent of the proposed clearing, and the presence of an adjacent vegetated reserve, the application area is not likely to comprise significant habitat for the western ringtail possum (Harewood, 2017).

According to available databases, several occurrences of the 'Banksia Dominated Woodlands of the Swan Coastal Plain' TEC/PEC have been mapped within the local area, the closest being approximately 1.4 kilometres from the application area. Given the distance to the nearest TEC/PEC, and noting the the extent of the proposed clearing and that the proposed clearing is limited to five trees and nine shrubs, the application area is not likely to comprise part of, or be necessary for the maintenance of, a TEC.

The national objectives and targets for biodiversity conservation in Australia have a target to prevent clearance of ecological communities with an extent below 30 percent of that present pre-1750, below which species loss appears to accelerate exponentially at an ecosystem level (Commonwealth of Australia, 2001). Within defined constrained areas on the Swan Coastal Plain, the Environmental Protection Authority has set a threshold for retention of 10 percent of the pre-clearing extent of each native vegetation complex (EPA, 2008). The area under application has been classified as a constrained area.

The mapped Quindalup vegetation complex retains approximately 60.44 per cent of its pre-European extent within the Swan Coastal Plain IBRA bioregion, and the local area retains approximately 10 per cent native vegetation cover, which are above the 10 per cent representation threshold for a constrained area. Noting the extent of the proposed clearing, and that the proposed clearing is limited to five trees and nine shrubs, the application area is unlikely to be significant as a remnant within an extensively cleared landscape.

According to available databases, no wetlands or watercourses occur within the application area. The proposed clearing is not likely to impact on vegetation growing in association with a wetland or watercourse.

According to available databases, the nearest privately-managed conservation area is located approximately 2.9 kilometres from the application area, and the nearest Department of Biodiversity, Conservations, and Attractions managed land occurs approximately 4.6 kilometres from the application area. Given the distance from the application area, the proposed clearing is not likely to impact on the environmental values of these conservation areas.

As indicated in Figure 1, the application area is adjacent to the local government managed Maidens Reserve, which contains extensive remnant coastal vegetation. Noting the method of proposed clearing (as outlined in Section 2), the proposed clearing may result in an increased risk of weed or dieback which may impact adjacent remnant vegetation. Weed and dieback management measures will assist in minimising this risk.

Noting the mapped soil type, the extent of the proposed clearing and the absence of 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.

## **5. Planning instruments and other relevant matters**

The clearing permit application was advertised on the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation's (DWER) website on 30 November 2017 for a 14 day public submission period. No public submissions were received in relation to this application.

No Aboriginal sites of significance occur within the application area.



## 6. 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. URL: <http://naturemap.dpaw.wa.gov.au/>. Accessed January 2018
- Ecoedge (2017) Supporting information for clearing permit application (DWER Ref A1554347)
- Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) (2008) Guidance for the Assessment of Environmental Factors - Level of Assessment for Proposals Affecting Natural Areas Within the System 6 Region and Swan Coastal Plain Portion of the System 1 Region. Guidance Statement No 10. Environmental Protection Authority, Western Australia.
- Government of Western Australia (2018) 2017 South West Vegetation Complex Statistics. Current as of October 2017. WA Department of Parks and Wildlife, Perth. Available from: <https://catalogue.data.wa.gov.au/dataset/dbca>.
- 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 – Overview of Methodology and outputs' Resource Management Technical Report No. 280. Department of Agriculture. Western Australian Herbarium (1998- ) FloraBase - The Western Australian Flora. Department of Parks and Wildlife. <http://florabase.dpaw.wa.gov.au/> (Accessed January 2018).

### GIS Databases

- Aboriginal sites of significance
- Aerial Imagery
- DBCA Tenure
- Flood Risk
- Groundwater Salinity
- Hydrography , Linear
- NLWRA, Current Extent of Native Vegetation
- Pre-European vegetation
- SAC bio datasets accessed February 2018
- Soils – Sub-systems
- Topographic contours
- Town Planning Scheme
- Virtual Mosaic