



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Purpose Permit number:	CPS 7876/1
Permit Holder:	Shire of Denmark
Duration of Permit:	12 May 2018 – 12 May 2023

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 road upgrades.

2. Land on which clearing is to be done

Scotsdale Road reserve (PIN 11639989), Kordabup
Unallocated Crown land (PIN 589103), Kordabup
South Coast Highway road reserve (PIN 1315450), Denmark
Lot 1112 on Plan 28861, Denmark

3. Area of Clearing

The Permit Holder must not clear more than 0.197 hectares of native vegetation within the areas cross-hatched yellow on attached Plan 7876/1a and Plan 7876/1b.

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.

5. Type of clearing authorised

This Permit authorises the Permit Holder to clear native vegetation for the activities described in condition 1 of this Permit to the extent that the Permit Holder has the power to carry out works involving clearing for those activities under the *Local Government Act 1995* or any other written law.

PART II – MANAGEMENT CONDITIONS

6. 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.

7. 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.

PART III – RECORD KEEPING AND REPORTING

8. 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 6 of this Permit; and
- (e) actions taken to minimise the risk of the introduction and spread of *weeds* and *dieback* in accordance with condition 7 of this Permit.

9. Records must be kept

The Permit Holder must provide to the *CEO* the records required under condition 8 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*

13 April 2018

Plan 7876/1a

117°7'30"



117°7'30"

Legend

-  Areas approved to clear
 -  Roads
 -  Local Government Authority cadastre
 -  Cadastre
- WANow_Imagery

90



90 m



MGA 94
Geocentric Datum of Australia 1994

E Bramwell Date *13/04/18*
E BRAMWELL

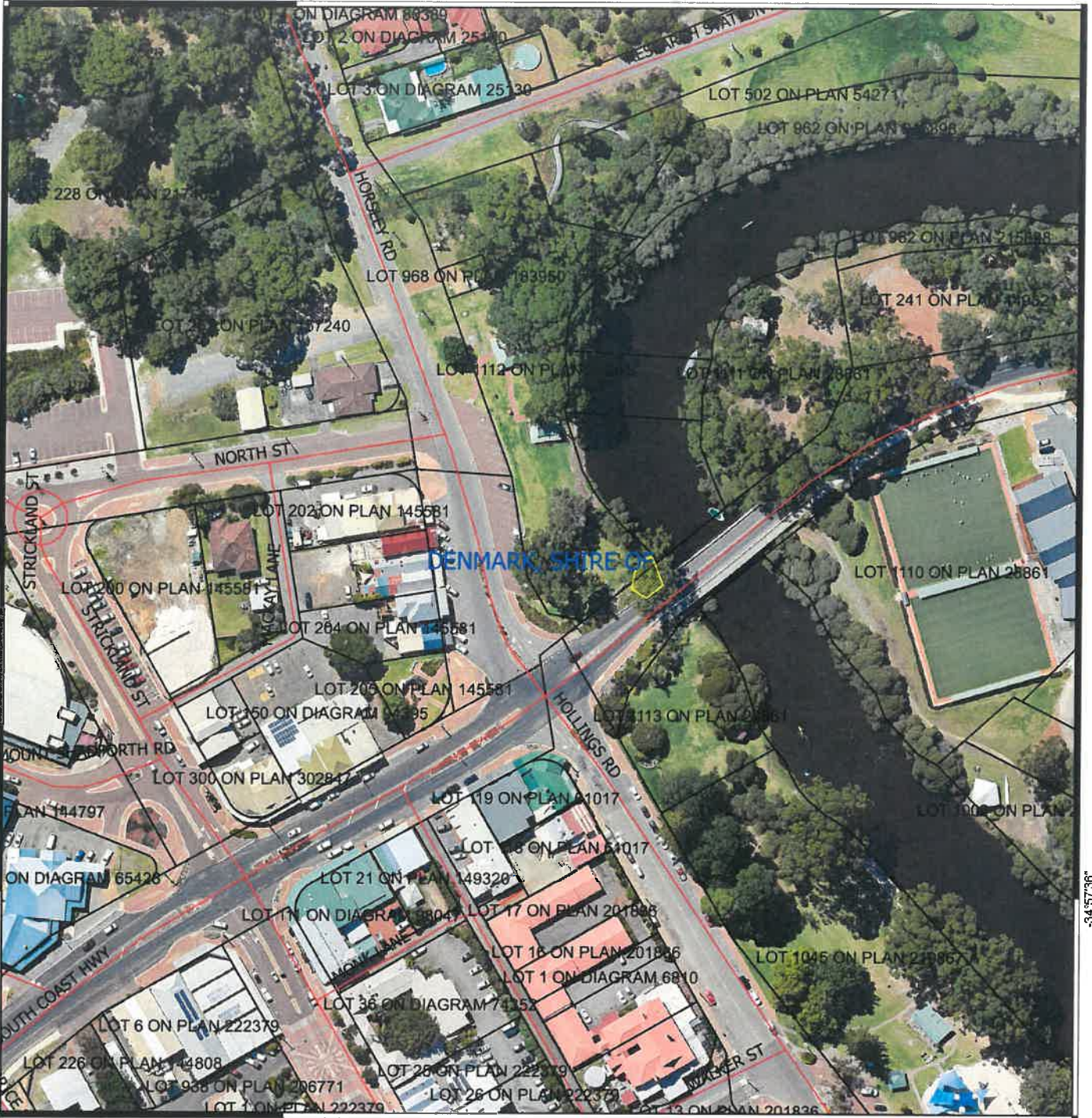
Officer with delegated authority under Section 20
of the Environmental Protection Act 1986



**GOVERNMENT OF
WESTERN AUSTRALIA**

Plan 7876/1b

117 21'18"



-34°57'36"

-34°57'36"

117 21'18"

Legend

-  Areas approved to clear
-  Roads
-  Local Government Authority cadastre
-  Cadastre
- WANow_Imagery

3



3 m



MGA 94
Geocentric Datum of Australia 1994

E Branwell Date: 13/04/18
E BRANWELL

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.: 7876/1
Permit type: Purpose Permit

1.2. Applicant details

Applicant's name: Shire of Denmark

1.3. Property details

Property: SCOTSDALE ROAD RESERVE (PIN 11639989), KORDABUP
UNALLOCATED CROWN LAND (PIN 589103), KORDABUP
SOUTH COAST HIGHWAY ROAD RESERVE (PIN 1315450), DENMARK
LOT 1112 ON PLAN 28861, DENMARK

Local Government Authority: DENMARK, SHIRE OF
Localities: KORDABUP AND DENMARK

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	Purpose category:
0.197 (as revised)		Mechanical Removal	Road construction or upgrades

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Granted
Decision Date: 13 April 2018
Reasons for Decision: The clearing permit application was received by the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) on 20 November 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 clearing is not likely to be at variance to any of the clearing principles.

The Delegated Officer noted the extent of the proposed clearing, the condition of the vegetation within the application area, and that sufficient vegetation would remain within the adjacent land so as not sever an ecological linkage. The Delegated Officer determined that the proposed clearing is not likely to result in any unacceptable environmental impacts.

The Delegated Officer determined that the proposed clearing may increase the spread of weeds and dieback into adjacent vegetation. To minimise this impact, a condition has been placed on the permit requiring the implementation of weed and dieback management measures.

2. Site Information

Clearing Description: The application is for the proposed clearing of 0.197 hectares of native vegetation, comprising of 0.188 hectares within Scotsdale Road reserve (PIN 11639989) and unallocated Crown land, Kordabup, and one dead *Eucalyptus* sp. (0.009 hectares) on South Coast Highway road reserve (PIN 1315450) and Lot 1112 on Plan 28861, Denmark, for the purpose of road upgrades. The application area is indicated in Figures 1 and 2.

Vegetation Description: The vegetation within the application area is mapped as the following vegetation complexes:

- TR1: Woodland of *Allocasuarina fraseriana* (sheoak) – *Eucalyptus marginata* subsp. *marginata* (jarrah) – *Banksia grandis* (bull banksia) with some *Corymbia calophylla* (marri) on low rises of sedimentary rocks in the perhumid zone; and
- F: Mixture of woodland of *Eucalyptus megacarpa* (bullich), woodland of *Eucalyptus patens* (Swan River blackbutt), tall shrubland of Myrtaceae species. with some sedgeland of *Anarthria* spp. on broad plains in hyperhumid and perhumid zones (Mattiske et al., 1998).

Vegetation Condition: Very Good; Vegetation structure altered; obvious signs of disturbance (Keighery, 1994).
To
Completely Degraded: No longer intact; completely /almost completely without native species (Keighery 1994).

Soil/Landform Type: The application area is mapped as the following soil type:

- Cb32: Weakly dissected coastal plain less than 50 feet above sea level, consisting of sand plains, low sand dunes, and low rounded sandstone rises: chief soils are the leached sands of the sand plain in association with yellow earths and on the gently undulating sandstone rises (Northcote et al., 1960-68).

Comments: The local area considered in the assessment of this application is a 10 kilometre radius measured from the perimeter of the application area. The local area retains approximately 57 per cent native vegetation cover.

Vegetation description and condition was determined from a site inspection conducted by DWER officers.

Figure 1: Portion of application area within Scotsdale Road reserve (PIN 11639989) and unallocated Crown land (PIN 589103)



Figure 2: Portion of application area within Lot 1112 on Plan 28861



3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

Noting the extent of the proposed clearing, the location of the application area adjacent to an existing road, and the condition of the vegetation, the application area is not likely to comprise a high level of biological diversity.

The application area contains suitable foraging habitat for threatened black cockatoo species, however noting the extent of surrounding vegetation this habitat is not likely to be significant for this species. No hollows suitable for nesting by threatened black cockatoo species were observed during the DWER site inspection (DWER, 2018). Noting the extent of the proposed clearing and the proximity of the application area to an existing road, the application area is not likely to comprise significant habitat for other indigenous fauna species.

According to available databases, three rare flora species and 31 priority flora species have been recorded within the local area. Noting the habitats within which these species have been recorded, one Priority 3 species (being species that are known from several locations and do not appear to be under imminent threat (Jones, 2015)) could potentially be present within the application area. The nearest recorded location of this species is approximately 60 metres from the application area. The proposed clearing is not likely to impact on the conservation status of any Priority flora species if they were present within the application area. The application area is not likely to include, or be necessary for the continued existence of, rare flora.

There are no known threatened or priority ecological communities within the local area. Noting the similarity of the mapped soil and vegetation types within the local area and the application area, it is unlikely that threatened or priority ecological communities occur within the application area. The application area is not likely to comprise the whole or part of, or be necessary for the maintenance of a threatened ecological community.

The proposed clearing may impact on ecological linkages within the immediate area, however noting the presence of adjacent remnant vegetation the proposed clearing will not sever these linkages. Notwithstanding, there is potential for weeds and dieback to spread or be introduced into adjacent vegetation as a result of the proposed clearing. The implementation of weed and dieback hygiene management practices will assist in minimising the risk of spread of weeds and dieback into adjacent vegetation.

No watercourses or wetlands intersect the application area. The DWER site inspection did not identify any riparian vegetation within the application area (DWER, 2018). The dead tree proposed to be cleared within the South Coast Highway road reserve (PIN 1315450) and Lot 1112 on Plan 28861 is located on the banks of the Denmark River. When alive this tree may have been growing in association with the watercourse, however is now dead, and the proposed clearing is not expected to impact on riparian vegetation associated with the Denmark River. The vegetation within the application area is not likely to be growing in, or in association with, an environment associated with a watercourse or wetland.

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 application area is located within the Warren Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation of Australia bioregion, which retains approximately 84.5 per cent of the pre-European vegetation extent, and is mapped as Mattiske vegetation complexes TR1 and F, which retain approximately 78.9 and 66.3 per cent of the pre-European vegetation extents respectively (Government of Western Australia, 2018). Noting this, and the extent of vegetation cover remaining in the local area (approximately 57 per cent), the application area is not likely to be significant as a remnant of native vegetation in an area that has been extensively cleared.

The application area is approximately 3.4 kilometres north of Kordabup Nature Reserve and four kilometres south of Mount Roe National Park. There are numerous privately-managed conservation areas within the local area, the nearest of these being approximately 270 metres from the application area. Given the distance between these conservation areas and the application area, the proposed clearing is not likely to have an impact on the environmental values of these conservation areas.

Land degradation risk mapping indicates that the mapped land unit within the application area has a low risk of water erosion, salinity and water logging, and that 62 per cent of one of the mapped land unit has a high risk of wind erosion (Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development, 2018). Noting the size of the application area and its location between an existing road and remnant vegetation, the proposed clearing is unlikely to cause appreciable land degradation in the form of wind erosion.

Noting the extent of the proposed clearing, the presence of sandy soils, and the absence of watercourses or wetlands within the application area, the proposed clearing is not likely to cause 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 any of the clearing principles.

Planning instruments and other relevant matters

The original application was for the proposed clearing of 0.188 hectares within Scotsdale Road reserve (PIN 11639989) and unallocated Crown land, Kordabup, for the purpose of road upgrades. The clearing permit application was advertised on the DWER website on 22 December 2017 with a 21 day submission period. No public submissions were received.

The application was revised at the applicant's request to include an additional 0.009 within South Coast Highway road reserve (PIN 1315450) and Lot 1112 on Plan 28861, Denmark. The revised application was advertised on the DWER website on 3 April 2018 with a seven day submission period. No public submissions were received.

A portion of the application area (approximately 0.08 hectares) is within Zone C (a moderate salinity risk area) of the Kent River Water Reserve, gazetted as a controlled catchment under the *Country Area Water Supply Act 1947*. This portion of the application area is outside of the actual hydrological boundary of the catchment, and therefore the proposed clearing is not likely to result in any impacts to the quality of groundwater within the catchment (DWER ref A1607197).

No Aboriginal Sites of Significance have been recorded within the application area.

4. References

- Commonwealth of Australia (2001) National Objectives and Targets for Biodiversity Conservation 2001-2005, Canberra.
- Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (2018). NRInfo Digital Mapping. Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development. Government of Western Australia. URL: <https://maps.agric.wa.gov.au/nrm-info/> (accessed 8 March 2018).
- Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (2018) Site inspection for clearing permit application CPS 7876/1 undertaken on 12 February 2018 (DWER ref: A1631650).
- Government of Western Australia (2018) 2017 South West Vegetation Complex Statistics. Current as of October 2017. WA Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions, 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.
- Mattiske, E.M. and Havel, J.J. (1998) Vegetation Complexes of the South-west Forest Region of Western Australia. Maps and report prepared as part of the Regional Forest Agreement, Western Australia for the Department of Conservation and Land Management and Environment Australia.
- Northcote, K.H. with Beckmann, G.G., Bettenay, E., Churchward, H.M., van Dijk, D.C., Dimmock, G.M., Hubble, G.D., Isbell, R.F., McArthur, W.M., Murtha, G.G., Nicolls, K.D., Paton, T.R., Thompson, C.H., Webb, A.A. and Wright, M.J. (1960-68): 'Atlas of Australian Soils, Sheets 1 to 10, with explanatory data'. CSIRO and Melbourne University Press: Melbourne.

GIS Databases:

- Aboriginal Sites of Significance
- DAFWA Heritage
- DBCA Estate
- DEC Covenant
- Groundwater salinity
- Hydrography, linear
- National Trust WA Covenant
- Remnant vegetation
- SAC bio datasets (accessed March 2018)
- Soils, Statewide
- Topographic contours
- Wetlands