



## CLEARING PERMIT

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

### PERMIT DETAILS

Area Permit Number: CPS 7888/1  
File Number: DER2016/000662  
Duration of Permit: From 8 April 2018 to 8 April 2020

### PERMIT HOLDER

City of Busselton

### LAND ON WHICH CLEARING IS TO BE DONE

Lot 73 on Deposited Plan 49894, Busselton  
Lot 474 on Deposited Plan 39698, Busselton  
Lot 475 on Deposited Plan 39698, Busselton

### AUTHORISED ACTIVITY

The Permit Holder shall not clear more than 0.0142 hectares of native vegetation within the area hatched yellow on attached Plan 7888/1.

### 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. 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*:

- (a) clean earth-moving machinery of soil and vegetation prior to entering and leaving the area to be cleared;
- (b) ensure that no *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. 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 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:

**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) Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions species-led ecological impact and invasiveness ranking 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*

9 March 2018

# Plan 7888/1



## Legend

-  Imagery
-  Cadastral
-  Clearing Instruments Activities
-  Local Government Authority
-  Roads - Local and Others



1:2,000  
 (Approximate when reproduced at A4)  
 GDA 94 (Lat/Long)  
 Geocentric Datum of Australia 1994

*Matthew Gorman* Date 01/03/2018

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





# Clearing Permit Decision Report

## 1. Application details

### 1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 7888/1  
Permit type: Area Permit

### 1.2. Applicant details

Applicant's name: City of Busselton  
Application received date: 28 November 2017

### 1.3. Property details

Property: Lot 73 on Deposited Plan 49894, Busselton  
Lot 475 on Deposited Plan 39698, Busselton  
Lot 474 on Deposited Plan 39698, Busselton

Local Government Authority: Busselton, City of  
Localities: Busselton

### 1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	Purpose category:
0.0142		Mechanical Removal	Recreation

### 1.5.

Decision Date: 09 March 2018

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*, and it has been concluded that the proposed clearing is at variance to principle (f), may be at variance to principle (i) and is not likely to be at variance to the remaining principles.

The Delegated Officer determined that the proposed clearing will impact on riparian vegetation and may impact on the surface water of a conservation category wetland. The Delegated Officer considered that due to the small size of the proposed clearing that these impacts are likely to be minimal and short term. Implementing hygiene management practices will limit the risk of weeds spreading within conservation estate.

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

## 2. Site Information

**Clearing Description** The clearing of 0.0142 hectares of native vegetation within Lot 73 on Deposited Plan 49894, Lot 474 on Deposited Plan 39698 and Lot 475 on Deposited Plan 39698, Busselton, for the purpose of constructing walking tracks.

**Vegetation Description** The application area is mapped as Matiske vegetation complex Qw, consisting of open forest of *Eucalyptus marginata* subsp. *marginata*-*Corymbia calophylla* on slopes in the humid zone (Government of Western Australia, 2017).

**Vegetation Condition** Good; Structure significantly altered by multiple disturbance; retains basic structure/ability to regenerate (Keighery, 1994).  
To: Completely Degraded; No longer intact, completely/almost completely without native species (Keighery, 1994).

## 3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

Consideration has been given to clearing impacts relating to biodiversity, significant fauna habitat, rare flora, threatened ecological communities, remnant vegetation values, wetlands and watercourses, land degradation, conservation areas, surface water quality, groundwater quality and flooding.

The application area is adjacent to a conservation category wetland, and includes riparian vegetation. The application area includes one established *Melaleuca* sp., planted *Melaleuca cuticularis* and/or *M. viminea* and an understorey which consists mostly of *Lepidosperma gladiatum* and *Rhagodia baccata* (City of Busselton, 2018). No Peppermint trees (*Agonis flexuosa*) will be cleared and therefore Western Ringtail Possum (*Pseudocheirus occidentalis*) habitat will not be impacted.

Noting the condition of the vegetation and the species identified within the application area, the proposed clearing is not likely to impact upon any rare or priority flora species.

The application area occurs within an area that is mapped as containing acid sulphate soils. The limestone that is to be used for the construction of the walkway is to be layered on the surface of the ground, so as not to disturb acid sulphate soils.

The application area is located adjacent to a conservation category wetland. The proposed clearing may cause sedimentation to the surface water of this wetland. Given the relatively small size (0.0142 hectares) of the proposed clearing, the impacts to the wetland and surface water are considered to be minimal and short term. Implementing hygiene management practices will limit the risk of weeds spreading within the conservation estate.

Given the degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition of the vegetation and the relatively small size of the application area, the proposed clearing is not likely to contribute to or cause land degradation, deteriorate the quality of ground water, cause or exacerbate flooding or be considered a significant remnant within an extensively cleared area.

Given the above, the assessment has found that the proposed clearing is at variance to principle (f), may be at variance to principle (i) and is not likely to be at variance to the remaining principles.

The clearing permit application was advertised on 5 January 2018 on the Department's website, inviting submissions from the public within a 14 day period. No submissions were received in relation to this application.

The application area covers an area in which there exists two registered Aboriginal Heritage Sites. It is the responsibility of the Permit Holder to ensure that no Aboriginal Sites of Significance are damaged through the clearing process.

#### 4. References

- City of Busselton (2018) Supporting information in relation to clearing permit application CPS 7888/1 (DWER Ref: A1627754).  
Government of Western Australia. (2017) South West Vegetation Complex Statistics.  
Keighery, B.J. (1994) Bushland Plant Survey: A Guide to Plant Community Survey for the Community. Wildflower Society of WA (Inc). Nedlands, Western Australia.

#### GIS Databases:

- SAC Bio Datasets accessed December 2017
- Hydrography linear
- NLWRA, Current Extent of Native Vegetation
- Pre-European vegetation
- Soils, Statewide
- Topographical Contours, Statewide