



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Purpose Permit number:	CPS 7958/1
Permit Holder:	Shire of Manjimup
Duration of Permit:	8 December 2018 – 8 December 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

Tower Road reserve (PIN: 11514362, 11514363), Yanmah and Linfarne

3. Area of Clearing

The Permit Holder shall not clear more than 0.3 hectares of native vegetation and 20 native trees within the area hatched yellow on attached Plan 7958/1.

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:

- (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.

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 known *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.

8. Fauna management

- (a) Prior to undertaking any clearing authorised under this Permit, the area(s) shall be inspected by a *fauna specialist* who shall identify *habitat tree(s)* suitable to be utilised for nesting by Carnaby's cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus latirostris*), forest red-tailed black cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus banksii subsp. naso*) or Baudin's cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus baudinii*).
- (b) Prior to clearing, any *habitat tree(s)* identified under condition 8(a) shall be inspected by a *fauna specialist* for the presence of fauna listed in condition 8(a).
- (c) Where fauna are identified under condition 8(b) of this Permit, the Permit Holder shall ensure that no clearing of, or within 10 metres of, the identified *habitat tree(s)* occurs.

PART III – RECORD KEEPING AND REPORTING

9. Records to 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.
- (f) In relation to fauna management pursuant to condition 8 of this Permit:
 - (i) the location of each black cockatoo 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; and
 - (ii) the species name of each black cockatoo identified.

10. Reporting

The Permit Holder must provide to the *CEO* the records required under condition 9 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;

fauna specialist means a person with training and specific work experience in fauna identification or faunal assemblage surveys of Western Australian fauna;


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

habitat tree(s) means trees that have a diameter, measured at 1.5m above the ground, of 50cm or greater, that contain one or more hollows;

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.

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Abbie Crawford
MANAGER
NATIVE VEGETATION REGULATION

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

9 November 2018

Plan 7958/1

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34.167705°S

116.076664°E

116.103568°E




116.076664°E


116.103568°E

34.180199°S

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Legend

 Imagery

 Clearing Instruments Activities




0 500m

1:13,138

(Approximate when reproduced at A4)

GDA 94 (Lat/Long)

Geocentric Datum of Australia 1994



Date

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



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1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: CPS 7958/1
Permit type: Purpose Permit

1.2. Applicant details

Applicant's name: Shire of Manjimup
Application received date: 21 January 2018

1.3. Property details

Property: ROAD RESERVE - 11514362, YANMAH
ROAD RESERVE - 11514363, LINFARNE
Local Government Authority: MANJIMUP, SHIRE OF
Localities: LINFARNE and YANMAH

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	Purpose category:
0.3	20	Mechanical Removal	Road Widening

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Grant
Decision Date: 9 November 2018
Reasons for Decision: The clearing permit application was received on 21 January 2018 and 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 may be at variance to principle (b) and principle (h) and is not likely to be at variance to any of the remaining clearing principles.

The Delegated Officer determined that the proposed clearing may increase the risk of dieback and weeds being introduced or spread into adjacent North Donnelly State Forest. Dieback and weed management measures will minimise impacts to adjacent State Forest.

The Delegated Officer determined that the application area may contain breeding habitat for Carnaby's cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus latirostris*), forest red-tailed black cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus banksii* subsp. *naso*) and Baudin's cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus baudinii*). To minimise this impact, a condition has been placed on the permit requiring the identification of black cockatoo nesting trees prior to clearing and to ensure no clearing occurs within 10 metres of identified black cockatoo nesting trees.

In determining to grant a clearing permit subject to conditions, the Delegated Officer determined that the proposed clearing is not likely to have any unacceptable environmental impacts.

2. Site Information

Clearing Description: The application proposes to clear 0.3 hectares of native vegetation and 20 native trees within Tower Road reserve (PIN 11514362 and 11514363), Yanmah, for the purpose of road widening. The application area is indicated in Figure 1.

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

'Corbalup CL1 (57%)', described as a mosaic of open forest of *Eucalyptus marginata* subsp. *marginata*-*Banksia* spp. on well drained sites, with some *Eucalyptus decipiens* on lower slopes in southern areas, woodland of *Eucalyptus rudis*-*Melaleuca preissiana*-*Banksia littoralis* on depressions in perhumid and humid zones (Matiske and Havel, 1998).

'Yornup YR (43%)', described as a mosaic of open woodland of *Eucalyptus marginata* subsp. *marginata*-*Corymbia calophylla*, open woodland of *Melaleuca cuticularis*, open woodland of *Melaleuca preissiana*-*Banksia littoralis*-*Banksia seminuda*, tall shrubland of *Myrtaceae* spp. and sedgelands on broad depressions in humid and subhumid zones (Matiske and Havel, 1998).

'Yanmah YN1 (0.06%)', described as a mixture of tall open forest of *Eucalyptus diversicolor* and tall open forest of *Corymbia calophylla*-*Eucalyptus patens*-*Eucalyptus marginata* subsp. *marginata* over *Agonis flexuosa* and *Agonis juniperina* on valleys in perhumid and humid zones (Matiske and Havel, 1998).

Vegetation Condition:

The condition of the vegetation within the application area is considered to be:

- Degraded: Basic vegetation structure severely impacted by disturbance. Scope for regeneration but not to a state approaching good condition without intensive management (Keighery 1994) to
- Very good: vegetation structure altered, obvious signs of disturbance (Keighery, 1994).

Soil/Landform Type:

The application area is mapped within the following land subsystems:

'Yanmah Subsystem (Manjimup) (254MpYN)', described as shallow (5-20 m) minor valleys, usually U-shaped with gentle sideslopes (3-10%) and broad swampy floors. Soils are loamy gravels, sandy gravels and deep sands with non-saline wet soils on the valley floors (Schoknecht et al., 2004).

'Corbalup Subsystem (Manjimup) (254MpCL)', described as gently undulating rises over sedimentary deposits, relief 5-15 m, slopes 1-5%. Soils are loamy gravels and sandy gravels (Schoknecht et al., 2004).

A site inspection by Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) officers noted the soil within the application area to be loamy-sandy gravel (DWER 2018).

Comments:

The local area considered in the assessment of this application is defined as a 10 kilometre radius around the perimeter of the application area. According to available aerial imagery, the local area retains approximately 50 per cent native vegetation cover.



Figure 1: Application area (cross-hatched blue)

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

Noting the extent of the proposed clearing, and the vegetation cover in the vicinity of the application area, which is expected to be of similar type and in similar or better condition to that present within the application area, the application area is unlikely to comprise a high level of biological diversity.

According to available databases, 11 threatened fauna species, seven priority fauna species, two specially protected fauna species, and two fauna species protected under international agreement have been recorded within the local area. The application area is adjacent to North Donnelly State Forest. A site inspection undertaken by DWER Environmental Officers identified a number of large jarrah and marri trees with hollows suitable for breeding for black cockatoos and evidence of foraging was observed (DWER 2018). Given the extent of the surrounding vegetation, and noting the linear shape of the application area, the application

area is not likely to contain significant fauna habitat and is not likely to be significant as a wildlife corridor. The application area may however contain suitable breeding trees for black cockatoos. The identification of suitable habitat trees prior to clearing will assist in minimising impacts to black cockatoos.

According to available databases, two rare flora species and 12 priority flora species have been recorded within the local area. The majority of these are found in winter wet swamp areas or granite outcrops and one occurring in grey sand over laterite. Based on the mapped soil and vegetation types, none of these species are likely to occur within the application area.

According to available databases, no threatened or priority ecological communities have been recorded within the local area. The nearest ecological community of conservation significance is 'Epiphytic cryptogams of the karri forest' (Priority 3), located approximately 16.5 kilometres from the application area. Based on the mapped soil and vegetation types and the condition of the vegetation within application area, and noting that the mapped vegetation complex within the local area is widespread, it is unlikely that the application area comprises or is necessary for the maintenance of, a threatened or priority ecological community.

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 Jarrah Forest Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation of Australia bioregion retains approximately 53.4 per cent of the pre-European extent of native vegetation (Government of Western Australia, 2018). The mapped Mattiske vegetation complexes retain approximately, 70 per cent (approximately 10,667 hectares) (Corbalup); 61 per cent (approximately 11,724 hectares) (Yornup); and 82 per cent (approximately 19,269 hectares) (Yornup), of the pre-European extent (Government of Western Australia, 2018). Noting the size of the application area and the extent of native vegetation cover in the local area, the application area is not considered to be significant as a remnant of native vegetation in an area that has been extensively cleared.

According to available databases, the nearest watercourse is approximately 247 metres from the application area. The application area does not contain any wetlands or watercourses, and as such the proposed clearing is not likely to impact native vegetation growing in association with wetlands or watercourses.

According to available databases, the nearest conservation area is the North Donnelly State Forest, located adjacent to the application area. The proposed clearing will increase the risk of weeds and dieback being spread into this conservation area. Noting this, the proposed clearing may impact on the environmental values of nearby conservation areas. Hygiene management practices will assist in minimising the spread of weeds and dieback into the adjacent state forest.

The subject road reserve is located within the proclaimed Donnelly River and Tributaries Surface Water Area, Manjimup Brook / Yanmah-Dixvale sub area on Yanmah Brook. The Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) (South West Region – Land Use Planning) has assessed the clearing to have a low risk to water resources within the area.

Noting the extent of the proposed clearing, and the mapped soil type within the application area, the proposed clearing is not likely to cause appreciable land degradation, cause deterioration in the quality of surface or underground water, or cause or exacerbate the incidence or intensity of flooding.

The assessment has found that the proposed clearing may be at variance to principle (b) and principle (h) and is not likely to be at variance to any of the remaining clearing principles.

Planning instruments and other relevant matters

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

The application area is within the Donnelly River Water Reserve, a gazetted Public Drinking Water Source Area. Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (South West Region – Land Use Planning) has assessed the clearing to have a low risk to water resources within the area. However, the South West Region - Land Use Planning group made the following recommendations:

1. The clearing does not occur in periods of high rainfall; and
2. The clearing operation and road widening is appropriately constructed to ensure that sheet runoff and sedimentation does not affect the protected water resources of Yanmah Brook.

The clearing permit application was advertised on the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation website on 22 January 2018 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 Water and Environmental Regulation (2018) CPS 7958/1 Site inspection report.
- Government of Western Australia. (2018) 2017 Statewide Vegetation Statistics incorporating the CAR Reserve Analysis (Full Report). Current as of December 2017. WA Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions. Available from: <https://catalogue.data.wa.gov.au/dataset/dbca-statewide-vegetation-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.
- 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.
- 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.
- Western Australian Herbarium (1998–). FloraBase—the Western Australian Flora. Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions. <https://florabase.dpaw.wa.gov.au/>. Accessed June 2018.

GIS Databases:

- Aboriginal Sites of Significance
- DBCA Managed Estate
- Directory of Important Wetlands
- Geomorphic Wetlands Augusta to Walpole
- Groundwater salinity
- Hydrography, hierarchy
- Hydrography, linear
- Land Degradation datasets
- SAC Bio Datasets
- Soils, Statewide
- Topographic contours
- Vegetation Complexes south west forest