



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

PERMIT DETAILS

Area Permit Number: CPS 7978/1

File Number: DER2018/000249

Duration of Permit: From 17 November 2018 to 17 November 2020

PERMIT HOLDER

Nicholas John Weir

Julie Weir

LAND ON WHICH CLEARING IS TO BE DONE

Lot 2 on Plan 14927, Uduc

AUTHORISED ACTIVITY

The Permit Holder shall not clear more than 9.36 hectares of native vegetation within the area hatched yellow on attached Plan 7978/1.

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.

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:

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; and

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
NATIVE VEGETATION REGULATION

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

18 October 2018

Plan 7978/1

33.016993°S

33.016993°S

115.752931°E

115.762819°E







115.752931°E

115.762819°E

33.021347°S

33.021347°S

Legend

-  Imagery
-  Clearing Instruments Activities
-  Local Government Authority
-  Roads



0 200m

1:4,894

(Approximate when reproduced at A4)

GDA 94 (Lat/Long)

Geocentric Datum of Australia 1994

Date 18/10/2018

Mathew Gannaway

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.: 7978/1
Permit type: Area Permit

1.2. Applicant details

Applicant's name: Ida Holdings Pty Ltd
Application received date: 09 February 2018

1.3. Property details

Property: Lot 2 on Plan 14927, Uduc
Local Government Authority: Harvey, Shire of
Localities: Uduc

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	Purpose category:
9.36		Mechanical Removal	Horticulture

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Grant

Decision Date: 18 October 2018

Reason for Decision: The clearing permit application received on 9 February 2018 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 may be at variance to principle (d) and is not likely to be at variance to the remaining clearing principles.

Through assessment it was determined that the application area is located adjacent to the Banksia Woodlands of the Swan Coastal Plain threatened ecological community (TEC). The Delegated Officer determined that the proposed clearing may increase the spread of weeds and dieback into the adjacent TEC. To minimise this impact, a condition has been placed on the permit requiring the implementation of weed and dieback management measures.

The Delegated Officer had regard to advice from the Shire of Harvey and the pending water licence in the decision to grant this clearing permit.

2. Site Information

Clearing Description The application is to clear 9.36 hectares of native vegetation within Lot 2 on Plan 14927, Goss Road, Uduc for the purpose of planting avocado trees (Figure 1).

Vegetation Description The application area is mapped as Heddle vegetation complex 'Karrakatta Complex-Central and South' which is described as predominantly open forest of *Eucalyptus gomphocephala* (Tuart) - *Eucalyptus marginata* (jarrah) - *Corymbia calophylla* (marri) and woodland of *Eucalyptus marginata* (jarrah) - *Banksia* species. *Agonis flexuosa* (peppermint) is co-dominant south of the Capel River (Heddle et al., 1980); and

Heddle vegetation complex 'Bassendean Complex-Central and South' which is described as vegetation ranging from woodland of *Eucalyptus marginata* (jarrah) - *Allocasuarina fraseriana* (sheoak) - *Banksia* species to low woodland of *Melaleuca* species, and sedgelands on the moister sites. This area includes the transition of *Eucalyptus marginata* (jarrah) to *Eucalyptus tottiana* (pricklybark) in the vicinity of Perth (Heddle et al., 1980).

A site inspection undertaken by Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) Officer's determined that the application area has been previously cleared and the overstorey predominantly consists of juvenile *Eucalyptus marginata* (jarrah). The midstorey consisted of *Myrtaceae* sp. with some areas dominant and dense with this species. *Melaleuca* sp., *Xylomelum occidentale* and *Banksia* sp. were scattered throughout the application area with some juvenile *Banksia* sp. emerging.

The understorey included *Conostephium preissii*, *Acacia pulchella*, *Stirlingia latifolia* and *Allocasuarina humilis*. *Agonis flexuosa* was observed within the eastern portion of the southern application area.

The northern application area was more open, with *Eucalyptus sp.* within the overstorey with some *Agonis flexuosa* present. This area has been previously burnt.

Very little weeds were present within the application area. Access tracks were present throughout the application area (DWER, 2018)

Vegetation Condition

The application area is determined to be in a Good to Degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition, described as:

- Good; Structure significantly altered by multiple disturbance; retains basic structure/ability to regenerate (Keighery, 1994); to
- Degraded; Structure severely disturbed; regeneration to good condition requires intensive management (Keighery, 1994).

The DWER site inspection determined that the application area is in a predominately degraded condition due to historic clearing practices (DWER, 2018).

Soil type

The application area is mapped as 'Spearwood S1c Phase' which is described as dune ridges with deep bleached grey sands with yellow-brown subsoils, and slopes up to 15 per cent.



Figure 1: Application Area

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

(a) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises a high level of biological diversity.

Proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to this Principle

The application is to clear 9.36 hectares of native vegetation within Lot 2 on Plan 14927, Goss Road, Uduc for the purpose of planting avocado trees. The application area has been previously cleared and is now in a predominately degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition.

According to available databases, four rare flora and 21 priority flora species have been recorded within the local area (10 kilometre radius). As assessed under principle (c), the application area is unlikely to provide suitable habitat for rare flora species.

Of the 21 priority flora recorded within the local area, *Pterostylis frenchii* (P2) is the most likely to occur within the application area. This species is found on calcareous sand with limestone, laterite, flatlands and gentle slopes (Western Australian Herbarium, 1998-). This species is known from six herbarium collections and a further two locations within reserves of the City of Bunbury. Three populations of the species are within 10 kilometres of the application area. This species is known from both the Spearwood and Bassendean landforms in vegetation similar to that within the application area, albeit intact vegetation (Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions [DBCA], 2018b). Given the historical disturbance to the application area it is unlikely to contain suitable habitat for this species.

As assessed under principle (b), the application area contains suitable foraging habitat for the forest red-tailed black cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus banksii*), Baudin's cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus baudinii*), Carnaby's cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus latirostris*) and western ringtail possum (*Pseudocheirus occidentalis*). However given the application area has been previously cleared and that areas of the application area are dominated by *Myrtaceae* sp., significant habitat for these species is not likely to be present within the application area.

As assessed under principle (d), a small portion of the application area (the access track) may comprise of the *Banksia* Woodlands of the Swan Coastal Plain threatened ecological community (TEC), which is federally listed as endangered under the *Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) (Department of the Environment and Energy [DotEE], 2016). The applicant has amended the southern and northern application areas to ensure buffers are retained to the adjacent TEC.

The South West Regional Ecological Linkage Technical Report (Molloy et al., 2009) identified a regional ecological linkage approximately 1.1 kilometres west of the application area. As a result of the application area being historically cleared the report has not classified the application area as existing vegetation. However, the application area is located adjacent to vegetation that is classed as '1b' under the report. 1b areas represent native vegetation touching or less than 100 metres from an area considered '1a' (Molloy et al., 2009). These linkages are recognised for their significance in facilitating indigenous fauna movement across the landscape (Molloy et al., 2009). 'The landscape function of an ecological linkage will be considered impaired where a proposed development causes the proximity value of a level 1 patch of remnant vegetation to change to level 2' (Molloy et al., 2009). While the proposed clearing may impact upon vegetation classified 1a, the application area has been previously impacted and it is considered that the proposed clearing is unlikely to have a significant impact on the environmental values of this ecological linkage via fragmentation or removal of native vegetation.

The majority of the application is in a degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition, is unlikely to contain rare or priority flora or significant habitat for indigenous fauna. Therefore the application area is unlikely to contain a high level of biodiversity.

The proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to this Principle.

(b) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises the whole or a part of, or is necessary for the maintenance of, a significant habitat for fauna indigenous to Western Australia.

Proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to this Principle

According to available databases, seven terrestrial fauna species listed as specially protected under the *Wildlife Conservation Act 1950* have been recorded within the local area, being; curlew sandpiper (*Calidris ferruginea*), forest red-tailed black cockatoo, Baudin's cockatoo, Carnaby's cockatoo, eastern curlew (*Numenius madagascariensis*), south-western brush-tailed phascogale (*Phascogale tapoatafa* subsp. *wambenger*) and western ringtail possum (DBCA, 2007-).

Carnaby's cockatoo and Baudin's cockatoo are listed as endangered, with forest red-tailed cockatoo listed as vulnerable under the EPBC Act. Black cockatoos breed in large hollow-bearing trees, generally within woodlands or forests or in isolated trees (Commonwealth of Australia, 2012). These species nest in hollows in live or dead trees of karri, marri, wandoo, tuart, salmon gum, jarrah, flooded gum, York gum, powder bark, bullich and blackbutt (Commonwealth of Australia, 2012). A site inspection of the application area did not identify any trees suitable for breeding by the black cockatoo species (DWER, 2018).

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). Given the presence of jarrah and *Banksia* sp. within the application area suitable foraging habitat is present. However, given the application area has previously been cleared, the juvenile nature of jarrah present, and that the *Banksia* sp. are scattered throughout the application area and that the mid storey is predominantly dominated by *Myrtaceae* sp., the application area is not likely to provide significant habitat for these species. The adjacent vegetation within Lot 2 is in better condition and comprises of *Banksia* sp. dominant within the mid-story and larger jarrah and marri within the overstorey. Good quality habitat (approximately 48 hectares) is located within the remainder of Lot 2 and will provide suitable habitat for these species. No loss of significant habitat for these species is expected as a result of the proposed clearing.

The southern brush-tailed phascogale inhabits dry sclerophyll forests and open woodlands that contain hollow-bearing trees (Department of Environment and Conservation [DEC], 2012a). Significant habitat for this species was not identified within the application area (DWER, 2018).

The current distribution of the western ringtail possum is patchy and largely restricted to the moister south-western corner of Western Australia, especially near coastal areas of peppermint woodland and peppermint/tuart associations from the Australind/Eaton area to the Waychinicup National Park (DEC, 2012b). A low number of peppermint trees were identified

within the eastern portion of the southern application area and within the most northern application area (DWER, 2018). DBCA has advised that it is possible that western ringtail possums utilise the application area, however if present it is likely that their densities would be low (DBCA, 2018a). The application area may provide habitat for this species, however given the application area has been previously cleared and is located adjacent to vegetation in better condition that has not been previously cleared, the proposed clearing is not likely to impact on significant habitat for this species.

The curlew sandpiper and eastern curlew are coastal waterbirds and therefore significant habitat for these species is not located within the application area.

As assessed under principle (a), the South West Regional Ecological Linkage Technical Report (Molloy et al., 2009) identified a regional ecological linkage approximately 1.1 kilometres west of the application area. While the proposed clearing may impact upon vegetation associated within this linkage, the application area has been historically cleared and is unlikely to have a significant impact on the environmental values of this ecological linkage via fragmentation or removal of native vegetation.

Given the above, the application area is not likely to contain significant habitat for fauna indigenous to Western Australia. Therefore, the proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to this Principle.

(c) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it includes, or is necessary for the continued existence of, rare flora.

Proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to this Principle

According to available databases, four rare flora species have been recorded within the local area, being *Diuris drummondii*, *Diuris purdiei*, *Drakaea elastica* and *Drakaea micrantha*.

Diuris drummondii is found in low lying depression in peaty and sandy clay swamps that contain water into summer (Brown et al., 1998). Suitable habitat for this species is not likely to be present within the application area.

Diuris purdiei grows in sand to sandy clay soil amongst scattered shrub in areas subject to winter inundation (Brown et al., 1998). Suitable habitat for this species is not likely to be present within the application area.

Drakaea elastica grows in deep sandy soil in banksia woodland, in low-lying areas alongside winter-wet swamps (Brown et al., 1998). Populations of this species are known from approximately five and 15 kilometres of the application area, within Banksia woodlands of the Bassendean dune landform (DBCA, 2018b). The application area is on a Spearwood dune Banksia woodland and has been previously cleared and therefore is unlikely to support this species.

Drakaea micrantha inhabits infertile grey sands in common sheoak and jarrah woodland or forest. It usually grows on old firebreaks and in disturbed sites where competition from other plants has been removed (Brown et al., 1998). This species is typically on the Bassendean landform with no records currently known from the Spearwood landform in the South West Region (DBCA, 2018b). The nearest population of this species is approximately 10 kilometres from the application area (DBCA, 2018b).

Given the above, the application area is not likely to support rare flora and therefore, the proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to this Principle.

(d) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises the whole or a part of, or is necessary for the maintenance of a threatened ecological community.

Proposed clearing may be at variance to this Principle

A small portion of the application area (the access track between the southern and northern application areas) is located within DotEE's mapping of the TEC, Banksia Woodlands of the Swan Coastal Plain. The Banksia Woodlands of the Swan Coastal Plain TEC is listed as endangered under the EPBC Act. The Banksia Woodlands ecological community is restricted to areas in and immediately adjacent to the Swan Coastal Plain Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation of Australia (IBRA) bioregion, including the Dandaragan plateau. This coastal plain stretches from around Jurien Bay in the north, to Dunsborough in the south (DotEE, 2016).

The principal structural features of the ecological community are:

- A distinctive upper sclerophyllous layer of low trees (occasionally large shrubs more than 2 metres tall), typically dominated or co-dominated by one or more of the *Banksia* species.
- An emergent tree layer of medium or tall (>10 metre) height *Eucalyptus* or *Allocasuarina* species may sometimes be present above the *Banksia* canopy.
- An understory that is often highly species-rich consists of:
 - A layer of sclerophyllous shrubs of various heights; and,
 - A herbaceous ground layer of cord rushes, sedges and perennial and ephemeral forbs, that sometimes includes grasses. The development of a ground layer may vary depending on the density of the shrub layer and disturbance history (DotEE, 2016).

A site inspection undertaken by DWER identified that the application area has been previously cleared and predominantly consists of juvenile jarrah within the overstorey. Whilst *Banksia* sp. were present throughout the application area they were not dominant. *Myrtaceae* sp. were observed being dominant within the midstorey (DWER, 2018).

The track between the southern application area and northern application area is located within DotEE's mapping of the TEC and therefore may be representative of this TEC. However, the applicant has advised that this area was chosen as it has previously been cleared.

The majority of Lot 2 is located within DotEE's mapping of the TEC, and therefore if present the proposed clearing may indirectly impact this TEC through edge effects including the spread of weed and dieback.

The proposed clearing may directly impact this TEC through the removal of a small portion of vegetation that may be representative of this TEC, however given the majority of Lot 2 is mapped as being representative of this TEC and that 48 hectares of vegetation will remain within the property post clearing, the proposed clearing is not likely to have a significant impact on this TEC.

Given the above, the application area may comprise part of the TEC. The proposed clearing may be at variance to this Principle.

The applicant has reduced the application area to increase buffer distances to the adjacent TEC. The increased buffer distance and appropriate weed and dieback management practices will ensure that the TEC is not significantly impacted by the proposed clearing.

(e) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it is significant as a remnant of native vegetation in an area that has been extensively cleared.

Proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to this Principle

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 Swan Coastal Plain IBRA bioregion, which retains 39 of its pre-European vegetation extent (Government of Western Australia, 2018a).

The vegetation within the application area is mapped as Heddle vegetation complexes 'Karrakatta Complex-Central and South' and 'Bassendean Complex-Central And South' which retain approximately 23 and 27 per cent of their pre-European vegetation extent within the Swan Coastal Plain IBRA bioregion respectively (Government of Western Australia 2018b).

The local area retains approximately 28 per cent of its pre-European vegetation extent.

Given the vegetation representations outlined above, the application area is considered to be located within an extensively cleared area. However, given that the majority of the application is in a degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition, is unlikely to contain rare or priority flora or significant habitat for indigenous fauna, the application area is not considered to be a significant remnant.

The proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to this Principle.

Table 1: Vegetation extents

	Pre-European extent (ha)	Current extent (ha)	Extent remaining (%)	Current extent in all DBCA managed lands (ha)	Extent remaining in all DBCA managed lands (proportion of Pre-European extent) (%)
IBRA bioregion:					
Swan Coastal Plain	1,501,222	578,997	39	222,766	38
Heddle Vegetation complex:					
Karrakatta Complex-Central and South	53,081	12,465	23	4,276	8
Bassendean Complex-Central And South	87,476	23,533	27	4,364	5

(f) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it is growing in, or in association with, an environment associated with a watercourse or wetland.

Proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to this Principle

No watercourses or wetlands have been recorded within the application area. A multiple use wetland is mapped approximately 750 metres from the application area.

Given the distance to this wetland, the application area is not likely to be growing in association with a wetland or watercourse.

The proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to this Principle.

(g) Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause appreciable land degradation.

Proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to this Principle

As discussed in Section 2, the soils within the application area have been mapped at a regional scale as the Spearwood S1c Phase.

Table 2: Land degradation risk

Risk categories	Spearwood S1c Phase
Wind erosion	>70% of map unit has a high to extreme wind erosion risk
Water erosion	10-30% of map unit has a high to extreme water erosion risk
Salinity	30-50% of map unit has a moderate to high salinity risk or is presently saline
Subsurface Acidification	50-30% of map unit has a high subsurface acidification risk or is presently acid
Flood risk	<3% of the map unit has a moderate to high flood risk
Water logging	<3% of map unit has a moderate to very high waterlogging risk
Phosphorus export risk	50-70% of map unit has a high to extreme phosphorus export risk

Advice from the Commissioner of Soil and Land Conservation (CSLC) advised that the risk of land degradation is low (CSLC, 2018). Wind erosion is unlikely on the proposed area to be cleared once the plantation is established. Also the application area will be surrounded by natural bushland (CSLC, 2018). CSLC advised that water erosion is unlikely on the proposed area to be cleared due to the lack of land slope, proposed land use and soil types present (CSLC, 2018).

Given the above, the proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to this Principle.

(h) Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to have an impact on the environmental values of any adjacent or nearby conservation area.

Proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to this Principle

According to available databases, the closest conservation area is Myalup State Forest located approximately 330 metres west of the application area. Given the distance to this conservation area, the proposed clearing is not likely to impact upon the environmental values of this area.

As assessed under principle (a), the South West Regional Ecological Linkage Technical Report (Molloy et al., 2009) identified a regional ecological linkage approximately 1.1 kilometres west of the application area. While the proposed clearing may impact upon vegetation associated within this linkage, the application area has been historically cleared and is unlikely to have a significant impact on the environmental values of this ecological linkage via fragmentation or removal of native vegetation.

Given the above, the proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to this Principle.

(i) Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause deterioration in the quality of surface or underground water.

Proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to this Principle

No watercourses or wetlands have been recorded within the application area. A multiple use wetland is mapped approximately 750 metres from the application area.

Given the distance to this wetland the proposed clearing is not likely to cause deterioration in the quality of surface water.

Groundwater salinity is mapped between 500-1000 milligrams per litre total dissolved solids which is considered to be marginal. Given the low salinity levels and approximately 48 hectares of native vegetation that will remain within Lot 2, the proposed clearing is not likely to have a significant impact on the quality of groundwater and lead to a perceptible rise in the water table.

Given the above, the proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to this Principle.

(j) Native vegetation should not be cleared if clearing the vegetation is likely to cause, or exacerbate, the incidence or intensity of flooding.

Proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to this Principle

The sandy soils identified over the application area are highly permeable and not prone to flooding.

The land sub systems covering the application area have been mapped as 'less than three per cent of the map unit has a moderate to high flood risk', which is the lowest risk category (Table 2; DPIRD, 2017).

The proposed clearing is not likely to cause or exacerbate the incidence or intensity of flooding.

The proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to this Principle.

Planning instruments and other relevant matters.

On 22 August 2018, DWER wrote to applicant outlining the environmental issues identified in relation to the clearing of native vegetation and the potential impact the proposed irrigation may have on the adjacent TEC through drawdown. In response to this letter, DWER officers met with the applicants on site, on 20 September 2018, to discuss the proposed clearing and their water requirements. As a result of this meeting the applicant reduced the application area (from 10 hectares to 9.36 hectares) to increase buffers to the adjacent TEC, which removed areas of better condition vegetation which may have been suitable for rare and priority flora. The applicants also reduced their water licence application (discussed below).

The application area is located within the South West Coastal Groundwater Area as proclaimed under the *Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914*. The water licence application was amended from 150,000kL to 100,000kL and is now not likely to impact on the adjacent TEC through drawdown and the issuing of this licence is imminent. On 10 October 2018 a Licence to Construct or Alter a Well and a Licence to Take Water were issued.

CSLC advised that the application has a moderate to high capability for the proposed land use (CSLC, 2018).

The Shire of Harvey has advised that Development Approval from the Shire under their District Planning Scheme No. 1 is not required as the planting and growing of avocados is considered to be a 'Rural Pursuit' which is exempt from the need for Development Approval under the *Planning and Development (Local Planning Schemes) Regulations 2015*. The Shire advised that if the clearing permit is approved by DWER, the Shire has no objections to the clearing of the vegetation (Shire of Harvey, 2018).

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

The clearing permit application was advertised on the DWER website on 01 March 2018 with a 21 day submission period. No public submissions have been received in relation to this application.

4. References

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- Commonwealth of Australia (2001) National Objectives and Targets for Biodiversity Conservation 2001-2005, Canberra.
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- Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA) (2007-) NatureMap: Mapping Western Australia's Biodiversity. Department of Parks and Wildlife. URL: <http://naturemap.dpaw.wa.gov.au/>.
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- Department of Environment Conservation (DEC) (2012a) Fauna Profiles – Brush-tailed Phascogale (Phascogale tapoatafa). Department of Environment and Conservation. Western Australia
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- Government of Western Australia (2018b). 2017 Statewide Vegetation Statistics incorporating the CAR Reserve Analysis (Full Report). Current as of October 2017. WA Department of Parks and Wildlife, Perth.
- Hedde, 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.
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- Shire of Harvey (2018) Advice for Clearing Permit CPS 7978/1. Western Australia (DWER Ref: A1709777).
- Western Australian Herbarium (1998-) FloraBase - The Western Australian Flora. Department of Parks and Wildlife. <http://florabase.dpaw.wa.gov.au/>