



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

PERMIT DETAILS

Area Permit Number: CPS 7993/1
File Number: DER2018/000314
Duration of Permit: From 2 June 2018 to 2 June 2020

PERMIT HOLDER

Stephen Gregory Archer

LAND ON WHICH CLEARING IS TO BE DONE

Lot 12 on Deposited Plan 50019, Scotsdale

AUTHORISED ACTIVITY

The Permit Holder shall not clear more than 0.2 hectares of native vegetation within the area shaded yellow on attached Plan 7993/1.

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:

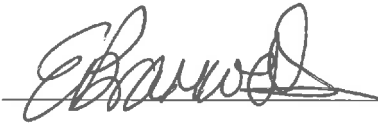
CEO means the Chief Executive Officer of the Department responsible for the administration of the clearing provisions under the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*;

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*

4 May 2018

Plan 7993/1



Legend

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



1:2.064

MGA 94
Geocentric Datum of Australia 1994

Emmia Bramwell Date *04/05/18*
Emmia Bramwell

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.: CPS 7993/1
Permit type: Area Permit

1.2. Applicant details

Applicant's name: Stephen Gregory Archer

1.3. Property details

Property: LOT 12 ON PLAN 50019 (House No. 87 SILVER SCOTSDALE 6333)
Local Government Authority: Shire of Denmark
DBCA Region: Warren
Localities: SCOTSDALE

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
0.2		Mechanical Removal	Dam construction or maintenance

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Grant

Decision Date: 4 May 2018

Reasons for Decision:

The clearing permit application was received on 16 February 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 is at variance with clearing principle (f), may be at variance with clearing principle (i), and is not likely to be at variance to the remaining clearing principles.

The Delegated Officer determined that the proposed clearing is likely to impact on vegetation growing in association with a watercourse, and may result in soil erosion causing deterioration in the quality of surface water through sedimentation and turbidity. In granting 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 is for the proposed clearing of 0.2 hectares of native vegetation within Lot 12 on Plan 50019, Scotsdale, for the purposes of constructing and maintaining a dam.

Vegetation Description: The vegetation within the application area is mapped as the 'Keystone' Matiske vegetation complex, described as woodland of *Eucalyptus marginata* subsp. *marginata* (Jarrah) - *Allocasuarina fraseriana* (Sheoak) on lower slopes in hyperhumid and perhumid zones (Government of Western Australia, 2018).

Vegetation Condition: Very Good; vegetation structure altered; obvious signs of disturbance (Keighery, 1994).

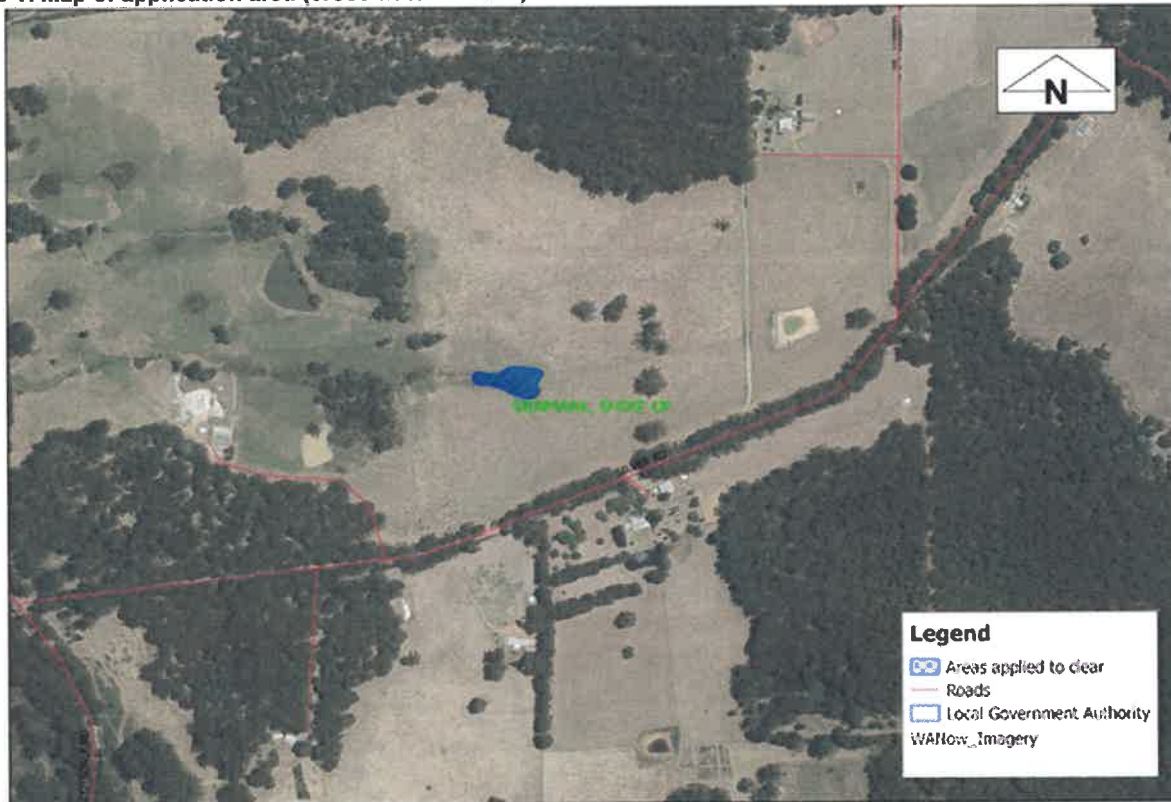
The condition and description of the vegetation within the application area was determined based on available aerial imagery.

Soil and Landform Type: The application area is mapped within the Keystone podzols Phase Subsystem (Map unit 254WhKYs), described as podzols (Schoknecht et al., 2004).

The soil within the application area is also described as plains with a succession of swampy flats broken by low sandy, or ironstone gravelly, knolls and hillocks, with chief soils being leached sands, some of which have thin peaty surface horizons (Northcote et al., 1960-68).

Comments: The local area referred to in the assessment of this application is defined as a 10 kilometre radius measured from the perimeter of the application area.

Figure 1: Map of application area (cross-hatched blue)



3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

According to available databases, five rare flora species and 43 priority flora species have been recorded within the local area. Based on the mapped soil and vegetation types within application area, two rare flora species and four Priority 2 flora species could potentially occur within the application area. Priority 2 flora species are known from a few populations, some occurring within conservation lands such as nature reserves or national parks (Jones, 2015). These species are outlined below:

- *Calothamnus scabridus* (Priority 2) is known from a total of 13 records in the Denmark, Mount Lindesay and Mount Roe area, at sites generally associated with sandy loam soils over granite, and *Eucalyptus* spp. woodland (Western Australian Herbarium, 1998-). The nearest record of this species is approximately eight kilometres north of the application area. Noting the location of the application area within a watercourse and the extent of the proposed clearing, this species is not likely to occur within the application area.
- Rare flora species 1 (threatened) is known from a total of 45 records between Perth and Albany, at sites generally associated with white-grey sand and coarse granitic sand, and *Eucalyptus* spp. and *Banksia grandis* (Bull Banksia) low woodland (Western Australian Herbarium, 1998-). The nearest record of this species is approximately 7.6 kilometres north of the application area. Noting the extent of the proposed clearing and the proximity and extent of remnant vegetation and conservation reserves in the local area (refer to Figure 1), the proposed clearing is not likely to impact the conservation status of this species should any individuals occur within the application area.
- *Gastrolobium* sp. East Peak (Priority 2) is known from a total of seven records in the Mount Roe, Rocky Gulley and Smythe Hill area, at sites generally associated with grey sand over granite, and *Eucalyptus marginata* woodland woodland (Western Australian Herbarium, 1998-). The nearest record of this species is nine kilometres north of the application area. Noting the distance to this record, the location of the application area within a watercourse and the extent of the proposed clearing, this species is not likely to occur within the application area.
- Rare flora species 2 (threatened) is known from a total of nine records in the Denmark area, at sites generally associated with grey sand over laterite, yellow sandy clay, shallow siliceous sands over granite and low heath woodland (Western Australian Herbarium, 1998-). The nearest record of this species is 7.6 kilometres northeast of the application area. Noting the extent of the proposed clearing and the presence of several records of this species within a nearby conservation area (Denmark Catchment State Forest), the proposed clearing is not likely to impact the conservation status of this species should any individuals occur within the application area.
- *Sphaerolobium benetectum* (Priority 2) is known from a total of nine records between Collie and Nornalup, at sites generally associated with white gravelly sandy clay, sandy loam, granite, laterite, ridges, swamps and undulating rises, and *Eucalyptus* spp. and *Persoonia* spp. woodland woodland (Western Australian Herbarium, 1998-). The nearest record of this species is nine kilometres northeast of the application area. Considering the extent of the proposed clearing and that several records of this species is reported from the Denmark Catchment State forest, the proposed clearing is not likely to impact the conservation status of this species should any individuals occur within the application area.
- *Thelymitra variegata* (Priority 2) is known from a total of 30 records between Perth and Albany, at sites generally associated with sandy clay, sand and laterite, and low woodland woodland (Western Australian Herbarium, 1998-). The nearest record of this species is 7.5 kilometres northeast of the application area. Noting the mapped soil type within the application area, the application area may include suitable habitat for this species. However, noting the number of records and the distribution of this species, the proposed clearing is not likely to impact the conservation status of this species should any individuals occur within the application area.

According to available databases, 14 threatened fauna species, eight priority fauna species, one other specially protected fauna species and five fauna species protected under international agreement have been recorded within the local area (DBCA, 2007-). Noting the habitat requirements of these species, the mapped vegetation type within the application area, and the extent of the proposed clearing, the application area is not likely to comprise suitable habitat for conservation significant fauna species, and is not likely to comprise significant habitat for indigenous fauna.

According to available databases, one threatened ecological community (TEC) and no priority ecological communities have been recorded in the local area. An occurrence of the 'Mount Lindesay – Little Lindesay Vegetation Complex' TEC has been mapped approximately seven kilometres north-east of the application area. Noting the species composition of this TEC, the mapped vegetation type within the application area, and the extent of the proposed clearing, the application area is not likely to comprise or be necessary for the maintenance of a TEC.

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 Warren Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation of Australia bioregion retains approximately 79 per cent of its pre-European extent of native vegetation, and the mapped Mattiske vegetation complex retains approximately 60 per cent of its pre-European extent (Government of Western Australia, 2017). On this basis, and noting the extent of the proposed clearing and that the application area is not likely to include flora or ecological communities of conservation significance or comprise significant habitat for indigenous fauna, the application area is unlikely to be significant as a remnant of native vegetation in an area that has been extensively cleared.

According to available databases, a minor, perennial watercourse that is a tributary to the Scotsdale Brook intersects the application area. The proposed clearing is likely to impact on vegetation growing in association with this watercourse. Noting the presence of sandy soils within the application area, the proposed clearing may result in soil erosion causing deterioration in the quality of surface water through sedimentation and turbidity. However, noting the size of the application area, and that the surrounding area has been developed for agricultural activities (refer to Figure 1), it is expected that these impacts are likely to be minimal and short-term, and that any soil erosion caused by the proposed clearing is not likely to be appreciable.

According to available databases, the nearest conservation areas include a privately-managed conservation area located approximately 310 metres and 830 metres from the application area, un-named timber reserves located approximately 705 metres and 1.1 kilometres from the application area, and Denmark Catchment State Forest located approximately 850 metres from the application area. Topographic contours mapping indicates that these conservation areas are upstream of the application area, or else associated with different tributaries. On this basis, and noting that the application area is surrounded by cleared agricultural land, the proposed clearing is unlikely to impact on the environmental values of nearby conservation areas.

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

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

Planning instruments and other relevant matters

The application area is wholly located within the footprint of Clearing Permit CPS 6004/1 (expired), which authorised the applicant to clear 0.2 hectares of native vegetation for the purpose of constructing a dam. Assessment of application CPS 6004/1 found that the proposed clearing is at variance to clearing principle (f), may be at variance with clearing principle (i) and is not likely to be at variance to the remaining clearing principles.

In relation to application CPS 6004/1, the Shire of Denmark (Shire) advised that Development Approval is required for dam construction, in accordance with the Shire's Town Planning Scheme Policy No. 37: Dams and Water Features (Shire of Denmark, 2014). In relation to the current application, the Shire advised that development approval given for the previous application has since lapsed and a revised application had been submitted by the applicant (Shire of Denmark, 2018a). The Shire advised that development approval was granted on 17 April 2018 (Shire of Denmark, 2018b).

The application area is within the gazetted Scotsdale Brook Water Reserve, which has been abolished as a public drinking water source area (PDWSA) under the *Country Areas Water Supply Act 1947*. As this water reserve is no longer considered a PDWSA, the Department's policies to protect PDWSA will no longer apply to the Scotsdale Brook catchment.

While it is preferred for the proposed dams to be located off-stream, given that the location of the dam may be associated with a site of a spring, the Department acknowledges that there appears to be no alternative to the proposed location.

The application was advertised on the Department's website on 9 March 2018, inviting submissions from the public within a fourteen day period. No submissions were received in relation to this application.

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 Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (2007-) NatureMap: Mapping Western Australia's Biodiversity. Department of Parks and Wildlife. URL: <http://naturemap.dpaw.wa.gov.au/>. Accessed April 2018.
- Government of Western Australia. (2018) 2017 South West Vegetation Complex Statistics. Current as of October 2017. WA Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions, Perth, <https://catalogue.data.wa.gov.au/dataset/dbca>
- 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- Shire of Denmark (2014) Advice received in relation to clearing permit application CPS 6004/1 received 29 June 2014. Shire of Denmark (DWER Ref: A734345).
- Shire of Denmark (2018a) Advice received in relation to clearing permit application CPS 7993/1 received 26 March 2018. Shire of Denmark (DWER Ref: A1643421).
- Shire of Denmark (2018b) Additional advice received in relation to clearing permit application CPS 7993/1 received 03 May 2018. Shire of Denmark (DWER Ref: A1667147).
- Western Australian Herbarium (1998-). FloraBase - the Western Australian Flora. Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions. <https://florabase.dpaw.wa.gov.au/> Accessed April 2018

GIS Databases:

- Aboriginal Sites of Significance
- Clearing Regulations - Environmentally Sensitive Areas
- Carnaby's Cockatoo: breeding, roosting, feeding
- Department of Biodiversity Conservation and Attractions, Tenure
- Geomorphic Wetlands, Augusta to Walpole
- Groundwater salinity, statewide
- Hydrology, linear
- IBRA Australia
- Matiske Vegetation
- PDWSA, CAWSA, RIWI Act Areas
- Remnant vegetation
- SAC Biodatasets (accessed March 2018)
- Soils, statewide
- Town Planning Scheme Zones