



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

PERMIT DETAILS

Area Permit Number: CPS 8209/1
File Number: DWERVT1500
Duration of Permit: 8 January 2019 to 8 January 2021

PERMIT HOLDER

City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder

LAND ON WHICH CLEARING IS TO BE DONE

Lot 251 on Deposited Plan 190202, Parkeston.

AUTHORISED ACTIVITY

The Permit Holder shall not clear more than 3.72 hectares of native vegetation within the areas cross hatched yellow on the attached Plan 8209/1.

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 known *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 mean 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.



Samara Rogers
MANAGER
NATIVE VEGETATION REGULATION

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

10 December 2018

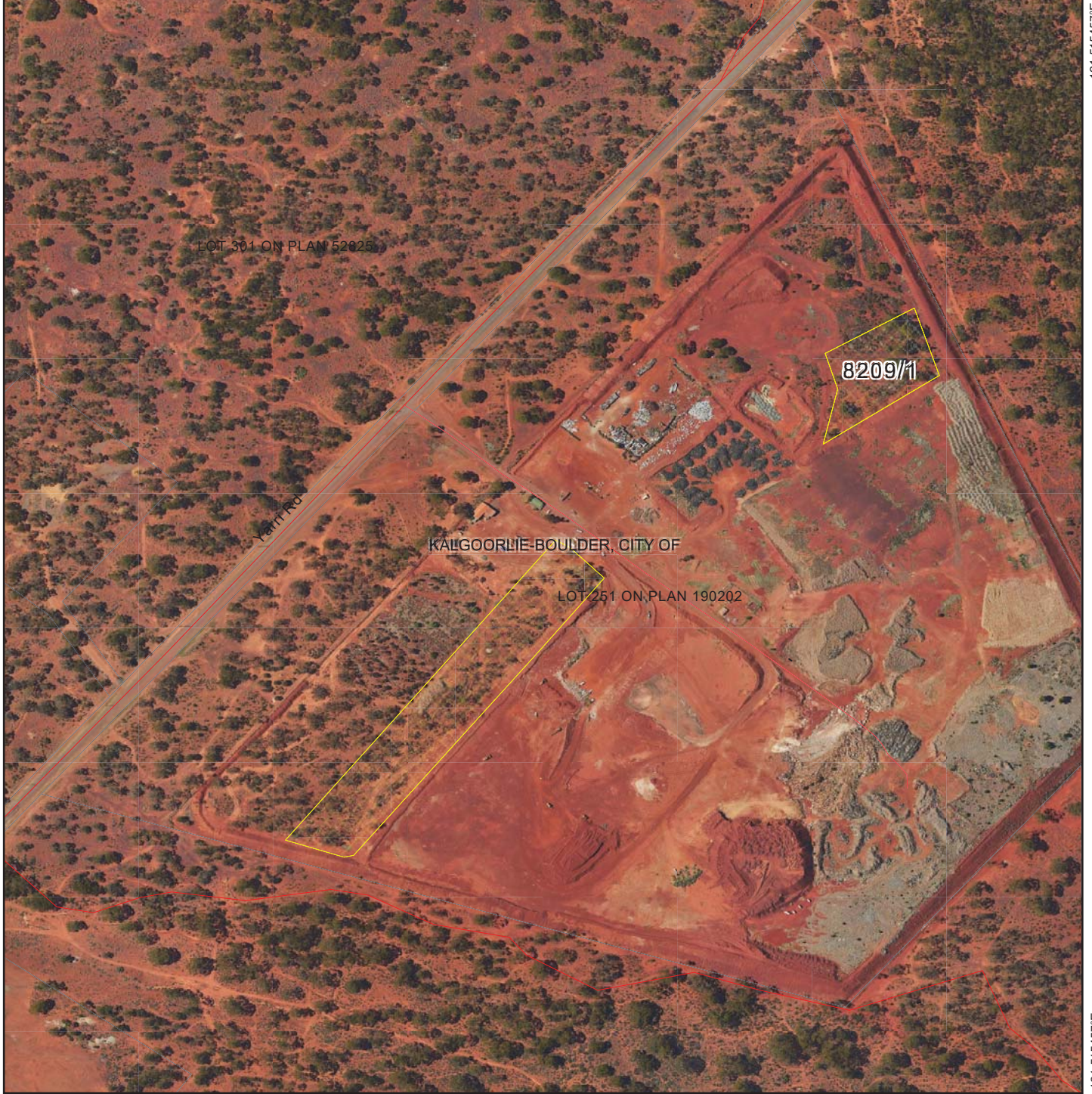
Plan 8209/1

30.708424°S

30.708424°S

121.504207°E

121.515457°E







121.504207°E

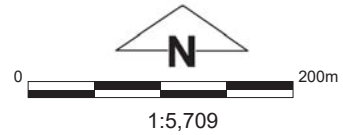
121.515457°E

30.713565°S

30.713565°S

Legend

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



(Approximate when reproduced at A4)

GDA 94 (Lat/Long)

Geocentric Datum of Australia 1994

Samara Rogers

2018.12.10 11:27:35

+08'00'

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



GOVERNMENT OF
WESTERN AUSTRALIA
WA Crown Copyright 2018



1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: CPS 8209/1
Permit type: Area Permit

1.2. Applicant details

Applicant's name: City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder
Application received date: 1 October 2018

1.3. Property details

Property: Lot 251 on Deposited Plan 190202, Parkeston
Local Government Authority: City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder
Localities: Parkeston

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	Purpose category:
3.72		Mechanical Removal	Waste disposal/ management

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Granted
Decision Date: 10 December 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*. 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 that the application area is in a degraded to good (Keighery, 1994) condition and the proposed clearing is located within the existing waste management facility.

The applicant has avoided and minimised impacts through retaining vegetation along a fence at the front of the facility (along Yarri Road).

In determining to grant a clearing permit subject to conditions, the Delegated Officer considered that the proposed clearing is not likely to lead to an unacceptable risk to the environment.

2. Site Information

Clearing Description	The application is for the proposed clearing of 3.72 hectares of native vegetation within Lot 251 on Deposited Plan 190202, Parkeston for the purpose of creating new landfill cells at the Yarri Road Landfill facility.
Vegetation Description	<p>The vegetation within the application area is mapped as Beard vegetation association: Coolgardie 468 - Medium woodland; salmon gum & goldfields blackbutt (Shepherd et al., 2001).</p> <p>Photographs provided by the applicant suggest the vegetation within the application area comprises Eucalyptus woodland over sparse shrubs and grasses (Figures 1 to 3 below) (City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder, 2018).</p>
Vegetation Condition	<p>Based on aerial imagery and photographs provided by the applicant (City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder, 2018), the vegetation within the application area is considered to be in degraded to good (Keighery, 1994) condition as described below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Degraded: Basic vegetation structure severely impacted by disturbance; scope for regeneration but not to a state approaching (Keighery, 1994). Good; Structure significantly altered by multiple disturbance; retains basic structure/ability to regenerate (Keighery, 1994).
Soil Description	The application area occurs within the 'Mx43' soil type that is described as; gently undulating valley plains and pediments; some outcrop of basic rock: chief soils are alkaline red earths with limestone or limestone nodules at shallow depth (< 24 inches.) on gently sloping slightly concave plains with low gentle rises (Northcote et al. 1960 – 1968).
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. The local area retains approximately 89 per cent native vegetation cover.



Figure 1. Eucalyptus species over native and invasive grasses (City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder, 2018).



Figure 2. Areas around the clearing footprint have been heavily disturbed (City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder, 2018).



Figure 3. Some Eucalyptus species in the area are greater than 10 metres in height (City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder, 2018).

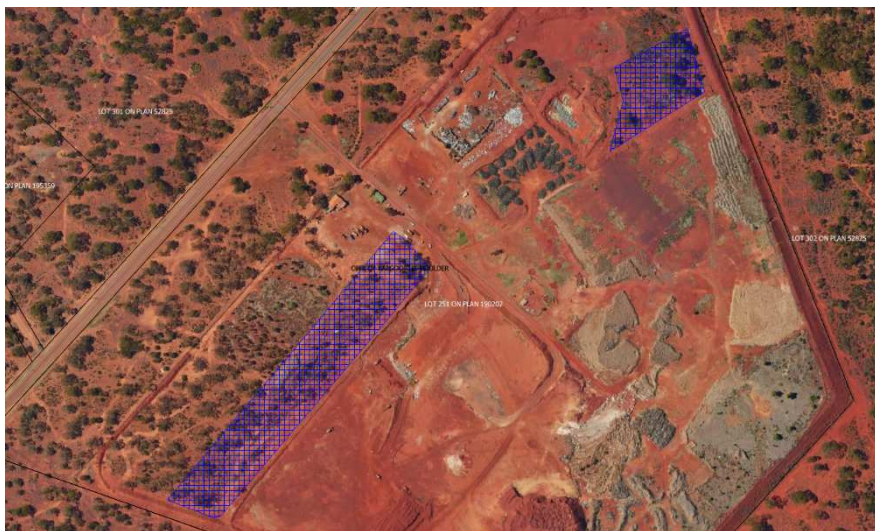


Figure 4. Application Area (hatched blue)

3. Minimisation and mitigation

During the assessment of this application, the City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder noted that a portion of bushland near the fence at the front of the facility would be retained to act as a windbreak, and that the location of the new cells was based on the recommendation of consultants to minimise environmental impacts (City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder, 2018).

4. Assessment of application against clearing principles

As noted in Section 2 above, the vegetation within the application area contains Eucalyptus trees (or in clumps), sparse mid-story and limited groundcover that consists of native and non-native grasses (City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder, 2018). Other areas are completely devoid of any vegetation, native or otherwise (see Figures 1 to 3 above). Based upon photographs provided by the applicant, the condition of the vegetation under application is considered to be in a degraded to good (Keighery, 1994) condition (City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder, 2018).

According to available datasets, two Priority 1 (P1) listed flora species, one P2, four P3 and two P4 species have been recorded within the local area. None of these flora records occur within the application area. The closest flora records are a P3 (*Cyathostemon verrucosus*) and P1 (*Eremophila praecox*) species located more than three kilometres from the application area. Although *Eremophila praecox* has been recorded on similar mapped soil types and vegetation types to the application area, it is unlikely to occur within the application area as it does not appear to contain the structure, type or diversity consistent with recordings of *Eremophila praecox* (Western Australian Herbarium, 1998-). *Cyathostemon verrucosus* has been recorded just once in the local area and has been recorded numerous times more than 120 kilometers away, typically where the soil type has been described as 'yellow'. This species is known from 21 records and the proposed clearing is not likely to impact on the conservation status of this species.

No rare flora species have been recorded within the local area and the proposed clearing is not likely to impact on rare flora.

According to available datasets, five threatened fauna species have been recorded within the local area (Department of Biodiversity Conservation and Attractions, 2007-) listed as; *Calyptrorhynchus latirostris* (Carnaby's cockatoo), *Leipoa ocellata* (mallee fowl), *Macrotis lagotis* (bilby) (outside of current known range), *Myrmecobius fasciatus* (numbat) (outside of current known range) and *Ogyris subterrestris* subsp. *petrina* (arid bronze azure butterfly).

A review of photographs provided by the applicant (City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder, 2018), indicate that the vegetation within the application area is unlikely to comprise significant habitat for the threatened fauna species listed above given the application area comprises linear patches of vegetation that are surrounded by existing industry and have undergone substantial historical disturbance. Furthermore, the trees within the application area are too small to contain hollows suitable for breeding by Carnaby's cockatoo.

According to available datasets, no threatened ecological communities (TEC) or priority ecological communities (PEC) have been mapped within the application area. The closest mapped community is a PEC located approximately 72 kilometers south of the application area, known as Mount Belches *Acacia quadrimarginea/Ptilotus obovatus* (banded ironstone formation) categorised as Priority 3 by DBCA. The application area is not considered to be representative of this PEC and noting the distance to this PEC, the proposed clearing is unlikely to impact on this PEC or on any known TECs.

Given that the application area has undergone significant historical disturbance as it is located within the existing waste management premises, and that the application area is not likely to contain any rare or priority flora, TEC's, PEC's or significant fauna habitat, the vegetation within the application area is unlikely to comprise a high level of biodiversity.

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 Coolgardie Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation of Australia bioregion, which retains approximately 98 per cent of the pre-European vegetation extent, and mapped Beard vegetation association 468 retains approximately 97 per cent of its pre-European vegetation extent within the bioregion (Government of Western Australia, 2018). The local area retains approximately 89 per cent native vegetation cover. These remnant vegetation figures are all considerably greater than the abovementioned 30 per cent threshold, and the application area is not considered to be within an extensively cleared landscape. Furthermore, noting the extent of the proposed clearing (3.72 hectares) which includes vegetation in a degraded to good (Keighery, 1994) condition, the application area is not likely to be a significant remnant.

According to available datasets, no watercourses or wetlands intersect the application area, the closest watercourse or wetland is a minor non-perennial lake located more than 100 meters away. The photographs of the application area indicate that the vegetation within the application area is not riparian (City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder, 2018). Given the scope of works and the existing land use of the area, it is unlikely that the proposed clearing will cause any unacceptable environmental impacts to this watercourse. Potential impacts, if any, would be localised and short term.

The closest conservation areas to the application area are the Kalgoorlie Arboretum which is located over 6.7 kilometers from the application area and the Yallari Timber Reserve which is located over 40 kilometers from the application area. Considering the distance from the application area, it is unlikely that the proposed clearing would have an impact on the environmental values of these conservation areas.

The chief soils mapped within the application area are alkaline red earths with limestone or limestone nodules at shallow depth (< 24 inches) on gently sloping slightly concave plains; associated are clay plains flanking ultrabasic rock outcrop (Northcote et al, 1960-68). These soils are not prone to wind erosion, but may be at risk of water erosion. Given the degraded to good (Keighery, 1994) condition of the vegetation within the application area, it is considered that the removal of 3.72 hectares of scattered native vegetation adjacent to a historically cleared landfill facility is unlikely to lead to appreciable land degradation, impact on the quality of groundwater, or result in the exacerbation of flooding on or off site.

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.

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

The clearing permit application was advertised on the Department of Water Environmental Regulation's website on 23 October 2018 with a 21 day submission period. No public submission were received in relation to this application.

Regional advice was sought from Kalgoorlie DBCA who indicated they had no objections with the proposed clearing.

The Yarri Road Refuse Facility operates under Licence L5979/1993/11 and was amended in line with the current clearing permit application.

5. References

- Commonwealth of Australia (2001) National Objectives and Targets for Biodiversity Conservation 2001-2005, Canberra
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/>.
Government of Western Australia (2018) 2017 State-wide Vegetation Statistics incorporating the CAR Reserve Analysis (Full
Report). Current as of December 2017. WA Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions.
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

Shepherd, D.P., Beeston, G.R. and Hopkins, A.J.M. (2001) Native Vegetation in Western Australia, Extent, Type and Status. Resource Management Technical Report 249. Department of Agriculture, Western Australia.

City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder (2018) Clearing Permit Application CPS 8209/1. DWER Ref A1724829

Western Australian Herbarium (1998-) FloraBase-the Western Australian Flora. Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions. <https://florabase.dpaw.wa.gov.au/> (accessed October 2018).

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 October 2018)
- Soils, Statewide
- Topographic contours
- Wetlands