

# **CLEARING PERMIT**

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

## **PERMIT DETAILS**

Area Permit Number:8223/1File Number:DWERVT1610Duration of Permit:From 28 December 2018 to 28 December 2020

# PERMIT HOLDER

Shire of Denmark

# LAND ON WHICH CLEARING IS TO BE DONE

Peace Street road reserve – 11247010 & 1236735, Denmark Peace Street road reserve – 11156868, Shadforth

## **AUTHORISED ACTIVITY**

The Permit Holder shall not clear more than 3 native trees within the area cross-hatched yellow on attached Plan 8223/1.

# 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 spread of *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 *dieback* and *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;

weed/s means any plant -

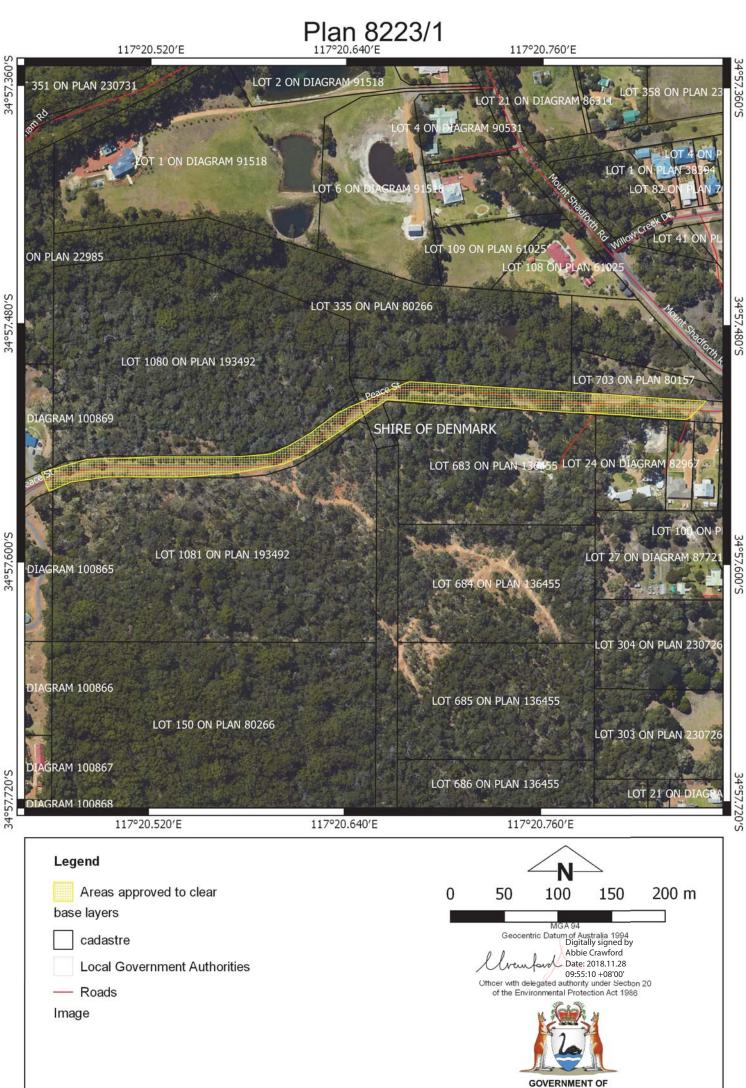
- (a) that is a declared pest under section 22 of the *Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act* 2007; or
- (b) published in a Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions species-led ecological impact and invasiveness ranking summary, regardless of ranking; or
- (c) not indigenous to the area concerned.



Abbie Crawford MANAGER NATIVE VEGETATION REGULATION

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

28 November 2018



WESTERN AUSTRALIA



1. Application details				
1.1. Permit application details				
Permit application No.: Permit type:		8223/1 Area Permit		
1.2. Applicant details Applicant's name: Application received date:		Shire of Denmark 17 October 2018		
1.3. Property details Property: Local Government Authority: Localities:		ROAD RESERVE - 11247010, DENMARK ROAD RESERVE - 1236735, DENMARK ROAD RESERVE - 11156868, SHADFORTH DENMARK, SHIRE OF SHADFORTH and DENMARK		
1.4. Application				
Clearing Area (ha)	No. Tree	· · · · · J	Purpose category:	
0	3	Mechanical Removal	Hazard reduction or fire control	
1.5. Decision on application Decision on Permit Application: Decision Date: Reasons for Decision:		<b>n</b> Granted   28 November 2018   The clearing permit application has been assessed against the clearing principles, planning instruments and other matters in accordance with section 510 of the Environmental Protection Act 1986 (EP Act). It has been concluded that the proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to the clearing principles.   In determining to grant a clearing permit subject to conditions, the Delagated Officer found that the proposed clearing is unlikley to lead to an unacceptable risk to the environment.		
2. Site Information				
Clearing Description		The application is to clear three native trees (Figure 1, 2 and 3) within Peace Street road reserve (PINs 11247010, 1236735), Denmark, and Peace Street road reserve (PIN 11156868), Shadforth, for the purpose removing dying trees, which are creating a risk to vehicles and pedestrians.		
Vegetation Description		The application area has been mapped as Darling Plateau complex which is described as; "Mosaic of tall open forest of <i>Eucalyptus guilfoyle</i> i (Yellow Tingle), <i>Eucalyptus jacksonii</i> (Red Tingle) and <i>Eucalyptus diversicolor</i> (Karri) on slopes of major hills rising above coastal plain with <i>Allocasuarina decussata</i> (Karri-Sheoak), <i>Banksia grandis</i> (Bull Banksia) and <i>Agonis flexuosa</i> (Peppermint) on slopes in hyper humid and perhumid zones a" (Government of Western Australia, 2018a).		

management (Keighery, 1994).

containing laterite" (Schoknecht et al., 2004).

**Vegetation Condition** 

Soil type

Comments

The local area is defined as 10 kilometre (km) radius from the application area. A review of available databases has determined that the application area falls within the Warren Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation of Australia (IBRA) bioregion and mapped as South West Cullula Complex, retaining 79.07% and 51.11% of their pre-European vegetation extents respectively (Government of Western Australia, 2018a; Government of Western Australia, 2018b).

Degraded: Vegetation structure severely impacted by disturbance, scope for regeneration but not to a state approaching good condition without intensive

The soil in the application area has been mapped as Keystone brown duplex Phase, which is described as "Brown gravelly duplex soils and red of yellow earths



Figure 1: Photo of Tree 1

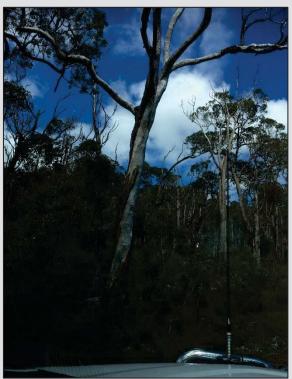


Figure 2: Photo of Tree 2



Figure 3: Photo of Tree 3

## 3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

The application area comprises of three native trees over 800 metres and is in a degraded condition (Keighery, 1994).

As the application area consists of three native trees, it is not likely to contain high biodiversity, significant foraging habitat for indigenous fauna, rare or priority flora and does not resemble vegetation associated with a priority ecological community (PEC) or threatened ecological community (TEC).

A review of photos provided by the applicant (Figures 1, 2 and 3; Shire of Denmark, 2018) did not identify any hollows or significant foraging or breeding habitat for conservation significant fauna recorded within the local area.

There are no wetlands or watercourses mapped within the application area, therefore surface water quality will not be impacted.

As the local area retains more than 30 per cent of its pre-European clearing extent, and given the degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition of the vegetation, the small size of the application area and the lack of conservation significant flora and fauna, the proposed clearing is not likely to be considered a significant remnant within an extensively cleared area.

Due to the degraded condition (Keighery, 1994) of the application area and its small size, the proposed clearing is not likely to cause appreciable land degradation, impact on the quality of groundwater, cause or exacerbate flooding or impact on the environmental values of any adjacent or nearby conservation areas.

Given the above, the proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to 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 DWER website on 19 November 2018 with a seven day submission period. No public submissions have been received in relation to this application.

#### 4. References

Government of Western Australia. (2018a) 2017 South West Vegetation Complex Statistics. Current as of October 2017. WA Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions, Perth, <u>https://catalogue.data.wa.gov.au/dataset/dbca</u>

Government of Western Australia (2018b) 2017 State-wide Vegetation Statistics incorporating the CAR Reserve Analysis (Full Report). Current as of February 2018. WA Department of Parks and Wildlife, Perth.

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 PJ and Purdie B. (2004). Soil-landscape mapping in south-western Australia - Overview of methodology and outputs. Management Technical Report 280, Department of Agriculture Western Australia.

Shire of Denmark (2018). Photos of trees. Denmark, Western Australia. (DWERA1734713, DWERA1734714, DWER1734715).

#### 5. GIS Datasets

**GIS** Datasets

- Aboriginal Sites of Significance
- Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions tenure
- SAC bio datasets accessed October 2018