

#### **CLEARING PERMIT**

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

**Purpose Permit number:** CPS 8342/1

**Permit Holder:** City of Busselton

**Duration of Permit:** 5 April 2019 – 5 April 2024

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

Drain relocation

## 2. Land on which clearing is to be done

LOT 77 ON PLAN 59485, ANNIEBROOK LOT 51 ON PLAN 51557, ANNIEBROOK LOT 20 ON PLAN 216128, CROWN RESERVE 40677, ANNIEBROOK

#### 3. Area of Clearing

The Permit Holder shall not clear more than 0.2 hectares of native vegetation within the area hatched yellow on attached Plan 8342/1.

### 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.

## PART II - MANAGEMENT CONDITIONS

# 5. 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.

## 6. 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.

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#### 7. 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 5 of this Permit; and
- (e) actions taken to minimise the risk of the introduction and spread of weeds in accordance with condition 6 of this Permit.

# 8. Reporting

The Permit Holder must provide to the *CEO* the records required under condition 7 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.

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Ryan Mincham
MANAGER
NATIVE VEGETATION REGULATION

Officer delegated under Section 20 of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

13 March 2019

Plan 8342/1







# **Clearing Permit Decision Report**

# 1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 8342/1

Permit type: Purpose Permit

1.2. Applicant details

Applicant's name: City of Busselton
Application received date: 8 January 2019

1.3. Property details

Property: LOT 77 ON PLAN 59485, ANNIEBROOK

LOT 51 ON PLAN 51557, ANNIEBROOK LOT 20 ON PLAN 216128, ANNIEBROOK

Local Government Authority: BUSSEL

Localities:

BUSSELTON, CITY OF ANNIEBROOK

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)No. TreesMethod of ClearingPurpose category:0.2Mechanical RemovalRoad safety upgrades

1.5. Decision on application

**Decision on Permit Application:** 

**Decision Date:** 

Granted

13 March 2019

**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* (EP Act). It has been concluded that the proposed clearing is at variance

to clearing principle (f) and is not likely to be at variance to any of the clearing principles.

In determining to grant a clearing permit subject to conditions, the Delegated Officer

determined that the proposed clearing is unlikely to lead to any unnacceptable risk to the environment.

#### 2. Site Information

Clearing Description: The application is for the proposed clearing of 0.2 hectares of native vegetation within Lot

77 on Plan 59485, Anniebrook, Lot 51 on Plan 51557, Anniebrook and Lot 20 on Plan 216128, Anniebrook for the purpose of relocating roadside infrastructure drainage assets.

This project is BlackSpot funded.

Vegetation Description The vegetation within the application area is mapped as a mixture of open forest of

Corymbia calophylla (Marri) - Eucalyptus marginata (Jarrah) - Banksia species and woodland of Corymbia calophylla (Marri) with minor occurrences of Corymbia

haematoxylon (Mountain Marri). Woodland of Eucalyptus rudis (Flooded Gum).

Photographs supplied by the applicant indicate the vegetation within the application area

is consistent with the above mapped description (City of Busselton, 2019).

**Vegetation Condition** Degraded to Good (Keighery, 1994) condition.

Soil Type The soil type within the application area is mapped as

MT7: Plain: chief soils are acid Fey earths (Gn2.94) often in fairly intimate association with leached sands (Uc2.22) that have a clay D horizon at depths of 3-8 ft. Associated are small areas of (Dy3.81) soils containing ironstone gravels. Occurs on sheet(s): 5; and Mu11: River terraces: chief soils are neutral red earths (Gn2.15) and neutral yellow earths (Gn2.25) on the higher terrace. Associated are (Um6.11) soils on the lower terrace and

some areas of (Dy3.4) soils. Occurs on sheet(s): 5

**Comments** The local area is defined as 10 kilometre (km) radius from the application area.

A review of available databases has determined that the local area retains approximately

24.69 per cent of its pre-European vegetation extent.

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#### 3. Minimisation and mitigation measures

The City have minimised clearing through roadside infrastructure design (channel drain).

#### 4. Assessment of application against clearing principles

Given the degraded to good (Keighery, 1994) condition of the vegetation under application, species identified within the application area (City of Busselton, 2019), lack of understorey, and its small size, the application area is not likely to contain any rare or priority flora species, is unlikely to comprise the whole or a part of, or be necessary for the maintenance of a priority ecological community or threatened ecological community and is not considered to comprise a high level of biological diversity. As the vegetation within the application area is not considered to have significant environmental value it is not likely to be considered as a significant remnant in an extensively cleared area.

The application area does not contain any hollows or significant foraging or breeding habitat for conservation significant fauna recorded within the local area.

The application area is mapped as a multiple use wetland and is for the purpose of relocating drainage assets therefore the vegetation within the application area is likely to be associated with a wetland and/or watercourse.

No threatened or priority ecological communities or conservation areas are recorded within close proximity to the application area and the proposed clearing is unlikely to impact on any such areas.

Noting the extent of the proposed clearing and the condition of the vegetation within the application area, the proposed clearing is not likely to exacerbate or contribute to further land degradation, deteriorate the quality of ground water, cause or exacerbate flooding than that which is currently present.

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

#### Planning instruments and other relevant matters

The clearing permit application was advertised on the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation's website on 19 February 2019, inviting submissions from the public within a 14 day period. No submissions were received in relation to this application.

Water Corporation have given authority for the applicant to undertake the clearing on their land.

No Aboriginal Site of Significance were recorded within the application area.

#### References

City of Busselton (2019) Photographs of vegetation within the application area. DWERDT142401, DWERDT142400, DWERDT142399 and DWERDT142398.

Keighery, B.J. (1994) Bushland Plant Survey: A Guide to Plant Community Survey for the Community. Wildflower Society of WA (Inc). Nedlands, Western Australia.

# GIS Databases:

- Aboriginal Sites of Significance
- DAFWA Subsystems
- Groundwater salinity
- Hydrography, linear
- National Trust WA Covenant
- Remnant vegetation
- SAC bio datasets (accessed February 2019)
- Topographic contours
- Wetlands