

CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Purpose Permit number: CPS 8357/2

Permit Holder: Shire of Victoria Plains

Duration of Permit: 30 April 2021 to 31 October 2032

In regards to conditions 8 and 9, it is noted that the permit holder has allocated 5.8 hectares of its banked offset site at Lot 28905 on Deposited Plan 188138 (Crown Reserve 224981), Old Plains, to this project. The nominated 5.8 hectare area contains, or will be revegetated with, similar environmental values to the application area.

The permit holder is authorised to clear *native vegetation* subject to the following conditions of this permit.

PART_I - CLEARING AUTHORISED

1. Clearing authorised (purpose)

The permit holder is authorised to clear *native vegetation* for the purpose of road realignment and widening.

2. Land on which clearing is to be done

Mogumber Road West road reserve (PINs 11673201, 11673199, 11673200, 11673198), Mogumber

Calingiri-New Norcia road reserve (PINs 11501331, 11501322, 11501334, 11453185, 11453187, 11501328, 11501324, 11501327, 11721792), New Norcia, Old Plains and Calingiri Unnamed rail reserve (PIN 1052969), Mogumber

Unnamed rail reserve (PIN 569692), Calingiri

Lot 9001 on Deposited Plain 43363, Calingiri

Lot 3962 on Deposited Plan 173619, Calingiri

Bindi Bindi-Toodyay Road reserve (PINs 11478636, 11478637), Calingiri

3. Clearing authorised

The permit holder must not clear more than 2.46 hectares of *native vegetation* within the combined area cross-hatched yellow on attached Plan 8357/2a, Plan 8357/2b, Plan 8357/2c, Plan 8357/2d and Plan 8357/2e.

4. Duration of clearing

This permit does not authorise the permit holder to clear *native vegetation* after 31 October 2027.

5. Type of clearing authorised

This permit authorises the permit holder to clear *native vegetation* for the activities described in condition 1 of this permit to the extent that the permit holder has the power to carry out works involving clearing for those activities under the *Local Government Act* 1995 or any other written law.

PART II - MANAGEMENT CONDITIONS

6. Avoid, minimise, and reduce impacts and extent of clearing

In determining the *native vegetation* authorised to be cleared under this permit, the permit holder must apply the following principles, set out in descending 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.

7. Weed management

When undertaking any clearing authorised under this permit, the permit holder must take the following measures to minimise the risk of 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.

8. Offset - Land acquisition

Within 12 months of the commencement of clearing and no later than 31 October 2023, unless advised otherwise by the *CEO*, the permit holder shall provide the *CEO* a copy of the executed change in purpose of Lot 28905 on Deposited Plan 188138 (Crown Reserve 224981), Old Plains, from 'watering place for travellers and stock' to 'conservation', including 5.8 hectares within the areas shaded red on attached Plan 8357/2f, Plan 8357/2g and Plan 8357/2h.

9. Offset – Revegetation

Within 12 months of the commencement of clearing and no later than 31 October 2023, the permit holder must implement and adhere to the *revegetation* and *rehabilitation* commitments in '*Revegetation Plan Lot 28905 Old Plains Road, Old Plains*' Rev 1 March 2021, including but not limited to the following actions;

- (a) commence *revegetating* and *rehabilitating* 1 hectare within the area cross-hatched red on Plan 8357/2g by:
 - (i) ripping the ground on the contour to remove soil compaction;
 - (ii) deliberately *planting* and/or *direct seeding* native vegetation that will result in a similar species composition, structure and density of native vegetation to the *control sites*;
 - (iii) ensuring only *local provenance* seeds and propagating material are used to *revegetate* and *rehabilitate* the area.

- (b) commence *rehabilitating* 3.88 hectares within the area cross-hatched red on Plan 8357/2h by:
 - (i) undertaking infill planting that will result in a similar species composition, structure and density of native vegetation to the *control site*.
- (c) establishing a minimum of six 5 x 5 metre quadrat monitoring sites within the *revegetated* and *rehabilitated* areas cross-hatched red on attached Plan 8357/2g and 8357/2h;
- (d) establishing individuals of *Eucalyptus sargentii* subsp. *onesis*, within the areas *revegetated* and *rehabilitated* under this permit, using propagating material sourced from the specimen located within the area cross-hatched yellow on Plan 8357/2e, unless otherwise advised by the *CEO*.
- (e) implementing hygiene protocols by cleaning earth-moving machinery of soil and vegetation prior to entering and leaving the *revegetated* and *rehabilitated* area;
- (f) undertaking annual weed control activities to maintain a minimum 80 per cent weed free state by the end of the project monitoring period;
- (g) achieve the following completion criteria within a three year monitoring period for the area *revegetated* and *rehabilitated* under this permit:

Criterion	Baseline floristic data	Completion targets	Completion Criteria	Monitoring
1	Total site species richness is 28 (native species only).	Minimum of 60% of native species returned, based on reference site.	Minimum of 16 native flora species (trees, shrubs and herbs) to be present in the revegetation and rehabilitation areas.	Monitor the revegetation site in years 1, 2 and 3.
2.	Quadrat species richness (average) is 9 (native species only).	Minimum of 100% of native species returned, based on reference site.	Minimum of 0.09 native species per square metre, to be present on average per monitoring quadrat.	Monitor the revegetation site in years 1, 2 and 3.
3.	Existing weed cover within the revegetation areas is high (over 40 per cent cover).	Reduction in weed cover to significantly lower than revegetation and rehabilitation areas.	Maximum of 20 per cent weed cover in the revegetation and rehabilitation areas.	Monitor the revegetation site in years 1, 2 and 3.
4.	No declared weeds are present.	No declared weeds to be present within revegetation and rehabilitation areas.	Absence of declared weeds.	Monitor the revegetation site in years 1, 2 and 3.

5.	Eucalyptus	Eucalyptus	Eucalyptus	Monitor the
	sargentii subsp.	sargentii subsp.	sargentii subsp.	revegetation site
	<i>onesis</i> is present	onesis is present	onesis is present	in years 1, 2 and
	in clearing area.	within	within	3.
		revegetation and	revegetation and	
		rehabilitation	rehabilitation	
		areas.	areas.	
6.	Eucalyptus	Eucalyptus	Eucalyptus	Monitor the
	wandoo, Banksia	wandoo, Banksia	wandoo, Banksia	revegetation site
	hewardiana,	hewardiana,	hewardiana,	in years 1, 2 and
	Banksia	Banksia	Banksia	3.
	polycephala, and	polycephala, and	polycephala, and	
	Banksia fraseri	Banksia fraseri	Banksia fraseri	
	var. fraseri	var. fraseri	var. fraseri	
	providing	providing suitable	providing suitable	
	suitable forging	forging habitat for	forging habitat for	
	habitat for	Carnaby's	Carnaby's	
	Carnaby's	cockatoo, is	cockatoo, is	
	cockatoo, is	present within	present within	
	present in	revegetation and	revegetation and	
	clearing area.	rehabilitation	rehabilitation	
		areas.	areas.	
7.	Key Species of	Key Species of the	Key Species of the	Monitor the
	the 'Eucalyptus	'Eucalyptus	'Eucalyptus	revegetation site
	Woodlands of the	Woodlands of the	Woodlands of the	in years 1, 2 and
	Western	Western	Western	3.
	Australian	Australian	Australian	
	Wheatbelt',	Wheatbelt',	Wheatbelt',	
	threatened	threatened	threatened	
	ecological	ecological	ecological	
	community, is	community, is	community, is	
	present in	present in the	present in the	
	clearing area.	revegetation and	revegetation and	
		rehabilitation	rehabilitation	
		areas.	areas.	
8.	Vegetation	The entirety of	The entirety of	Vegetation
	condition is in	the revegetation	the revegetation	condition to be
1	Condition is in			
	Good condition	and rehabilitation	and <i>rehabilitation</i>	assessed in years
	l l	_		assessed in years
	Good condition	and rehabilitation	and rehabilitation	assessed in years

- (h) undertake remedial actions for areas *revegetated* and *rehabilitated* where monitoring indicates that *revegetation* has not met the completion criteria, outlined in 9(g), including;
 - (i) revegetate the area by deliberately planting and/or direct seeding native vegetation that will result in the minimum targets detailed in 9(g) and ensuring only local provenance seeds and propagating material are used;
 - (ii) undertake further weed control activities; and
 - (iii) annual monitoring of the *revegetated* and *rehabilitated* site, until the completion criteria, outlined in 9(g) are met.

10. Vegetation management - fencing

Within 12 months of the commencement of clearing and no later than 31 October 2023, the permit holder shall construct a fence that is suitable to exclude *livestock*, on the north and eastern boundaries of Lot 28905 on Deposited Plan 188138 (Crown Reserve 224981), Old Plains, along the area cross-hatched red on attached Plan 8357/2i.

PART III - RECORD KEEPING AND REPORTING

11. Records that must be kept

The permit holder must maintain records relating to the listed relevant matters in accordance with the specifications detailed in Table 1.

Table 1: Records that must be kept

No.	Relevant matter	Spec	eifications
1.	In relation to the authorised clearing activities generally	(a)	the species composition, structure, and density of the cleared area;
		(c) (d) (e) (f)	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; the date that the area was cleared; the size of the area cleared (in hectares); actions taken to avoid and minimize and reduce the impacts and extent of clearing in accordance within Condition 6; and actions taken to minimise the risk of the introduction and spread of <i>weeds</i> in accordance with condition 7.
2.	In relation to offset management pursuant to condition 8	(a)	The date of the executed change in purpose of Lot 28905 on Deposited Plan 188138 (Crown Reserve 224981), Old Plains, from 'watering place for travelers and stock' to conservation.
3.	In relation to offset and revegetation pursuant to condition	(a)	a description of the <i>revegetation</i> and <i>rehabilitation</i> activities undertaken;
	9	(b)	the size of the area <i>revegetated</i> and <i>rehabilitated</i> (in hectares);
		(c)	the date that the area was revegetated and rehabilitated;
		(d)	actions taken to <i>revegetate</i> and <i>rehabilitate</i> in accordance with condition 9;
		(e)	actions taken to control weeds in revegetated/rehabilitated areas in accordance with condition 9; and
		(f)	a description of the monitoring and remedial activities undertaken within the <i>revegetation</i> and <i>rehabilitation</i> area.

pursuant to condition 10 finalised.	4.	In relation to constructing a fence pursuant to condition 10	(a)	
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12. Reporting

- (a) The permit holder must provide to the *CEO* on or before 30 June of each year, a written report:
 - (i) of records required under condition 11 of this permit; and
 - (ii) concerning activities done by the permit holder under this permit between 1 January to 31 December of the preceding calendar year.
- (b) If no clearing authorised under this permit was undertaken between 1 January to 31 December of the preceding calendar, a written report confirming that no clearing under this permit has been carried out, must be provided to the *CEO* on or before 30 June of each year.
- (c) Prior to 31 July 2032, the permit holder must provide to the *CEO* a written report of records required under condition 11 of this permit where these records have not already been provided under condition 12(a) of this permit.

DEFINITIONS

In this permit, the terms in Table 3 have the meanings defined.

Table 3: Definitions

Term	Definition
СЕО	Chief Executive Officer of the department responsible for the administration of the clearing provisions under the <i>Environmental Protection Act 1986</i> .
control site	means the 10 x 10 metre quadrat control site that was identified as R04 within the ' <i>Revegetation Plan Lot 28905 Old Plains Road, Old Plains</i> ' Rev 0 November 2020' to identify remnant native vegetation species composition and structure, condition, density and weed cover.
direct seeding	means a method of re-establishing vegetation through the establishment of a seed bed and the introduction of seeds of the desired plant species.
key Species	means the main flora species that are known to occur within the Eucalyptus woodland of the Western Australian wheatbelt threatened ecological community (TEC), as listed in the Conservation Advice for this TEC (Department of the Environment (2015) Approved Conservation Advice for the Eucalypt Woodlands of the Western Australian Wheatbelt)
livestock	Includes cattle, sheep, goats, pigs, horses, donkeys, deer, alpaca, llama, camels, buffalo, emus, ostriches and poultry (including chickens, turkeys, geese, ducks, guinea fowl, quails, pigeons, pheasants and partridges).
fill	means material used to increase the ground level, or to fill a depression.
local provenance	means native vegetation seeds and propagating material from natural sources within 100 kilometres and the same Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation for Australia (IBRA) subregion of the area cleared.
EP Act	Environmental Protection Act 1986 (WA).

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.			
native vegetation	has the meaning given under section 3(1) and section51A of the EP			
nutive vegetation	Act.			
nlautina	means the re-establishment of vegetation by creating favorable soil			
planting	conditions and planting seedlings of the desired species.			
	means re-establishment of vegetation from in situ seed banks and			
regenerate/ed/ion	propagating material (such as lignotubers, bulbs, rhizomes) contained			
	either within the topsoil or seed-bearing <i>mulch</i> .			
nalambilitata/ad/ian	means actively managing an area containing native vegetation in			
rehabilitate/ed/ion	order to improve the ecological function of that area.			
	means the re-establishment of a cover of local provenance native			
	vegetation in an area using methods such as natural regeneration,			
revegetate/ed/ion	direct seeding and/or planting, so that the species composition,			
	structure and density is similar to pre-clearing vegetation types in that			
	area.			
	means any plant –			
	(a) that is a declared pest under section 22 of the <i>Biosecurity</i>			
	and Agriculture Management Act 2007; or			
weeds	(b) published in a Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and			
recus	Attractions species-led ecological impact and invasiveness			
	·			
	ranking summary, regardless of ranking; or			
	(c) not indigenous to the area concerned.			

END OF CONDITIONS

Mathew Gannaway MANAGER

NATIVE VEGETATION REGULATION

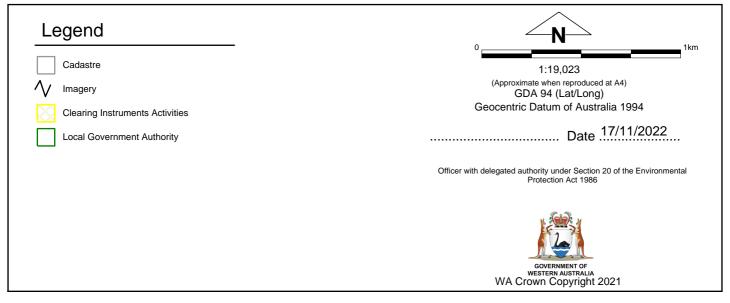
Officer delegated under Section 20 of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

17 November 2022

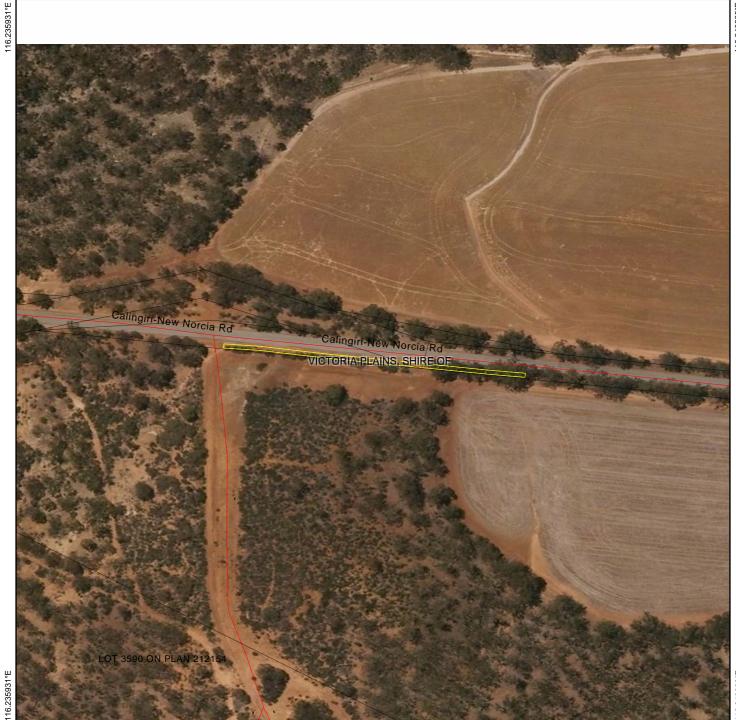
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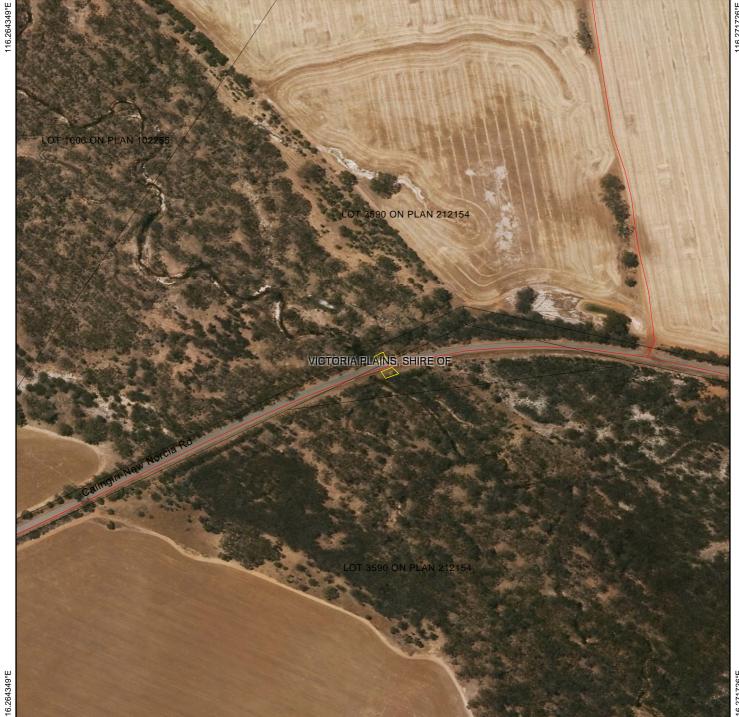


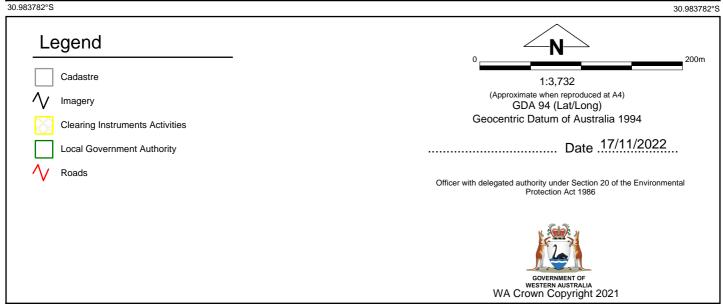
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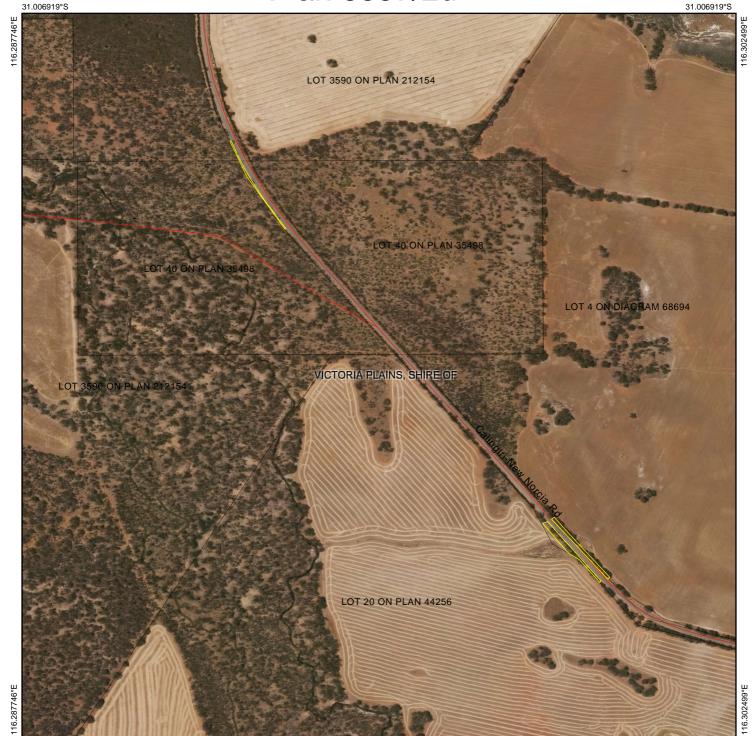


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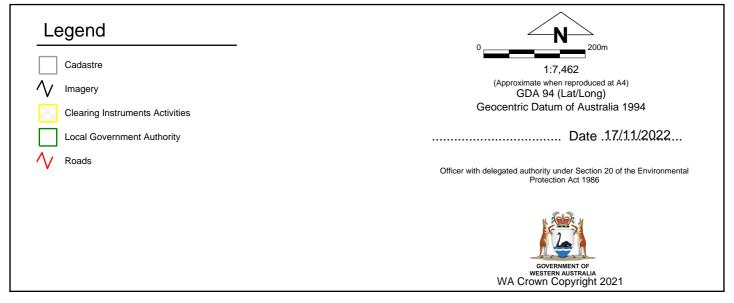
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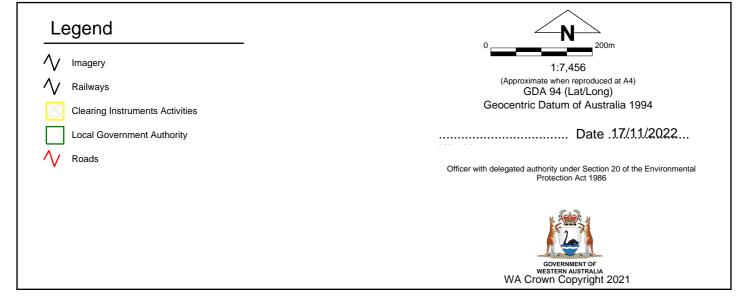


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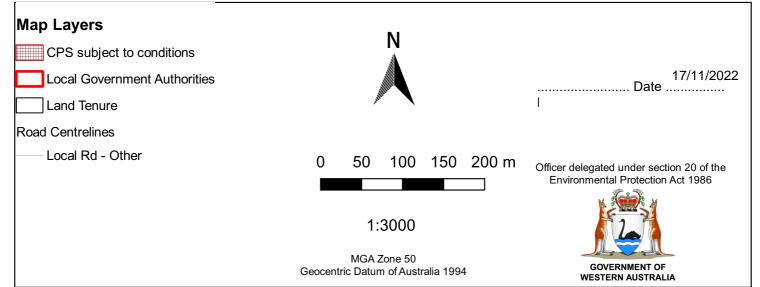
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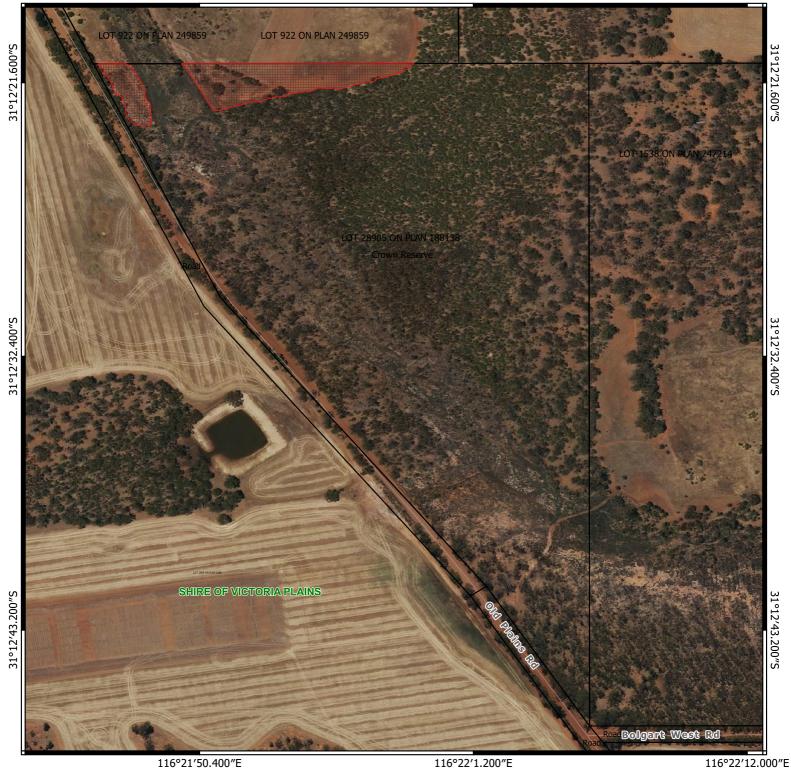


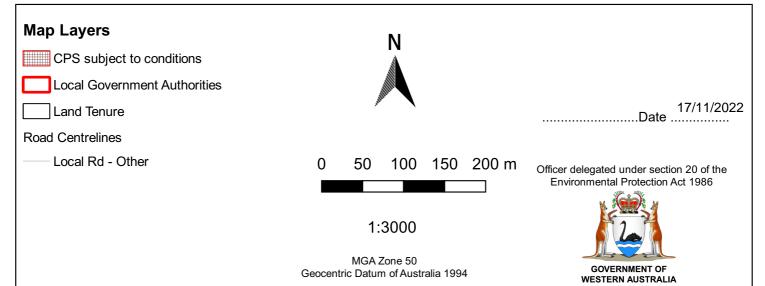
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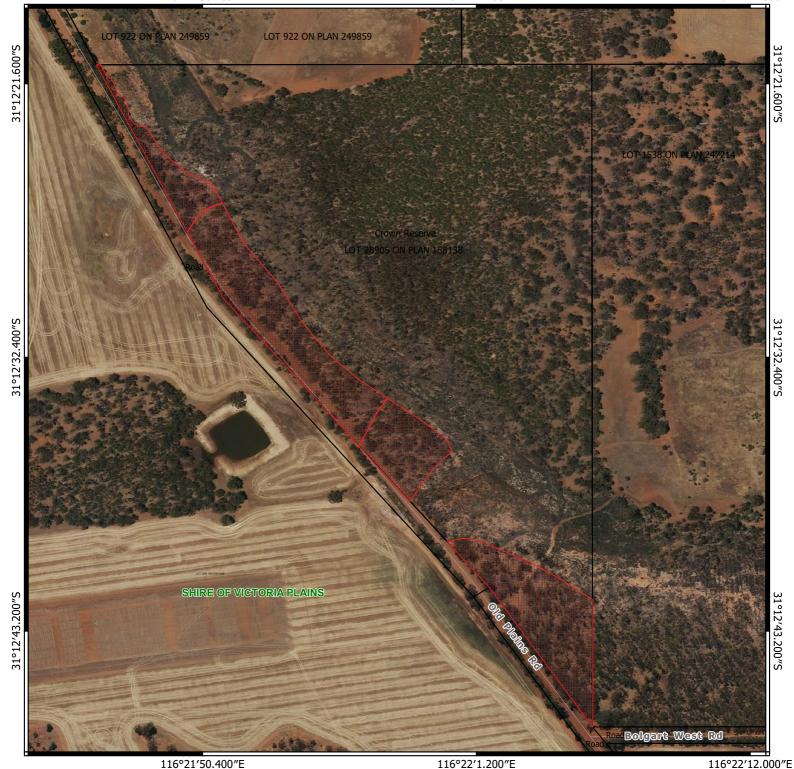
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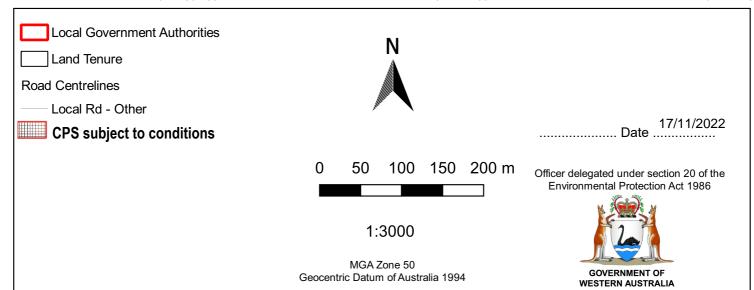






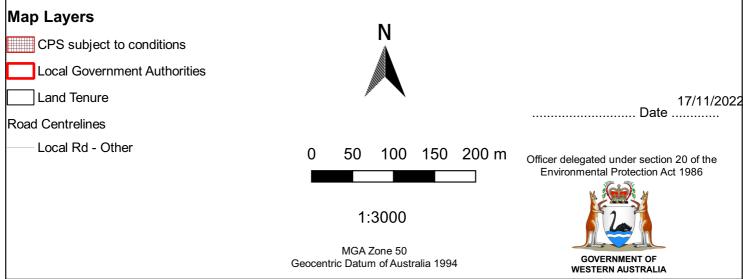






Plan 8357/2i





Clearing Permit Decision Report

Application details and outcome

1.1. Permit application details

Permit number: CPS 8357/2

Permit type: Purpose permit

Applicant name: Shire of Victoria Plains

Purpose of clearing: Road widening and upgrades

Property: Mogumber Road West road reserve (PINs 11673201, 11673199, 11673200,

11673198)

Calingiri-New Norcia road reserve (PINs 11501331, 11501322, 11501334, 11453185,

11453187, 11501328, 11501324, 11501327, 11721792)

Lot 9001 on Deposited Plain 43363 Lot 3962 on Deposited Plan 173619 Railway Reserve (PIN 1052969) Railway Reserve (PIN 569692)

Bindi Bindi – Toodyay Road reserve (PINs 11478636, 11478637)

Location (LGA area/s): Shire of Victoria Plains

1.2. Description of clearing activities

The vegetation proposed to be cleared is distributed across four separate areas within Mogumber West Rd Reserve, Calingiri-New Norcia Road reserve and Calingiri – New Norcia Road reserve and Bindi-Toodyay Road reserve intersection (intersection realignment) for the purpose of road upgrade. The size of the areas and amount of clearing proposed was increased by 0.48 ha during assessment within the Calingiri intersection realignment area.

1.3. Decision on application and key considerations

Decision: Granted

Decision date: 17 November 2022

Decision area: 2.46 hectares (ha) of native vegetation

1.4. Reasons for decision

On 7 April 2021, the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) determined to grant Clearing Permit CPS 8357/1 to clear up to 2.46 hectares of native vegetation for the purpose of road widening and upgrades within various road reserves within the Shire of Victoria Plains.

One appeal was lodged against the decision to grant a clearing permit with conditions, covering five grounds of appeal.

This clearing permit amendment gives effect to the Minister for Environment (Minister) determination to allow the appeal in part (Appeal number: 016 of 2021). The Minister has requested DWER to amend the permit to clear with the following changes:

(1) amend condition 9 (offset revegetation) to:

 include key species from the Eucalypt Woodlands of the Western Australian Wheatbelt Threatened Ecological Community (TEC) in either or both the revegetation or infill planting area to counterbalance the removal of 0.16 ha of the TEC

- include wandoo and the banksia species in either or both the revegetation or infill planting area to counterbalance the removal of 24 mature wandoo trees and 0.08 ha of banksia shrubland which are Carnaby's cockatoo foraging habitat
- make clear that, unless otherwise agreed by the CEO, propagating material for *Eucalyptus sargentii* subsp. *onesis* should be sourced from the individual of this species within the clearing footprint
- (2) amend condition 10 (fencing) to define 'fence' to mean a fence of a suitable standard to exclude stock (sheep, cattle etc).
- (3) amend the following dates in the permit to:
 - duration of permit replace '30 April 2031' with '31 October 2032'
 - condition 4 replace '30 April 2026' with '31 October 2027'
 - conditions 8, 9 and 10 replace '30 April 2022' with '31 October 2023'

The Delegated Office had taken the above into consideration and decided to grant an amended clearing permit in accordance with the Minister's determination.

2. Assessment of application

2.1. Assessment

This amendment is the result of an appeal determination made by the Minister for Environment regarding the conditions of Clearing Permit CPS 8357/1. As a result of the appeal determination, the assessment against the clearing principles has changed from the Clearing Permit Decision Report CPS 8357/1 with the addition of Principles (b) and (d) being at variance (Office of the Appeals Convenor, 2022).

The Department found the clearing to be at variance with clearing principles (a), (e) and (f) during assessment of CPS 8357/1. The Minister agreed with this conclusion but also found that because the clearing includes part of the Eucalypt Woodlands TEC (0.16 hectares), it is at variance to clearing principle (d), which provides that native vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises the whole or a part of, or is necessary for the maintenance of, a TEC listed under State or Commonwealth legislation.

The clearing also comprises vegetation that is of foraging value to Carnaby's cockatoo (24 Wandoo trees and 0.08 hectares of Banksia shrubland) and is within the known range of the species. The Minister therefore found that the proposal is at variance to clearing principle (b), which provides that 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.

The Minister considered the decision to grant the permit was justified. However, allowed the appeal, in part, by requiring the significant residual impacts to the Eucalypt Woodlands TEC and Carnaby's cockatoo foraging habitat to be counterbalanced. This will be through the existing proposed offset site on Old Plains Road being amended to require those values to be reflected in revegetation at that site.

The Minister also requested that the fencing condition be amended to ensure the fence be of a standard suitable to exclude stock as it was not clear from the existing condition the intent of the fencing.

The assessment against the remaining clearing principles and planning and other matters have not changed from the Clearing Permit Decision Report for CPS 8357/1 (DWER, 2022).

Appendix A - References

1. References

Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) (2022) Purpose permit and decision report: CPS 8357/1. https://ftp.dwer.wa.gov.au/permit/8357/Permit/

Office of the Appeals Convenor (2022) Report to the Minister for Environment – Appeal against decision to grant a clearing permit – Clearing Permit CPS 8357/1.