GOVERNMENT OF
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Purpose Permit number:	CPS 8363/1
Permit Holder:	Shire of Denmark
Duration of Permit:	3 August 2019 to 3 August 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
Clearing for the purpose of drainage lines and sports ground facilities

2. Land on which clearing is to be done
Lot 1087 on Deposited Plan 193666, Denmark

3. Area of Clearing
The Permit Holder must not clear more than 0.125 hectares of native vegetation within the area hatched yellow on attached Plan 8363/1.

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.

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 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.

7. 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 introduction and spread of *weeds* and *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.

PART III - RECORD KEEPING AND REPORTING

8. Records must be kept

The Permit Holder must maintain the following records 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); and
(d) actions taken to avoid, minimise and reduce the impacts and the extent of clearing in accordance with condition 6 of this Permit.

9. Reporting

The Permit Holder must provide to the CEO the records required under Condition 8 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 Regional Weed Rankings Summary, regardless of ranking; or
(c) not indigenous to the area concerned.

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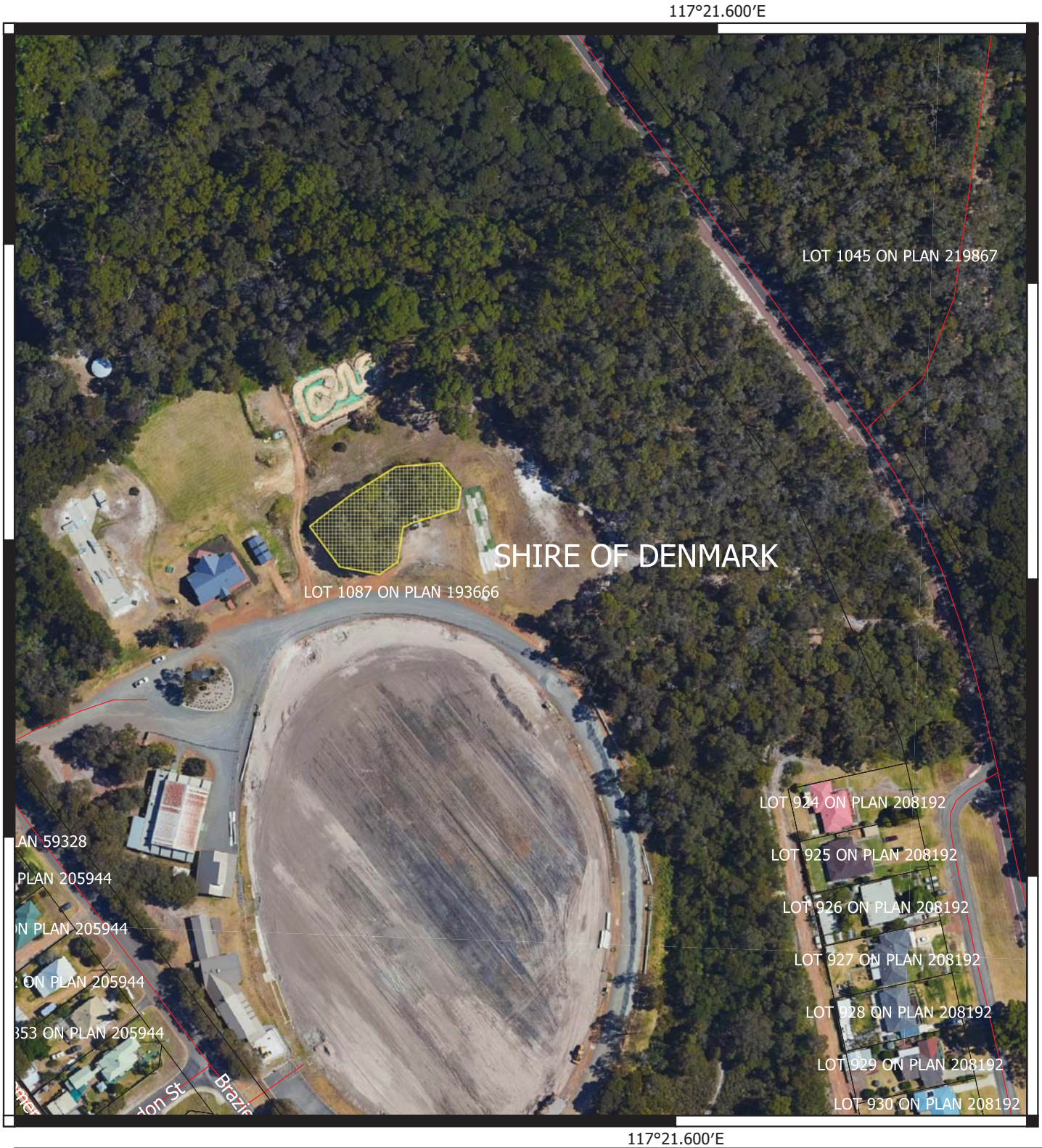
Ryan Mincham
MANAGER
NATIVE VEGETATION REGULATION

Officer delegated under Section 20
of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

4 July 2019

Plan 8363/1



Legend

- CPS areas approved to clear
- base layers
- Cadastre
- Road Centrelines
- Local Government Authorities
- Image

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Officer delegated under Section 20 of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

GOVERNMENT OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Government of Western Australia
Department of Water and Environmental Regulation

Clearing Permit Decision Report

1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 8363/1
Permit type: Purpose Permit

1.2. Applicant details

Applicant's name: Shire of Denmark
Application received date: 12 February 2019

1.3. Property details

Property: Lot 1087 on Deposited Plan 193666, Denmark
Local Government Authority: Shire of Denmark
Localities: Denmark

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	Purpose category:
0.125		Mechanical Removal	Recreation

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Grant
Decision Date: 4 July 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 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 found that the proposed clearing is unlikely to lead to an unacceptable risk to the environment.

The Delegated Officer determined that the proposed clearing may increase the spread of weeds into adjacent vegetation. To minimise this risk, conditions have been placed on the permit requiring the implementation of weed management measures.

2. Site Information

Clearing Description This application for the clearing of up to 0.125 hectares of native vegetation on Lot 1087 on Deposited Plan 193666, Denmark is for the installation of drainage lines (in locations yet to be determined) and for sporting facilities within the McLean Park Precinct.

Vegetation Description The application area is situated within mapped Beard vegetation complex 14; defined as Jarrah, banksia or casuarina, *Eucalyptus marginata, Banksia* spp., *Allocasuarina* spp. (Shepherd et al, 2001).

The application area can be more specifically defined as Granite Valleys (Vh3): Tall open forest of *Eucalyptus diversicolor-Eucalyptus guilfoylei* on slopes and woodland of *Eucalyptus rudis - Banksia littoralis* on lower slopes in hyperhumid and perhumid zones (Government of Western Australia, 2019)

and

Trent (TR1): Woodland of *Allocasuarina fraseriana-Eucalyptus marginata* subsp. *marginata-Banksia grandis* with some *Corymbia calophylla* on low rises of sedimentary rocks in the perhumid zone (Government of Western Australia, 2019).

Vegetation Condition The aerial imagery and photos provided by the applicant determined the vegetation within the application area to be in Good (Keighery, 1994) condition. This condition ranking is defined as vegetation structure significantly altered by very obvious signs of multiple disturbances, retains basic vegetation structure or ability to regenerate it (Keighery 1994).

Soil type The application area is mapped as occurring within the following two mapped land systems, with the majority occurring within the first (Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development, 2017).

- *Trent Subsystem* is described as Flat topped hills ;< 40 m relief; gently sloping flanks. Gravelly yellow duplex soils and laterite on crests: Jarrah-Marri forest. Leached sands with iron pan on flanks; Jarrah-Sheoak woodland; and

- *Major Valleys V3 Subsystem (Walpole)* is described as Valleys in granitic areas; 20m relief; rocky slopes; terrace. Yellow duplex soils on slopes; Jarrah-Marri-Yellow Tingle forest. Deep sands on terrace; Wattle-Paperbark low forest.

Comments

The local area referred to in the below assessment is defined as the area within a 10 kilometre radius of the application area.

Figure 1: The 0.125ha application area (shown in yellow cross-hatching), in the context of the lot boundaries (shown in white) and road centrelines (shown in red). There is a dam to the northwest.

Figure 2: Photo provided by the applicant of the proposed clearing area adjacent to existing sports grounds and cleared areas: south-eastern end looking at cricket area.

Figure 3: Another photo provided by the applicant of the proposed clearing area: vegetation adjacent to an exisiting cleared track to the western side of the area leading down to the dam (shown in Figure 1), surrounded by grassy weeds.

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

A review of available databases determined that 19 flora species of conservation significance have been recorded in the local area, comprising three threatened, two Priority 1, three Priority 2, eleven Priority 3 and 13 Priority 4 flora species. No occurrences of the above species have been recorded within the application area. The nearest recorded occurrence of a conservation significant flora species is an occurrence of the Priority 3 flora species *Tetraria sp. Blackwood River (A.R. Annels 3043)* and *Synaphea incurva*, both located approximately 918 metres from the application area (WA Herbarium 1998 -). However the habitat and soils conditions for all of these flora species of conservation significance do not occur with the application area so they are unlikely to occur. When consideration is given to the small extent of the application area (0.125 hectares) and the knowledge that the local area is highly vegetated and retains approximately 50 per-cent of its pre-European clearing extent, the application area is unlikely to comprise significant flora habitat for any flora species of conservation significance. The clearing under application is unlikely to result in adverse impacts to the conservation status, or distribution, of any flora species of conservation significance.

A review of available databases determined that 54 fauna species of conservation significance have been recorded within the local area (Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions 2007). However the majority of these are marine or coastal species due to the close proximity of the Wilson Inlet and southern WA coastline (2.7 kilometres and 6.2 kilometres respectively) within the local area. The relevant (terrestrial, non-coastal) 16 species that have been recorded within the local area are listed below:

- *Atrichornis clamosus* (Noisy Scrub-bird, tjimiluk) T[1]
- *Calidris ferruginea* (Curlew Sandpiper) T
- *Calyptorhynchus banksii* subsp. *naso* (Forest Red-tailed Black Cockatoo) T
- *Calyptorhynchus baudinii* (Baudin's Cockatoo, White-tailed Long-billed Black Cockatoo) T
- *Calyptorhynchus latirostris* (Carnaby's Cockatoo, White-tailed Short-billed Black Cockatoo) T
- *Cynotelopus notabilis* (Western Australian Pill Millipede) T
- *Dasyornis longirostris* (Western Bristlebird) T
- *Dasyurus geoffroii* (Chuditch, Western Quoll) T
- *Leipoa ocellata* (Malleefowl) T
- *Setonix brachyurus* (Quokka) T
- *Zephyrarchaea mainae* (Main's assassin spider) T
- *Falco peregrinus* (Peregrine Falcon) S[2]
- *Phascogale tapoatafa subsp. wambenger* S
- *Elapognathus minor* (Short-nosed Snake) P2[3]
- *Isoodon fusciventer* (Quenda, southwestern brown bandicoot) P4
- *Notamacropus irma* (Western Brush Wallaby) P4

[1] T refers to the 'Rare or likely to become extinct' conservation status under the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016*
[2] S refers to 'Other specially protected fauna' conservation status under the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016*
[3] P refers to 'Priority' conservation status under the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016*

A review of aerial photography and photographs of the application area (provided by the applicant) has determined that there a number of large Eucalypt trees within the application area. However they are not likely to be suitable habitat trees as they appear to be of a spindly form and not large enough to contain hollows of a suitable size for nesting black cockatoos (see Figures 2 and 3 above). There is likely to be more suitable breeding habitat for cockatoos in the surrounding remnant vegetation within the local area. The closest known record of a black cockatoo roost is 10.2 kilometres northwest of the proposed clearing.

It is determined that based on the small extent of the application area and large amount of remnant vegetation in the surrounding area, the clearing under application is unlikely to result in adverse impacts to the conservation status, or distribution of any of the above-listed fauna species of conservation significance.

A review of available databases determined that three threatened flora species have been recorded in the local area. These are listed below:

- *Drakaea micrantha*
- *Grevillea fuscolutea*
- *Kennedia glabrata*

However the habitat and soils conditions for these species do not occur with the application area so they are unlikely to occur. The clearing under application is unlikely to result in adverse impacts to the conservation status, or distribution, of any threatened flora species. Given the knowledge that the Warren IBRA Region maintains over 79 per cent of its pre-European clearing extent, the clearing under application is unlikely to adversely impact any ecological linkages for fauna.

A review of available databases determined the application area is situated approximately 9.5 kilometres west of the '*Melaleuca spathulata/Melaleuca viminea* Swamp Heath' Priority 1 PEC and 9.8 kilometres east of the 'Subtropical and Temperate Coastal Saltmarsh' Priority 3 PEC. When consideration is given to the separation distance between the application area and the above PEC's, and the habitat requirements of these PEC's (swamplands), no adverse impacts to these PEC's are expected to result from the proposed clearing. Given the knowledge that the Warren IBRA Region maintains over 79 per cent of its pre-European clearing extent, the clearing under application is unlikely to adversely impact any ecological linkages promoting species diversity and recruitment within the above PEC's.

The national objectives and targets for biodiversity conservation in Australia have 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 forms part of the 'Warren' IBRA region. This IBRA region retains over 79 per cent of its pre-European clearing extent (Government of Western Australia, 2019). The South West vegetation complex "Granite Valleys" (Vh3) and "Trent" (TR1) also currently retain over 86 per cent and 78 per cent respectively of their pre-European clearing extent (Government of Western Australia, 2019). Given the above, the area under application does not represent a remnant of native vegetation within an extensively cleared area.

A review of available databases, aerial photography and photographs of the application area (provided by the applicant) has determined that no watercourses or wetlands exist within the application area. The closest watercourse is the Denmark River that is located 275 metres to the east. Given the above, no vegetation growing in association with surface water features is likely to be impacted by the proposed clearing.

According to available databases there is a high risk of wind erosion due to the soil type of the majority of the application area (Trent subsystem TR1). However, given the small proposed clearing extent (0.125 hectares) and the immediately surrounding area is parkland cleared, minor land degradation impacts are expected to result from the clearing activities under application. No impacts to the quality of local surface water or groundwater resources, or the incidence or intensity of flooding, are expected to result from the clearing activities.

The application area is situated approximately 2.1 kilometres south east of the McLean Road Nature Reserve. The next nearest conservation reserve to the application area is the Scotsdale Road Nature Reserve situated approximately 2.8 kilometres north of the application area. Given the separation between the application area and the above conservation reserves by urban development, no impacts to these conservation reserves are anticipated to result from the clearing activities. As the Warren IBRA Region maintains over 79 per cent of its pre-European vegetation extent, the clearing under application is unlikely to adversely impact any ecological linkages promoting species diversity and recruitment within the above conservation areas.

Given the above, the proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to any of the remaining clearing principles.

Planning instruments and other relevant matters.

No Aboriginal sites of significance have been mapped within the application area. The application is area is 220 metres west of the Denmark River Aboriginal site of significance, but this site is not likely to be impacted. It is the proponent's responsibility to comply with the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972* and ensure that no Aboriginal Sites of Significance are damaged through the clearing process.

The clearing permit application was advertised on the DWER website on 19 March 2019 with a 14 day submission period and no submissions were received.

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 March 2019.
Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (2017). NRInfo Digital Mapping. Accessed at https://maps.agric.wa.gov.au/nrm-info/ Accessed April 2019. Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development. Government of Western Australia.
Government of Western Australia. (2019). 2018 South West Vegetation Complex Statistics. Current as of March 2019.
Keighery, B.J. (1994) Bushland Plant Survey: A Guide to Plant Community Survey for the Community. Wildflower Society of WA (Inc.). Nedlands, Western Australia.
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.
Western Australian Herbarium (1998-) FloraBase - The Western Australian Flora. Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions. http://florabase.dpaw.wa.gov.au/ (accessed March 2019).

GIS Databases:

- Aboriginal Sites of Significance
- Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions, Managed Tenure
- Geomorphic Wetlands Management Category
- Hydrography Linear – Linear
- Hydrography WA 250K – Surface Water Lines
- TPFL March 2019
- Vegetation Complexes; pre – European Vegetation
- WAHerb Data March 2019
- WA TEC PEC Boundaries 19/10/2018