



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Purpose Permit number:	CPS 8416/1
Permit Holder:	Shire of Shark Bay
Duration of Permit:	2 July 2019 to 2 July 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 construction of vehicle access and walk trails.

2. Land on which clearing is to be done

Lot 362 on Plan 221182, Denham

3. Area of Clearing

The Permit Holder must not clear more than 0.7 hectares of native vegetation within the area cross-hatched yellow on attached Plan 8416/1.

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:

- avoid the clearing of native vegetation;
- minimise the amount of native vegetation to be cleared; and
- 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*:

- clean earth-moving machinery of soil and vegetation prior to entering and leaving the area to be cleared;

- (b) ensure that no known *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.

8. Wind erosion management

The Permit Holder shall not clear native vegetation unless the construction on vehicle access and walk trail occurs within 3 months of the authorised clearing being undertaken.

PART III – RECORD KEEPING AND REPORTING

9. Record keeping

The Permit Holder must maintain the following records for activities done pursuant to this Permit:

- (a) In relation to the clearing of native vegetation authorised under this Permit:
 - (i) 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;
 - (ii) the date(s) that the area was cleared;
 - (iii) the size of the area cleared (in hectares);
 - (iv) actions taken to avoid, minimise and reduce the impacts and extent of clearing in accordance with condition 6 of this Permit;
 - (v) actions taken to minimise the risk of the introduction and spread of *dieback* and *weeds* in accordance with condition 7 of this Permit; and
 - (vi) actions in accordance with condition 8.

10. Reporting

The Permit Holder must produce the records required under condition 9 of this Permit when required 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.



Samara Rogers
MANAGER
NATIVE VEGETATION REGULATION

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

7 June 2019

Plan 8416/1

113°31'31.008"

113°31'34.572"

113°31'38.136"

113°31'41.700"



113°31'27.444"

113°31'31.008"

113°31'34.572"

113°31'38.136"

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-25°54'15.624"

-25°54'19.188127.444"

-25°54'22.752"

-25°54'26.316"

-25°54'29.880"

-25°54'15.624"

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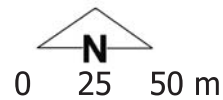
-25°54'22.752"

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Legend

-  CPS areas approved to clear
-  Local Government Authorities
-  Cadastre
-  Roads
-  Image



MGA 94
Geocentric Datum of Australia 1994

Samara Rogers

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



GOVERNMENT OF
WESTERN AUSTRALIA
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Clearing Permit Decision Report

1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 8416/1
Permit type: Purpose Permit

1.2. Applicant details

Applicant's name: Shire of Shark Bay
Application received date: 18 March 2019

1.3. Property details

Property: LOT 362 ON PLAN 221182, DENHAM
Local Government Authority: SHARK BAY, SHIRE OF
Localities: DENHAM

1.4. Application

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

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Granted
Decision Date: 7 June 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 principle (f), may be at variance to principle (g) and is not likely to be at variance to any of the clearing principles.

Through the assessment it was identified that some of the vegetation within the application area is associated with an environment associated with a watercourse. Noting that the application area and the watercourse are separated by an existing road, and the small size of the application area in a larger footprint, the proposed clearing is not considered a significant impact to this watercourse.

Through the assessment it was identified that the proposed clearing may result in appreciable land degradation through wind erosion. A wind erosion management condition that requires works to be undertaken within three months of clearing will help to mitigate the effects of wind erosion on site.

Through the assessment it was identified that the proposed clearing may impact surrounding native vegetation through the introduction or spread of weeds and dieback. A weed management condition has been placed on the clearing permit to minimise the risk of weeds spreading into adjacent areas of remnant vegetation.

In determining to grant a clearing permit subject to conditions, the Delegated Officer determined that the proposed clearing is not likely to have a significant environmental impact.

2. Site Information

Clearing Description The application is to clear 0.7 hectares of native vegetation within Lot 362 on Plan 221182, Denham, for the purpose of constructing and maintaining vehicle access and walk trails (Figure 1).

Vegetation Description The application area is mapped as Carnarvon Beard 1101 vegetation association, which is described as "Shrublands; *Acacia ligulata* x *rostellifera* thicket" (Shepherd, 2001).

Vegetation Condition The condition of the vegetation within the application area is considered to be:

- Degraded: Structure severely disturbed; regeneration to good condition requires intensive management (Keighery, 1994);
- to
- Completely degraded: No longer intact, completely/almost completely without native species (Keighery, 1994).

Soil type The application area is mapped as the following land system:

- Peron Land System which is described as “Undulating plains of calcareous sand supporting low acacia shrublands and *Lamarchea hakeifolia* heaths” (Department of Primary Industry and Regional Development, 2019).

Comments

The local area is defined as a 10 kilometres radius from the application area.

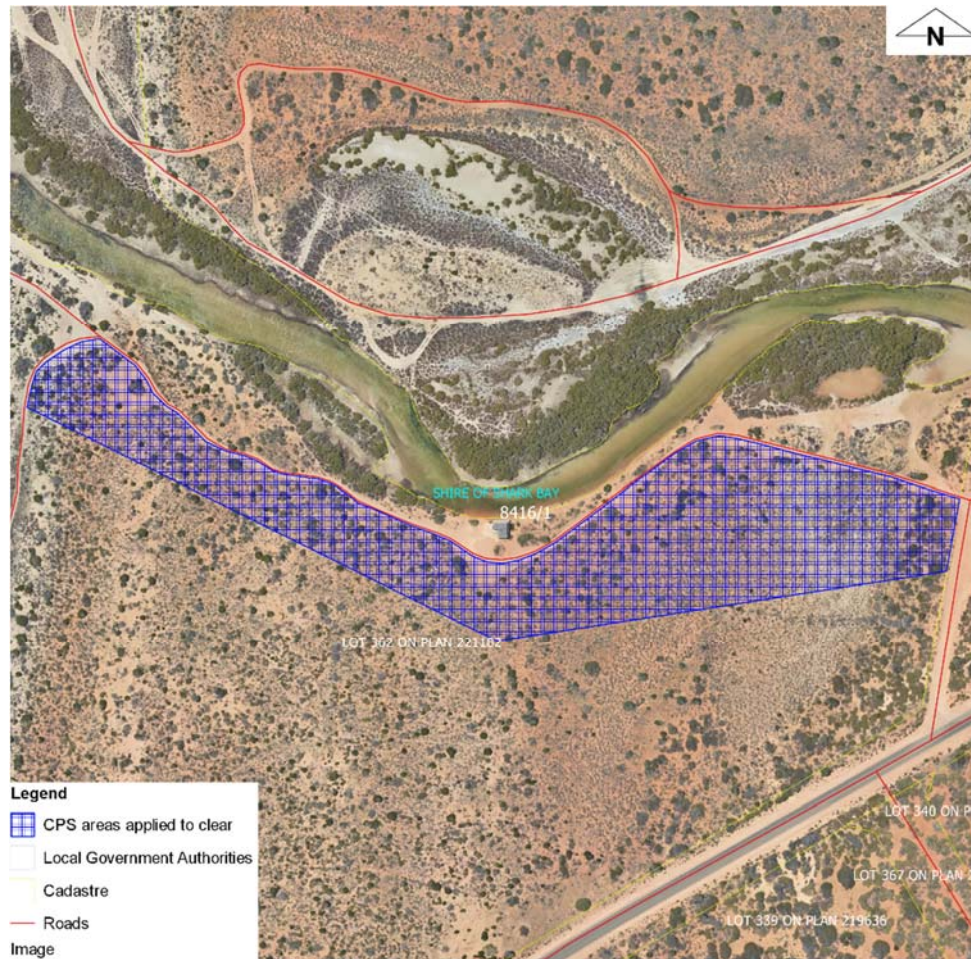


Figure 1 Application area hatched in blue

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

The application is to clear 0.7 hectares of native vegetation within a 2.18 hectare footprint at Lot 362 on Plan 221182, Denham, for the purpose of constructing and maintaining vehicle access and walk trails.

According to available databases, twelve priority flora species have been recorded within the local area. Noting the mapped soil vegetation type within the application area, the application area may provide habitat for *Abutilon* sp. Hamelin (A.M. Ashby 2196) (Priority 1), *Chthonocephalus muellerianus* (Priority 2), *Acanthocarpus parviflorus* (Priority 3), *Bossiaea calcicola* (Priority 3), *Grevillea rogersoniana* (Priority 3), *Stenanthemum divaricatum* (Priority 3) and *Triodia plurinervata* (Priority 3). The Department of Biodiversity Conservation and Attractions (DBCA) (2019) advised that the application area is already a heavily used and disturbed area and consists of bare earth or scattered low grass coverage. Noting the degraded condition of the vegetation and the surrounding native vegetation in a better condition, the application area is not likely to comprise significant habitat for priority flora. DBCA's Shark Bay District advised that the proposed clearing will have minimal impact on conservation significant flora.

According to available databases, eight threatened, five priority, and seventeen protected under international agreement fauna species have been recorded within the local area (DBCA, 2007-). The application area contains sandy soils and similar vegetation types to where malleefowl (*Leipoa ocellata*) have been previously recorded and have been reintroduced in the Shark Bay area. DBCA (2019) advised that there are no known malleefowl presence or activity within the application area or immediate surrounding area. DBCA is also advised that there is a known presence of Woma python (*Aspidites ramsayi* subsp.) within the immediate surrounding area of the application area, however, the proposed clearing will have minimal impact on conservation significant fauna species (DBCA, 2019).

According to available databases, no threatened ecological community (TEC) or priority ecological community (PEC) have been mapped within the application area. Noting the vegetation type mapped within the application area, the proposed clearing is not likely to comprise the whole or a part of, or be necessary for the maintenance of a PEC or TEC. Noting that the application area is not likely to comprise of significant habitat for priority flora or fauna, the application area is also not considered to comprise a high level of biological diversity.

The local area retains more than 30 per cent of its pre-European vegetation extent, and noting the relatively small size of the application area, the proposed clearing is not likely to be considered a significant remnant within an extensively cleared area.

The closest watercourse or wetland to the application area is an un-named watercourse approximately 20 metres north of the application area. Given the close proximity to the watercourse, some of the vegetation within the application area is in an environment associated with this watercourse. Therefore, the proposed clearing is at variance to (f). Noting that the application area and the watercourse are separated by an existing road, and the small size of the application area in a larger footprint, the proposed clearing is not considered a significant impact to this watercourse.

The application area has been mapped as Peron System 237Pn subsystem which is described as undulating plains of calcareous sand supporting low acacia shrublands and *Lamarchea hakeifolia* heaths. The land degradation report supplied by the Department of Primary Industry and Regional Development (2019) suggests that this sandy soils are slightly susceptible to wind erosion when exposed through loss of vegetation. Noting this and the fact that the application area is already devoid of vegetation and consists of bare earth or scattered low grass coverage, the proposed clearing may cause appreciable land degradation in the form of wind erosion and therefore the proposed clearing may be at variance to principle (g). The risk of wind erosion will be minimised through the requirement to only clear if the construction of vehicle access and walk trails occurs within three months of clearing.

Noting the extent of the proposed clearing and the condition of the vegetation within the application area, the proposed clearing is not likely to deteriorate the quality of surface or ground water, or cause or exacerbate flooding.

The disturbance caused by the proposed clearing may impact adjacent native vegetation through an increase of weeds and dieback. Weed and dieback management practices will assist in mitigating this risk.

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

Planning instruments and other relevant matters.

No Aboriginal sites of significance have been mapped within the application area.

The application area is mapped within the buffer zone for the Australian Heritage natural estate - Denham Sound Freycinet Reach, Hopeless Reach and Lharidon Bright, Shark Bay.

The clearing permit application was advertised on the DWER's website on 2 April 2019, inviting submissions from the public within a 14 day period. No public submissions were received in relation to this application.

4. References

- Department of Primary Industry and Regional Development (DPIRD). (March 26, 2019). Peron system land degradation report, Department of Primary Industry and Regional Development, Western Australia. Retrieved from <https://maps.agric.wa.gov.au/nrm-info/>
- 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/>. Accessed April 2019.
- Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA). (2019). Regional advice for Clearing Permit Application CPS 8416/1. Received on 3 May 2019 (DWER Ref: A1785863).
- Department of Primary Industry and Regional Development (DPIRD). (2019). Peron system land degradation report, Department of Primary Industry and Regional Development, Western Australia. (DWER Ref: A1778470)
- 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