



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Purpose Permit number:	CPS 8419/1
Permit Holder:	Commissioner of Main Roads
Duration of Permit:	27 May 2019 – 27 May 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 road upgrades

2. Land on which clearing is to be done

Lot M2136 on Diagram 24508, Miling

Lot 3848 on Plan 4938, Miling

Richardson Street road reserve (PINs 11290850 and 11290851), Miling

3. Area of Clearing

The Permit Holder must not clear more than 1.1 hectares of native vegetation within the area cross-hatched yellow on attached Plan 8419/1.

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 *Main Roads Act 1930* 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. 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 any earth-moving machinery and other clearing equipment of soil and vegetation prior to entering and leaving the area to be cleared;
- (b) ensure that no *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 for activities done 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;
- (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 6 of the Permit; and
- (e) actions taken to minimise the risk of the introduction and spread of *weeds* in accordance with condition 7 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*;

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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Abbie Crawford
MANAGER
NATIVE VEGETATION REGULATION


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

3 May 2019

CPS 8419/1 - Plan



Legend

 CPS areas approved to clear base layers

 Cadastre

 Road Centrelines

 Local Government Authorities

Image



MGA 94
Geocentric Datum of Australia 1994

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Officer delegated under Section 20 of the
Environmental Protection Act 1986



GOVERNMENT OF
WESTERN AUSTRALIA



1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 8419/1
Permit type: Purpose Permit

1.2. Applicant details

Applicant's name: Main Roads Western Australia

1.3. Property details

Property: Lot M2136 on Diagram 24508
Lot 3848 on Plan 4938
Richardson Street road reserve (PINs 11290852, 11290851, 11290850)

Local Government Authority: Shire of Moora

Localities: Miling

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	Purpose category:
1.1		Mechanical Removal	Road upgrades

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Granted
Decision Date: 3 May 2019

Reasons for Decision: The clearing permit application was received on 18 March 2019 and has been assessed against the clearing principles, planning instruments and other matters in accordance with section 51O of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*. It has been concluded that the proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to any of the clearing principles.

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

In determining to grant a clearing permit subject to conditions, the Delegated Officer considered that the proposed clearing is not likely to lead to an unacceptable risk to the environment.

2. Site Information

Clearing Description: The application is for the proposed clearing of 1.1 hectares of native vegetation, within Lot M2136 on Diagram 24508, Lot 3848 on Plan 4938, and Richardson Street Road Reserve (PINs 11290852, 11290851, 11290850), Miling, Shire of Moora for the purpose of road construction and upgrades (Figure 1).

Vegetation Description The vegetation within the application area is mapped as the following Beard vegetation associations;

- 631 – Succulent steppe with woodland and thicket; York gum over *Melaleuca thyoides* & samphire; and
- 142 – Medium woodland; York gum & salmon gum.

Vegetation Condition Completely Degraded: The structure of the vegetation is no longer intact and the area is completely or almost completely without native species (Keighery, 1994).

Soil/Landform Type The clearing area is mapped within the Burabidge Hill 7 land subsystem which is described as mid slope, gently undulating rises adjacent to valley plain and drainage line on Colluvium, lithic sand. Shallow to deep loamy duplex, red sandy earth and red shallow loam. York gum, salmon gum, *Acacia* spp. (Schoknecht et al., 2004).

Comments The vegetation condition is derived from available aerial imagery and photographs of the application area provided by the applicant (Figure 2).

The local area referred to in the assessment of this application is defined as a 10 kilometre radius measured from the perimeter of the application area.

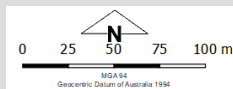
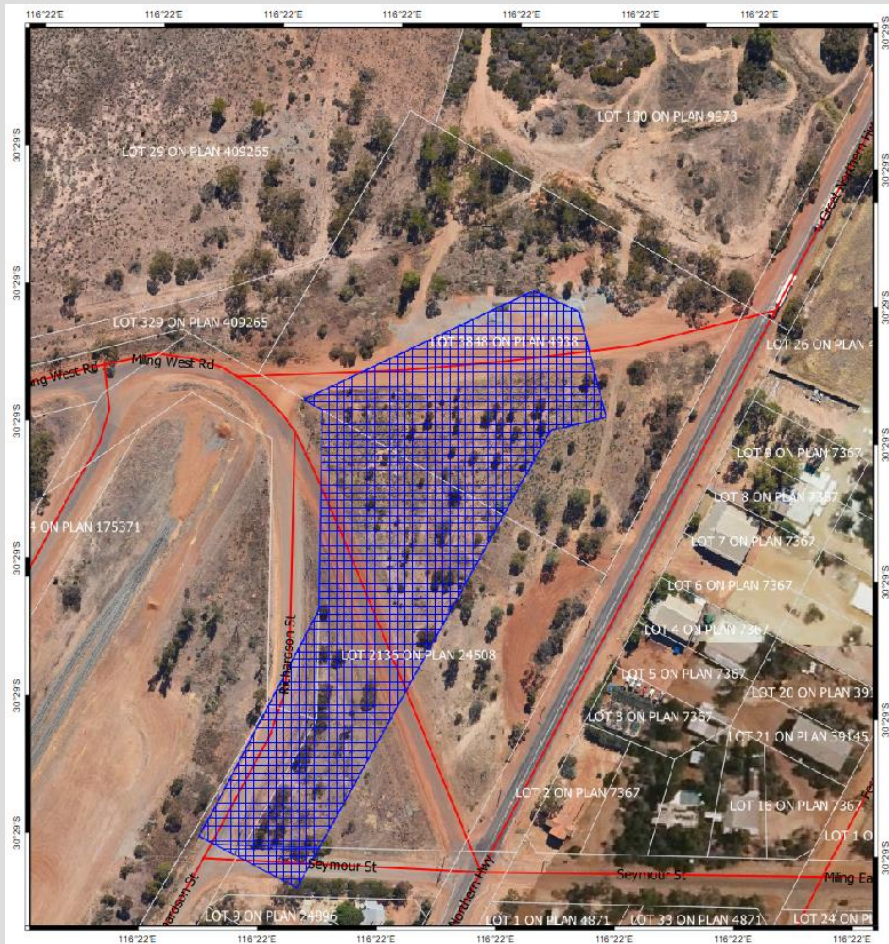


Figure 1: Application area (cross-hatched blue)



Figure 2. Photographs of the application area supplied by the applicant (MRWA, 2019).

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

The application to clear up to 1.1 hectares of native vegetation is to undertake road upgrades at the Miling Bypass, adjacent to Richardson Street. It is noted that this area has been historically cleared and replanted with species native to the area, however given the uncertainty in relation to the funding and purpose of this revegetation, it is considered as native vegetation. The vegetation within the application area lacks understorey and is considered to be in a completely degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition with isolated trees over shrubs and non-native grasses.

A review of available databases determined that twelve flora species of conservation significance has been recorded in the local area, including three Priority 1, five Priority 3 and four Threatened flora species. None of these species have been recorded from

within the application area and given the completely degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition of the application area, it is not likely to support Priority or Threatened flora.

According to available databases, 66 fauna species have been recorded within the local area (Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions, 2007-). Of these, five species are of conservation significance, all listed as threatened (Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions, 2007-). The application area is located within an area surrounded by existing roads, and the vegetation is in a completely degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition. Based on the above, the application area is not considered to comprise a level of biological diversity, or significant habitat for any fauna species.

There are no Priority or Threatened Ecological Communities (PEC, TEC) within the application area. However there are numerous records of the 'Eucalypt Woodlands of the Western Australian Wheatbelt' PEC within the local area. This PEC is also listed as a TEC under the *Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*. Given the application area is in a completely degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition, it is not likely to comprise the whole or part of, or is necessary for the maintenance of this TEC.

The national objectives and targets for biodiversity conservation in Australia has 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 Avon Wheatbelt IBRA bioregion retains approximately 18.5 per cent of its pre-European extent, and the mapped Beard vegetation associations 631 and 142 retain approximately 46 and 12 per cent of their pre-European extents, respectively (Government of Western Australia, 2018a; Government of Western Australia, 2018b). The majority of the application area occurs within Beard vegetation association 631, and only a small portion (0.001 hectares) of the application area occurs within Beard vegetation association 142. Given the majority of the application area occurs within a vegetation association that retains over 30 per cent of native vegetation, the lack of species and habitat diversity present within the application area, and the completely degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition of the vegetation, the application area is not considered to be significant as a remnant of native vegetation in an extensively cleared landscape.

There are no conservation areas mapped within the local area and the closest is the Long Pool Nature Reserve, which is located approximately 18,945 metres southwest of the application area. Given the large distance between conservation areas and the application area, the proposed clearing is not likely to significantly impact on the environmental values of any conservation area.

There are no watercourses or wetlands mapped within the application area. Given the relatively small size of the application area, within an area that is in a completely degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition, the proposed clearing of 1.1 hectares within a permit boundary of approximately 1.451 hectares is not likely to contribute to or cause appreciable land degradation, deteriorate the quality of surface or groundwater, and cause or exacerbate flooding.

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

4. Planning instruments and other relevant matters

No Aboriginal Sites of Significance are mapped within the application area.

The clearing permit application was advertised on the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation's website on 11 April 2019, inviting submissions from the public within a 14 day period. No submissions were received in relation to this application.

5. References

- Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA) (2007-) NatureMap: Mapping Western Australia's Biodiversity. Department of Parks and Wildlife. <http://naturemap.dpaw.wa.gov.au/>. Accessed April 2019.
- Government of Western Australia (2018) 2017 South West Vegetation Complex Statistics. Current as of October 2017. WA Department of Parks and Wildlife, Perth, Western Australia.
- Keighery, B.J. (1994) Bushland Plant Survey: A Guide to Plant Community Survey for the Community. Wildflower Society of WA (Inc). Nedlands, Western Australia.
- Main Roads Western Australia (MRWA) (2019) Great Northern Highway Miling Bypass-Richardson Street Upgrade. Environment Supporting Documentation (Doc Number GNH-CN00-EN01-RPT-1005). Perth, Western Australia (DWER Ref: A11773325).
- Schoknecht, N., Tille, P. and Purdie, B. (2004). Soil-landscape mapping in South-Western Australia – Overview of Methodology and outputs' Resource Management Technical Report No. 280. Department of Agriculture.

6. GIS databases

- Aboriginal Sites of Significance
- DBCA Managed Estate
- Hydrography, hierarchy
- Hydrography, linear
- SAC Bio Datasets