



## CLEARING PERMIT

*Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986*

### PERMIT DETAILS

Area Permit Number: 8435/1  
File Number: DWERTV2589  
Duration of Permit: 14 July 2019 to 14 July 2021

### PERMIT HOLDER

City of Rockingham

### LAND ON WHICH CLEARING IS TO BE DONE

Lot 408 on Plan 5742, Rockingham

### AUTHORISED ACTIVITY

The Permit Holder shall not clear more than 0.42 hectares of native vegetation within the area hatched yellow on attached Plan 8435/1.

### CONDITIONS

#### 1. 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.

#### 2. 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 *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.

#### 3. Wind erosion management

The Permit Holder shall not clear native vegetation unless works commence within two months of the cessation of clearing authorised under this Permit.

#### 4. 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) the date clearing activities ceased;
- (e) actions taken to avoid, minimise and reduce the impacts and the extent of clearing in accordance with condition 1 of this Permit;
- (f) actions taken to minimise the introduction and spread of weeds in accordance with condition 2 of this Permit.

## 5. Reporting

The Permit Holder must provide to the *CEO* the records required under Condition 4 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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Mathew Gannaway  
MANAGER  
NATIVE VEGETATION REGULATION

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

14 June 2019

# Plan 8435/1

32.275698°S

32.275698°S

115.724208°E

115.72496°E








115.724208°E

115.727496°E

32.27717°S

32.27717°S

## Legend

-  Imagery
-  Cadastre
-  Clearing Instruments Activities
-  Local Government Authority
-  Roads

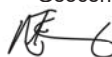


1:1,641

(Approximate when reproduced at A4)

GDA 94 (Lat/Long)

Geocentric Datum of Australia 1994

 Date 14 June 2019  
Mathew Gannaway

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



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## 1. Application details

### 1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 8435/1  
Permit type: Area Permit

### 1.2. Applicant details

Applicant's name: City of Rockingham  
Application received date: 29 March 2019

### 1.3. Property details

Property: Lot 408 on Plan 5742, Rockingham  
Local Government Authority: City of Rockingham  
Localities: Rockingham

### 1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	Purpose category:
0.42	0	Mechanical Removal	Recreation.

### 1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Granted  
Decision Date: 14 June 2019

Reasons for Decision: The clearing permit application was received on 29 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 may be at variance to principle (g) but is not likely to be at variance to any of the remaining clearing principles.

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

The Delegated Officer also determined that the proposed clearing may increase the risk of wind erosion. To minimise this risk, a condition has been placed on the permit requiring works to begin with two months of cessation of clearing.

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 0.42 hectares of native vegetation within Lot 408 on Plan 5742, Rockingham, for the purpose of providing additional turfed area for public recreation. The application area is indicated in **Error! Reference source not found.**

**Vegetation Description** The vegetation within the application area is mapped as Quindalup Complex which is described as *Acacia rostellifera* (Summer-scented Wattle) and the low closed *Agonis flexuosa* (Peppermint) forest of Geographe Bay (Hedde et al., 1980).

Supporting information provided by the applicant suggest the vegetation within the application area has been revegetated and comprises of; *Acacia lasiocarpa*, *Acacia cyclops*, *Acacia saligna*, *Acanthocarpus preissii*, *Atriplex isatidea*, *Carpobrotus virescens*, *Conostylis candicans*, *Eremophila glabra*, *Ficinia nodosa*, *Lepidosperma gladiatum*, *Olearia axillaris*, *Rhagodia baccata*, *Scaevola crassifolia*, *Spinifex longifolius* and *Spyridium globulosum* (City of Rockingham, 2019).

**Vegetation Condition** Based on aerial imagery and photographs provided by the applicant (City of Rockingham, 2019), the vegetation within the application area is considered to be in degraded to good (Keighery, 1994) condition, as described below:

- Degraded: Structure severely disturbed; regeneration to good condition requires intensive management (Keighery, 1994); to
- Good; Structure significantly altered by multiple disturbance; retains basic structure/ability to regenerate (Keighery, 1994).

**Soil/Landform Type**

The application area is mapped as the following soil types:

- Quindalup South Qf1 Phase described as: Fore dune/blowout complexes (semi-erosional) with very low relief ridge and swale topography with deep uniform calcareous sands (Schoknecht et al., 2004); and
- Quindalup South Qf2 Phase described as: Relict fore dunes and gently undulating beach ridge plain with deep uniform calcareous sands (Schoknecht et al., 2004).

**Comments**

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. The local area retains approximately 35 per cent native vegetation cover.



Figure 1: Application area (cross hatched blue)

**3. Assessment of application against clearing principles and planning instruments and other matters**

As noted in Section 2 above, the application area has been revegetated with a variety of coastal species and is considered to be in a degraded to good (Keighery, 1994) condition.

According to available databases, nine threatened terrestrial fauna species, 25 species protected under international agreement, two fauna species classified as specially protected fauna, four Priority 3 and seven Priority 4 fauna species have been recorded within the local area (Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions, 2007). Many of the fauna species recorded within the local area are shorebird species. Habitat for shorebird species is contained within the application area but is not considered to be significant to these species due to the size and condition of the application area. In addition, larger areas of suitable shorebird habitat is located within the nearby Bush Forever sites within five kilometres of the application area. Due to the high mobility of the majority of the species occurring within the local area, the small size of the application area and the vegetation being partly degraded, it is not likely that these species are dependent on the application area. Therefore, the proposed clearing is not likely to significantly impact their habitat.

According to available databases, one threatened flora species and six priority flora species are recorded within the local area (Western Australian Herbarium, 1998- ). None of these records occur within the application area. The closest flora records are *Dodonaea hackettiana* (Priority 4) and *Jacksonia sericea* (Priority 1) which have both been recorded over one kilometre from the application area. Although both of these flora species have been recorded in similar mapped soil and vegetation types to the application area, they are not considered likely to occur within the application area as it does not appear to contain the structure or diversity consistent with recordings of these species. One recording of the threatened flora species *Diuris micrantha* occurs within the local area but is not likely to occur within the application area as it is known to occur within brown loamy clay soils which

are not represented within the application area. No conservation significant species have been identified within the application area (City of Rockingham, 2019). Given the above, the proposed clearing is not likely to impact on conservation significant flora.

There are no Threatened or Priority Ecological Communities (TEC/PEC) mapped within the application area. According to the available databases, the closest TEC to the application area is the 'Sedgeland in Holocene dune swales of the southern Swan Coastal Plain' (Endangered under the *Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*) which is approximately one kilometre from the application area. From the photographs and description provided by the applicant (City of Rockingham, 2019), it is considered that the vegetation in the application area is not representative of this TEC. Given the above, the application area is not likely to comprise the whole or part of, or is necessary for the maintenance of a TEC or PEC.

Given that the application area has undergone historical disturbance, is not likely to contain any threatened or priority flora, TEC's, PEC's or significant fauna habitat, the vegetation within the application area is not likely to comprise a high level of biodiversity.

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 (i.e. pre-European settlement) (Commonwealth of Australia, 2001). In the Perth Metropolitan and Bunbury regions, the Environmental protection Authority (EPA) has a modified objective to retain at least 10 per cent of the pre-clearing extent of vegetation complexes for defined constrained areas (intensely developed) (EPA, 2008). Noting that the application area is located within the mapped extent of the Perth Metropolitan Region Scheme, the 10 per cent threshold applies in this instance. The application area is located within the Swan Coastal Plain Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation of Australia bioregion, which retains approximately 38 per cent of the pre-European vegetation extent. The application area is also mapped as Quindalup Coastal Dune Complex which retains approximately 60 per cent (approximately 32,982.87 hectares), of the pre-European extent (Government of Western Australia, 2018). The local area retains approximately 35 per cent native vegetation cover. Noting the local area retains above the 30 per cent pre-European vegetation extent, the application area is not considered to be within an extensively cleared landscape. Noting the condition of the application area, does not contain a high level of biodiversity or contain conservation significant flora, fauna or communities, the application area is not considered to be significant as a remnant of native vegetation.

According to available databases, no watercourses or wetlands intersect the application area, with the closest watercourse located approximately one kilometre from the application area and the nearest wetland also located approximately one kilometre from the application area. The application is in close proximity to the coastline, but given the above, the application area is not considered to be growing in, or in association with, an environment associated with a watercourse or wetland.

The application area is located approximately 935 meters north of a Bush forever area (Site number 264: Lake Richmond). Given the vegetation condition within the application area and the small size of proposed clearing, and the distance, it is unlikely that the native vegetation proposed to be cleared contributes significantly to the environmental values of the Bush forever site. Additionally, the native vegetation is well represented in adjacent properties. Weed management measures will assist in mitigating impacts to adjacent remnant vegetation.

The majority of the application area is within the mapped soil type Quindalup South Qf1 Phase which has a very high risk of wind erosion (> 70% of map unit has high to extreme wind erosion risk). The permit is conditioned to provide wind erosion risk minimisation. Given the high risk of land degradation in the form of wind erosion, the proposed clearing may be at variance to this principle. Noting the small size of the proposed clearing and mapped soil type, the proposed clearing is not likely to, deteriorate the quality of surface or ground water and cause or exacerbate flooding.

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

#### **Planning instruments and other relevant matters**

The applicant has advised that the purpose of the proposed clearing is to facilitate a bid from the Cruising Yacht Club to host the 2021 F18 Catamaran world championships in March 2021. The proposed clearing will facilitate the City of Rockingham's ability to provide suitable space to support the rigging and overnight storage of approximately 80-100 catamarans during large events held by the Cruising Yacht Club. The proposed clearing area is planned to be reinstated with reticulated turf which can be utilised as public open space for recreational purposes (City of Rockingham, 2019)

The clearing permit application was advertised on the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation's website on 09 April 2019, inviting submissions from the public within a 14 day period. No submissions were received in relation to this application.

No Aboriginal Sites of Significance have been mapped within the application area.

#### **4. References**

- Commonwealth of Australia (2001) National Objectives and Targets for Biodiversity Conservation 2001-2005, Canberra
- City of Rockingham (2019) Clearing permit application CPS 8435/1. DWER ref: A1777314
- 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 March 2019.
- Government of Western Australia (2018) 2017 Statewide Vegetation Statistics incorporating the CAR Reserve Analysis (Full Report). Current as of February 2018. WA Department of Parks and Wildlife, Perth.
- Hedde, E. M., Loneragan, O. W., and Havel, J. J. (1980) Vegetation Complexes of the Darling System, Western Australia. In Department of Conservation and Environment, Atlas of Natural Resources, Darling System, 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.

## **5. GIS databases**

- Aboriginal sites of significance
- Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions
- Hydrography, Linear
- Sac bio datasets (accessed April 2019)