



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

PERMIT DETAILS

Area Permit Number: 8467/1
File Number: DWERT1681
Duration of Permit: 23 August 2019 to 23 August 2021

PERMIT HOLDER

City of Armadale

LAND ON WHICH CLEARING IS TO BE DONE

Centre Road Reserve (PIN 11871676), Camillo

AUTHORISED ACTIVITY

The Permit Holder shall not clear more than two native trees within the areas cross hatched yellow on the attached Plan 8467/1.

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. 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 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 area to be cleared.

3. Records must 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) actions taken to avoid, minimise and reduce the impacts and the extent of clearing in accordance with condition 1 of this Permit; and
- (e) actions taken to minimise the introduction and spread of *weeds* and *dieback* in accordance with condition 2 of this Permit..

4. Reporting

The Permit Holder must provide to the *CEO* the records required under condition 3 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 mean 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; and



Mathew Gannaway
MANAGER
NATIVE VEGETATION REGULATION

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

24 July 2019

CPS 8467/1 Plan



Legend

- CPS areas approved to clear
- Land Tenure (LGATE_226) - SLIP
- Roads - State Roads
- Roads - Major Roads
- Roads - Minor Roads
- Cadastre (LGATE_218) - SLIP

0.0 0.01 0.0 Kilometers



WGS_1984_Web_Mercator_Auxiliary_Sphere

Mathew Gannaway 24 July 2019
Officer *Date*

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

Disclaimer: This map is used as a generic static output for reference purposes. Information on this map may or may not be accurate, current, or otherwise reliable. While the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation, has made all reasonable efforts to ensure the accuracy of this data, the department accepts no responsibility for any inaccuracies and persons relying on this data do so at their own risk.

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Locality Map



Government of Western Australia
 Department of Water and Environmental Regulation



1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: CPS 8467/1
Permit type: Area Permit

1.2. Applicant details

Applicant's name: City of Armadale
Application received date: 17 April 2019

1.3. Property details

Property: Centre Road reserve (PIN 11871676)
Local Government Authority: City of Armadale
Localities: Camillo

1.4. Application

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

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Grant
Decision Date: 24 July 2019

Reasons for Decision: The clearing permit application was received on 17 April 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*, and it has been concluded that the proposed clearing is at variance to principle (f) but is not likely to be at variance to any of the other clearing principles.

In determining to grant a clearing permit subject to conditions, the Delegated Officer determined that the proposed clearing is not likely to have any unacceptable impacts to the environment.

2. Site Information

Clearing Description The application is for the proposed clearing of 2 native trees within Centre Road reserve (PIN 11871676), Camillo, for the purpose of road construction and upgrades.

Vegetation Description The vegetation within the application area is mapped within the following Swan Coastal Plain vegetation complexes:

- Forrestfield complex which is described as vegetation that ranges from open forest of *Corymbia calophylla* (Marri) - *Eucalyptus wandoo* (Wandoo) - *Eucalyptus marginata* (Jarrah) to open forest of *Eucalyptus marginata* (Jarrah) - *Corymbia calophylla* (Marri) - *Allocasuarina fraseriana* (Sheoak) - Banksia species. Fringing woodland of *Eucalyptus rudis* (Flooded Gum) in the gullies that dissect this landform (Mattiske and Havel, 1998).
- Swan complex which is described as; fringing woodland of *Eucalyptus rudis* (Flooded Gum) - *Melaleuca raphiophylla* (Swamp Paperbark) with localised occurrence of low open forest of *Casuarina obesa* (Swamp Sheoak) and *Melaleuca cuticularis* (Saltwater Paperbark) (Mattiske and Havel, 1998).

Aerial imagery and supporting information provided by the applicant suggest the vegetation within the application area comprises of two *Eucalyptus rudis* trees over mixed introduced grasses (City of Armadale, 2019).

Vegetation Condition Based on aerial imagery and supporting information provided by the applicant (City of Armadale, 2019), the vegetation within the application area is considered to be in degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition, which is described as structure severely disturbed; regeneration to good condition requires intensive management (Keighery, 1994).

Soil Description The application area occurs within the Pinjarra Gf2 phase- Very gently undulating plain with imperfectly drained mottled yellow duplex soils with sand to sandy loam topsoil. Low woodland of *Eucalyptus wandoo*, *E. rudis* along streams, *Casuarina obesa* on salt affected land (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.



Figure 1. Application Area (hatched blue)

3. Minimisation and mitigation

The City of Armadale noted that the design of the road intersection upgrade avoids as many native trees as possible and has reduced the number of trees impacted from five or six trees to only two (City of Armadale, 2019).

4. Assessment of application against clearing principles

As noted in Section 2 above, the vegetation within the application area contains two *Eucalyptus rudis* trees over mixed grasses (City of Armadale, 2019). Based upon aerial imagery and description supplied by the applicant, the condition of the vegetation under application is considered to be in a degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition (City of Armadale, 2019).

According to available datasets, 14 Threatened fauna species, 16 fauna species protected under international agreement, one Priority 1 (P1), two P2, seven P3, seven P4 and three specially protected fauna species have been recorded within the local area (Department of Biodiversity Conservation and Attractions, 2007-). The application area is within the mapped breeding buffer for Carnaby's cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus latirostris*). The City of Armadale has reported the trees to be over 500 millimetres in diameter at breast height which meets the criteria as 'potential current or future nesting trees for black cockatoos' (Commonwealth of Australia, 2012). The two trees were inspected by the City of Armadale and it was noted that neither of the two trees contained hollows. In addition to this, vegetation in the application area is unlikely to provide suitable habitat for any of the ground dwelling fauna species as there is no native understory due to the area being largely cleared (City of Armadale, 2019). No significant habitat for conservation significant habitat for fauna species is likely to occur within the application area.

According to available datasets, 20 Threatened flora species, nine Priority 1, nine Priority 2, 27 Priority 3 and 15 Priority 4 flora species have been recorded within the local area (Western Australian Herbarium, 1998-). None of these records occur within the application area. Although some species in the local area have been recorded on similar mapped soil and vegetation types to the application area, they are unlikely to occur within the application area as it does not appear to contain the structure, type or diversity consistent with previous recordings and is largely cleared (City of Armadale, 2019). Given this, the proposed clearing is not likely to impact on habitat for threatened or priority flora.

According to available datasets, no Threatened Ecological Communities (TEC) or Priority Ecological Communities (PEC) have been mapped within the application area. The closest mapped conservation significant ecological community is a Commonwealth listed TEC located approximately 700 meters east of the application area, known as '*Banksia attenuata* and/or *Eucalyptus marginata* woodlands of the eastern side of the Swan Coastal Plain'. The application area is not considered to be representative of this TEC and noting the distance to this TEC, the proposed clearing is not likely to impact on this TEC or on any known PECs.

Given that the application area has undergone historical disturbance and 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, below which species loss appears to accelerate exponentially at an ecosystem level (Commonwealth of Australia, 2001). The Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) recognises that the Perth Metropolitan Region is a 'constrained area', where there is a modified objective to retain at least 10 per-cent of the pre-European vegetation of each ecological community (EPA, 2006). The application area is located within a constrained area.

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, and mapped Forrestfield complex retains approximately 12.3 per cent of its pre-European vegetation extent within the bioregion (Government of Western Australia, 2019) and the Swan complex retains approximately 13.5 per cent of its pre-European vegetation extent within the bioregion (Government of Western Australia, 2019). The local area contains approximately 35 per cent native vegetation. Noting the percentage of remnant vegetation remaining in the local area, the degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition of the vegetation, and that the understory contains only mixed introduced grass species, the proposed clearing is not considered to be a significant remnant within an extensively cleared area.

According to available datasets, no watercourses or wetlands intersect the application area, the closest watercourse is the Canning River, located approximately 200 meters from the application area. A multiple use wetland is mapped 180 meters south east of the application area. Multiple use category wetlands have few remaining important attributes and functions and the protection of these wetlands is the lowest priority. Although the application area is not within any wetlands or watercourses, the application area contains riparian vegetation (*Eucalyptus rudis*), and therefore is at variance to principle (f).

The closest conservation area is the Canning River reserve, which is located 200 meters from the application area. Considering the distance from the application area, it is not likely that the proposed clearing would have an impact on the environmental values of this conservation area.

The chief soils mapped within the application area are Pinjarra Gf2 phase (Schoknecht et al., 2004). These soils are not prone to wind or water erosion or water logging. Given the degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition of the vegetation, it is considered that the removal of two trees adjacent to a residential area in a degraded condition is not likely to lead to appreciable land degradation, impact on the quality of groundwater, or result in the exacerbation of flooding on or off site.

Given the above, the proposed clearing is at variance to principle (f) but 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 clearing permit application was originally advertised on the Department of Water Environmental Regulation's website on 07 May 2019 with a 14 day submission period. No public submission were received in relation to this application. The application area was modified as the road design changed. The modified area was re-advertised on 15 July 2019 for an additional 7 days. No public submissions were received during the readvertising.

5. References

- Commonwealth of Australia (2001) National Objectives and Targets for Biodiversity Conservation 2001-2005, Canberra
Commonwealth of Australia (2012) EPBC Act referral guidelines for three threatened black cockatoo species, Canberra.
City of Armadale (2019) Clearing Permit Application CPS 8467/1. DWER reference: A1783484
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/>.
Government of Western Australia (2019) 2018 South West Vegetation Complex Statistics. Current as of March 2019. WA Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions.
Mattiske, E.M. and Havel, J.J. (1998) Vegetation Complexes of the South-west Forest Region of Western Australia. Maps and report prepared as part of the Regional Forest Agreement, Western Australia for the Department of Conservation and Land Management and Environment 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
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.
Western Australian Herbarium (1998-) FloraBase-the Western Australian Flora. Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions. <https://florabase.dpaw.wa.gov.au/> (accessed May 2019).

GIS Databases:

- Aboriginal Sites of Significance
- DAFWA Heritage
- DBCA Estate
- DEC Covenant
- Groundwater salinity
- Hydrography, linear
- National Trust WA Covenant
- Remnant vegetation
- SAC bio datasets (accessed May 2019)
- Soils, Statewide
- Topographic contours
- Wetlands