



## CLEARING PERMIT

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

<b>Purpose Permit number:</b>	CPS 8599/1
<b>Permit Holder:</b>	Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes
<b>Duration of Permit:</b>	12 December 2019 to 12 December 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 construction and upgrades.

**2. Land on which clearing is to be done**

West Blackwood Tce road reserve (PIN 11813151 and 11479451), Bridgetown and Yornup  
Mokerdillup Road road reserve (PIN 11518996, PIN 11518997, PIN 11518998, PIN 11518999, PIN 11519000, PIN 11519001, PIN 11519002, PIN 11514353, PIN 11514354, PIN 11514355, PIN 11510576), Wandillup

**3. Area of Clearing**

The Permit Holder must not clear more than 1.95 hectares of native vegetation within the area hatched yellow on attached Plan 8599/1a, Plan 8599/1b, Plan 8599/1c, Plan 8599/1d and Plan 8599/1e.

**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. Weed and Dieback 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 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); and
- (d) actions taken to avoid, minimise and reduce the impacts and extent of clearing in accordance with condition 6 of this Permit.
- (e) actions taken to minimise the risk of the introduction and spread of *weeds* and *dieback* in accordance with condition 7 of this Permit.

### 9. Reporting

The Permit Holder must provide to the *CEO* on or before 30 June of each year, a written report:

- (a) of records required under condition 8 (records to be kept) of this Permit;
- (b) concerning activities done by the Permit Holder under this Permit between 1 January to 31 December of the preceding calendar year;
- (c) if no clearing authorised under this Permit was undertaken between 1 January to 31 December of the preceding calendar year, a written report confirming that no clearing under this permit has been carried out, must be provided to the *CEO* on or before 30 June of each year; and
- (d) prior to 12 September 2024, the Permit Holder must provide to the *CEO* a written report of records required under condition 8 of this Permit where these records have not already been provided under condition 9(a) of this Permit.

## 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*

12 November 2019



# Plan 8599/1a



## Legend

- CPS areas approved to clear
- Land Tenure (LGATE\_226)
  - SLIP
- Roads - State Roads
- Roads - Major Roads
- Roads - Minor Roads

0.3      0.14      0.3      Kilometers



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Officer      Date

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

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## Locality Map



Government of Western Australia  
 Department of Water and Environmental Regulation



# Plan 8599/1b



## Legend

- CPS areas approved to clear
- Land Tenure (LGATE\_226) - SLIP
- Roads - State Roads
- Roads - Major Roads
- Roads - Minor Roads

0.6      0.29      0.6 Kilometers



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Officer

Date

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

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## Locality Map



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.: 8599/1  
Permit type: Purpose Permit

### 1.2. Applicant details

Applicant's name: Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes  
Application received date: 28 June 2019

### 1.3. Property details

Property: West Blackwood Tce road reserve (PIN 11813151 and 11479451), Bridgetown and Yornup  
Mokerdillup Road road reserve (PIN 11518996, PIN 11518997, PIN 11518998, PIN 11518999, PIN 11519000, PIN 11519001, PIN 11519002, PIN 11514353, PIN 11514354, PIN 11514355 and PIN 11510576), Wandillup,  
Local Government Authority: Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes  
Localities: Wandillup, Bridgetown and Yornup

### 1.4. Application

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

### 1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Grant

Decision Date: 12 November 2019

Reasons for Decision: The clearing permit application was received on 28 June 2019, and has been assessed against the clearing principles, planning instruments and other matters in accordance with s.51O of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*. It has been concluded that the proposed clearing may be at variance with principle (h) and is not likely to be at variance with any of the remaining clearing principles.

Through assessment it has been determined that the clearing is unlikely to have any significant environmental impacts.

Given the above, the Delegated Officer decided to grant a clearing permit.

## 2. Site Information

### Clearing Description

The application is to clear 1.95 hectares of native vegetation within West Blackwood Tce road reserve (PIN11813151 and PIN11479451), Bridgetown and Yornup, and Mokerdillup Road road reserve (PIN 11518996, PIN 11518997, PIN 11518998, PIN 11518999, PIN 11519000, PIN 11519001, PIN 11519002, PIN 11514353, PIN 11514354, PIN 11514355 and PIN 11510576), Wandillup, for the purpose of road construction and upgrades.

### Vegetation Description

The application area is mapped as the following South West Forests Vegetation complexes (Shepherd et al., 2001):

- GR: Tall open forest to open forest of *Corymbia calophylla-Eucalyptus marginata subsp. marginata* with *Eucalyptus patens* on slopes and *Eucalyptus rudis* over some *Agonis flexuosa* on lower slopes in the humid zone;
- CC1: Open forest of *Eucalyptus marginata subsp. marginata-Corymbia calophylla* mixed with *Eucalyptus patens* on slopes, *Eucalyptus rudis* and *Banksia littoralis* on valley floors in the humid zone;
- BT: Mixture of open forest of *Eucalyptus marginata subsp. marginata-Corymbia calophylla* with some *Eucalyptus patens* on slopes to low open forest of *Eucalyptus rudis-Melaleuca raphiophylla* on the valley floors in the humid zone;
- CL1: Mosaic of open forest of *Eucalyptus marginata subsp. marginata-Banksia spp.* on well drained sites, with some *Eucalyptus decipiens* on lower slopes in southern areas, woodland of *Eucalyptus rudis-Melaleuca preissiana-Banksia littoralis* on depressions in perhumid and humid zones.

A site inspection of the application area by Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) officers noted that the vegetation on both roads was dominated by Marri (*Corymbia calophylla*) with better condition areas also including emergent *Banksia*

sp. as understory. The completely degraded to good condition areas were dominated by an understorey of weeds (DWER, 2019).

**Vegetation Condition**

Completely Degraded; The structure of vegetation is no longer intact and the area is completely or almost completely without native species. These areas are often described as 'parkland cleared' with the flora comprising weed or crop species with isolated native trees or shrubs;

To

Very Good; Vegetation structure altered; obvious signs of disturbance (Keighery, 1994).

**Comment**

The condition and description of the vegetation within the application area was determined through a site inspection by DWER officers on 24 September 2019 (DWER, 2019).

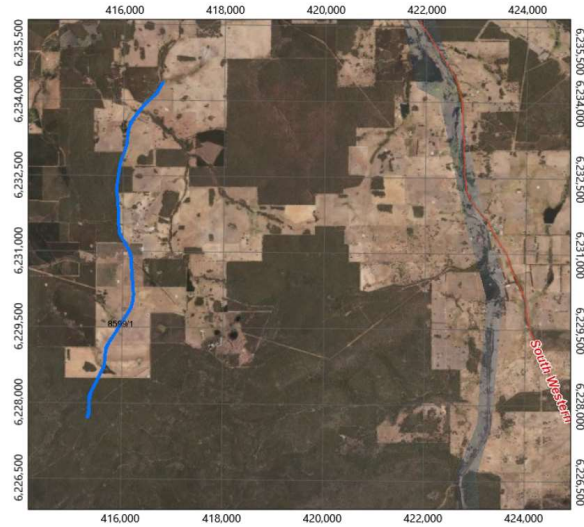


Figure 1: Application area for CPS 8599/1 – Mokerdillup Rd

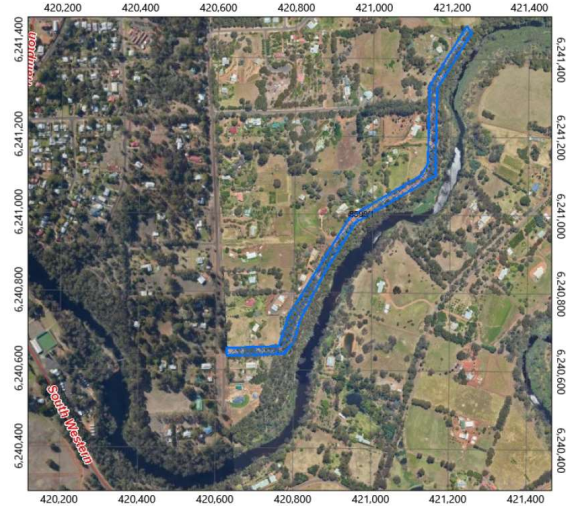


Figure 2: Application Area for CPS 8599/1 - West Blackwood Tce

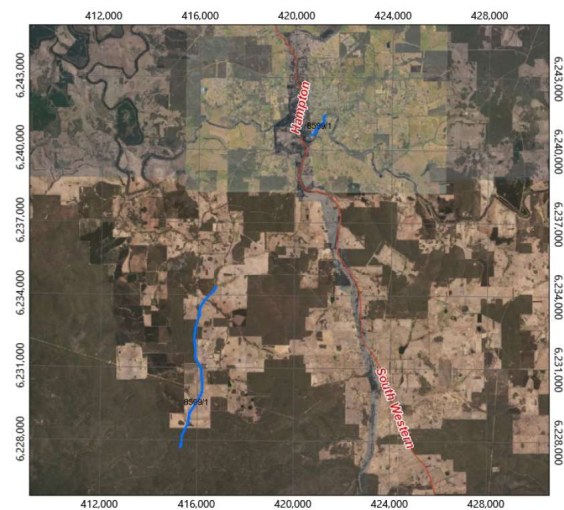


Figure 3. Context map for CPS 8599/1

**3. Minimisation and mitigation measures**

The Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes advised that *'all attempts to avoid and minimise clearing will be taken in the construction of the upgraded road. The Shire adopted a best alignment design which takes into account both road safety and avoiding and minimising the clearing of native vegetation. The Shire notes that while safety takes a priority, any clearing adds to the costs and is therefore avoided if possible.'*

In relation to the section of very good (Keighery, 1994) condition (DWER, 2019) vegetation adjacent to North Donnelly State Forest, the applicant advised that *'the clearing limit would be 4 metres from the centre of the road survey paint markings. The clearing would include approximately 7 trees (all in the young class). The clearing in this section would be less than 2 metres; more like nothing in most places and up to maybe 1 metre in the odd place. The road line is not being significantly altered and there is little actual clearing needed beyond what already exists. The original clearing permit does not reflect this as the*



application calculated the verge and intimated we could be clearing up to that amount' (Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes, 2019).

#### 4. Assessment of application against clearing principles

The applicant proposes to clear up to 1.95 hectares of native vegetation across two road reserves for the purpose of road construction and upgrades.

The site inspection by DWER officers identified that the vegetation within the application area on both roads was dominated by Marri (*Corymbia calophylla*) with better condition areas also including emergent *Banksia sp.* as understory, while completely degraded to good condition areas were dominated by an understorey of weeds (DWER, 2019). The sections of the application area adjoining North Donnelly State Forest are the only areas considered to be in very good (Keighery, 1994) condition (DWER, 2019) and therefore representative of mapped vegetation associations. The local area (10 kilometre radius) retains approximately 56 per cent native vegetation cover and is therefore not extensively cleared.

According to available databases, one priority flora, *Calothamnus microcarpus* (Priority 4) is likely to have suitable habitat within the section of the application area noted to be in very good (Keighery, 1994) condition. *Calothamnus microcarpus* is an erect, compact or spreading shrub which grows to 0.6-1 metres high. It has red flowers from September to November and is known to grow in lateritic clay and sandy soils. A site inspection of the application area, undertaken during the flowering period for this species, did not observe any individuals within the application area (DWER, 2019). Furthermore, the Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes advised that during their flora marking program no occurrences of rare or priority flora were recorded as occurring within the application area (Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes, 2019).

Baudin's cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus baudinii*), Carnaby's cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus latirostris*) and forest red-tailed black cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus baudinii*) (collectively black cockatoos) are specially protected under the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016* (BC Act) and have been recorded within the local area. The application area includes low to moderate quality foraging habitat for black cockatoos. A site inspection of the application area noted several trees that are of suitable size to contain suitable nesting hollows for black cockatoos, however, no hollows were observed in any trees (DWER, 2019). Given the condition and growth form of the trees within the application area it is unlikely that the majority of these trees will develop hollows suitable for black cockatoos. Given the size of the clearing and taking into consideration the extent of better condition foraging habitat within North Donnelly State Forest, it is unlikely that the vegetation within the application area is significant habitat for black cockatoos.

According to available databases, no priority ecological communities (PEC) or threatened ecological communities (TEC) have been recorded within the local area. The vegetation within the application area is not consistent with the description of any known PEC or TEC (DWER, 2019).

One minor, non-perennial watercourse is mapped within the application area and the Blackwood River is mapped 13 metres away (as its closest point). A site inspection of the application area noted that the vegetation within the application area was higher in the landscape than the mapped watercourses and therefore the vegetation was unlikely to be growing in association with these watercourses.

The application area is, in part, adjacent to North Donnelly State Forest. A site inspection of the application area noted a large number of weeds within the application area. Based on this, it is likely that the proposed clearing could cause weeds to spread into adjacent conservation areas and impact the environmental values within the North Donnelly State Forest. Given the above the proposed clearing may be at variance to principle (h).

Given the linear nature of the proposed clearing and taking into account that native vegetation will be retained within the road corridor, the proposed clearing is not likely to contribute to or cause land degradation, deteriorate the quality of groundwater or surface water and is not likely to cause or exacerbate flooding.

Given the above, the proposed clearing may be at variance to Principle (h) and is not likely to be at variance with the remaining clearing principles.

#### Planning instruments and other relevant matters.

One Aboriginal site of significance has been mapped within the application area. It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure they comply with their heritage responsibilities.

The clearing permit application was advertised on the DWER website on 27 August 2019 with a 21 day submission period. No public submissions were received in relation to this application.

#### 5. References

- DWER (2019) Department of Water and Environmental Regulation site inspection report for CPS 8599/1, 24 September 2019 DWER Ref DWERDT217953.
- 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.
- Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes (2019) Supplementary advice regarding extent of clearing for CPS 8599/1. DWER Ref DWERDT218510