



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Purpose Permit number:	CPS 8640/1
Permit Holder:	Shire of Dardanup
Duration of Permit:	29 November 2019 to 29 November 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

Lot 602 on Plan 247487, Crooked Brook
Mountford Road road reserve (PIN 1321360)
Mountford Road road reserve (PIN 1321359)

3. Area of Clearing

The Permit Holder shall not clear more than 24 native trees within the area hatched yellow on attached Plan 8640/1.

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*:

- (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. Record keeping

The Permit Holder must maintain the following records 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(s) that the area was cleared;
- (c) the size of the area cleared (in trees);
- (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 *dieback* and *weeds* in accordance with condition 7 of this Permit; and

9. Reporting

The Permit Holder must produce the records required under condition 8 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*;

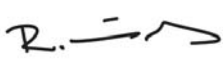
dieback means the effect of *Phytophthora* species on native vegetation;

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.

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Ryan Mincham
MANAGER
NATIVE VEGETATION REGULATION






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

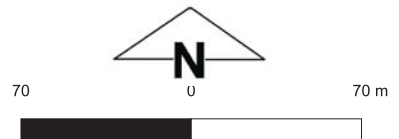
30 October 2019

Plan 8640/1



Legend

-  Areas approved to clear
-  Cadastre - LGATE 218
-  Local Government Authorities
-  Roads
-  Image



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





1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 8640/1
Permit type: Purpose Permit

1.2. Applicant details

Applicant's name: Shire of Dardanup
Application received date: 9 August 2019

1.3. Property details

Property: Mountford Road road reserve (PINS 1321360 and 1321359) and Lot 602 on Deposited Plan 247487, Crooked Brook
Local Government Authority: Shire of Dardanup
Localities: Crooked Brook

1.4. Application

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

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Granted
Decision Date: 30 October 2019

Reasons for Decision: The clearing permit application was received on 9 August 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 at variance with principle (f) and is not likely to be at variance with any of the remaining clearing principles.

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 24 trees within Mountford Road road reserve (PINS 1321360 and 1321359) and Lot 602 on Deposited Plan 247487, Crooked Brook, for the purpose of road construction and upgrades.

Vegetation Description The vegetation within the application area is mapped as:

- Preston (PR): consisting of a Woodland of *Eucalyptus rudis*-*Agonis flexuosa*-*Banksia seminuda* along streams, with open forest of *Corymbia calophylla*-*Eucalyptus patens* on slopes in the humid zone (Mattiske and Havel, 1998).

Information supplied by the applicant indicates that the vegetation within the application area consists of eighteen marri (*Corymbia calophylla*) with the balance being three jarrah (*Eucalyptus marginata*) and three dead and unidentifiable trees (Harewood, 2019).

Vegetation Condition Vegetation is described as 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 Type The clearing area is mapped within the following land subsystems (Schoknecht et al., 2004):

- Rosa Moderate Slopes Phase - Moderate valley slopes (relief 20-50 m, slopes 15-30%); and
- Dickson Moderate slopes Phase - Relief 80-160 m, slopes 10-30%. Soils are loamy earths with scattered rock outcrop (gneiss).

Comments The local area is defined as 10 kilometre radius from the application area.

A review of available databases has determined that the local area retains approximately 52.97 percent of its pre-European clearing extent.

The vegetation condition was determined from a survey of potential Black cockatoo breeding trees undertaken on behalf of the Shire. The vegetation was found to be completely degraded with groundcover dominated by a sparse grassland of introduced weed species (Harewood, 2019).

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

The application is to clear 24 native trees for the purpose of road construction and upgrades. The proposed clearing is unlikely to have a significant environmental impact, given the isolated position of the road from other vegetation and the completely degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition of the application area with groundcover dominated by a sparse grassland of introduced weed species (Harewood, 2019).

The proposed clearing does not resemble vegetation associated with a Priority Ecological Community (PEC) or Threatened Ecological Community (TEC). The nearest mapped ecological community of conservation significance is the 'Dardanup Jarrah and Mountain Marri woodland on laterite' PEC (Priority 1), located approximately 4 km north-west of the application area.

There are 9 Priority flora species that have been recorded within the local area within the same soil type as that found within the application area; *Gastrolobium sp. Yoongarillup* (P1), *Orianthera wendyae* (P1), *Stylidium perplexum* (P1), *Gastrolobium whicherense* (P2), *Lasiopetalum laxiflorum* (P3), *Lomandra whicherensis* (P3), *Stylidium paludicola* (P3), *Synaphea polypodioides* (P3) and *Aponogeton hexatepalus* (P4). However, the application area is completely degraded with an understorey dominated by weeds and is not likely to provide significant habitat for priority flora given the abundance of better quality vegetation within the local area, much of which is within conservation reserves.

Based on available databases, a total of 15 conservation significant fauna species have been recorded within the local area:

Scientific Name	Common Name	Class	Conservation Code
<i>Calyptorhynchus baudinii</i>	Baudin's Cockatoo,	Bird	EN
<i>Calyptorhynchus banksii naso</i>	Forest red-tailed black cockatoo	Bird	VU
<i>Calyptorhynchus latirostris</i>	Carnaby's cockatoo	Bird	EN
<i>Apus pacificus</i>	Fork-tailed swift	Bird	IA
<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	Peregrine falcon	Bird	OS
<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>	Glossy ibis	Bird	IA
<i>Westralunio carteri</i>	Carter's freshwater mussel	Invertebrate	VU
<i>Bertmainius tingle</i>	Tingle pygmy trapdoor spider	Invertebrate	EN
<i>Bertmainius opimus</i>	Western pygmy trapdoor spider	Invertebrate	P3
<i>Pseudocheirus occidentalis</i>	Western ringtail possum, ngwayir	Mammal	CR
<i>Bettongia penicillata ogilbyi</i>	Woylie, brush-tailed bettong	Mammal	CR
<i>Dasyurus geoffroii</i>	Chuditch, western quoll	Mammal	VU
<i>Setonix brachyurus</i>	Quokka	Mammal	VU
<i>Isodon fusciventer</i>	Quenda, southwestern brown bandicoot	Mammal	P4
<i>Phascogale tapoatafa wambenger</i>	South-western brush-tailed phascogale,	Mammal	CD

The application area comprises a completely degraded understorey and is surrounded by cleared agricultural land, therefore it is considered unlikely to provide significant habitat for any of the mammal species. None of the invertebrate species are likely to be present within the application area, as they include one aquatic animal and two trapdoor spiders which are usually found in heavily wooded areas. The bird species may be present, but as vagrants. The proposed clearing area contains at least 12 trees which could be considered to be potential breeding trees for Black cockatoos i.e. those trees with Diameter at Breast Height (DBH) greater than 50 centimetres. A habitat assessment of the trees under application was conducted on 25 July 2019 by Greg Harewood, however, no hollows suitable for breeding by Black cockatoos were identified (Harewood, 2019). While no reference to the roosting or foraging values of the trees under application is made within the Harewood assessment, extensive areas of better quality vegetation which may be used for foraging or roosting by Black cockatoos is located within close proximity to the application area. These areas include the Boyanup State Forest (located approximately 150 metres north of the application area at its nearest point), and both the Wellington State Forest and Dardanup Conservation Park, located within 3.5 kilometres of the application area.

One species of threatened flora, *Synaphea sp. Fairbridge Farm* has been recorded within the local area. Based on soil type, the application area may provide suitable habitat for this species. The application area is described as being completely degraded with a heavy infestation of weeds, therefore, is it considered unlikely that the application area provides significant habitat for threatened flora given the abundance of better quality vegetation within the local area, much of which is within conservation reserves.

The application area is not mapped as comprising of any State listed TEC's, with the nearest being the '*Eucalyptus calophylla* woodlands on heavy soils of the southern Swan Coastal Plain', located 11.5 kilometres north-west of the application area.

The local area retains 52.97 percent of its pre-European clearing extent. Given the small size of the application area and its completely degraded condition (Keighery, 1994), the proposed clearing is not likely to be considered a significant remnant within an extensively cleared area.

Crooked Brook is located approximately 120 metres south of the application area, crossing primarily agricultural land. This defined watercourse does not intersect with the application area, however, a minor non-perennial watercourse appears to intersect the eastern extent of the application area. Given the proposed clearing will occur within the buffer of this watercourse, it is considered that the proposed clearing is at variance with principle (f).

Given the small size and completely degraded condition of the application area (Keighery, 1994), the proposed clearing of 24 trees is not likely to contribute to, or cause appreciable land degradation.

The application area is located between two areas designated as Boyanup State Forest, with the nearest being approximately 150 metres to the north. Implementing hygiene management practices will limit the risk of weeds and dieback being spread into nearby conservation areas.

As addressed under Principle (f), the application area appears to intersect with a minor non-perennial watercourse. The selective clearing of trees in the eastern extent of the application area is not likely to result in deterioration to the quality of surface of underground water.

Less than 3% of the application area is mapped as having a moderate to high risk of flooding and the clearing of 24 trees will not exacerbate the potential for flooding.

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

The clearing permit application was advertised on the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation's website on 12 September 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 are present in the area. It is the applicant's responsibility to comply with the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972* and ensure that no Sites of Aboriginal Significance are damaged through the clearing process.

4. References

- Harewood G (2019) Tree survey of the proposed clearing area - Mountford Rd. Shire of Dardanup.
Keighery, B.J. (1994) Bushland Plant Survey: A Guide to Plant Community Survey for the Community. Wildflower Society of WA (Inc). Nedlands, Western Australia.
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.
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.

GIS Databases:

Base layers
Flora/TEC/PEC/survey
Black Cockatoos
Vegetation
Soil/Land Deg
Linkages/RCC