



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

PERMIT DETAILS

Area Permit Number: 8679/1

File Number: DWERVT3480

Duration of Permit: From 15 January 2020 to 15 January 2022

PERMIT HOLDER

City of Armadale

LAND ON WHICH CLEARING IS TO BE DONE

Champion Drive road reserve (PIN 1141995), Seville Grove

Lot 32 on Diagram 71699, Seville Grove

AUTHORISED ACTIVITY

The Permit Holder shall not clear more than 9 native trees within the area cross-hatched yellow on attached Plan 8679/1.

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 areas to be cleared.

3. 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.

4. 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 trees);

- (d) actions taken to avoid, minimise and reduce the impacts and extent of clearing in accordance with condition 1 of this Permit; and
- (e) actions taken to minimise the risk of the introduction and spread of *dieback* and *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*;


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*

16 December 2019

Plan 8679/1

116°0'12.600"E

116°0'14.400"E

116°0'16.200"E

32°7'57.000"S

32°7'57.000"S

32°7'58.800"S

32°7'58.800"S

32°8'0.600"S

32°8'0.600"S



116°0'12.600"E

116°0'14.400"E

116°0'16.200"E

Legend

CPS layers

 CPS areas approved to clear

base layers

 Road Centrelines

 Cadastre - LGATE 218

Local Government Authorities

Image



0 10 20 30 40 m




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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.: 8679/1
Permit type: Area

1.2. Applicant details

Applicant's name: City of Armadale
Application received date: 23 September 2019

1.3. Property details

Property: Champion Drive road reserve (PIN 1141995), Seville Grove
Lot 32 on Diagram 71699, Seville Grove
Local Government Authority: City of Armadale
Localities: Seville Grove

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	Purpose category:
	9	Mechanical removal	Facilitate visual clearance of signage

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Granted

Decision Date: 16 December 2019

Reasons for Decision: The clearing permit application was received on 23 September 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 with any of the 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 nine semi-mature jarrah (*Eucalyptus marginata*) trees for the purpose of facilitating visual clearance of signage.

Vegetation Description The vegetation within the application area is mapped as the Forrestfield Complex, characterised by vegetation ranging 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 (Shepherd *et al.*, 2001).

Photographs supplied by the applicant indicate the vegetation within the application area consists of nine semi-mature jarrah trees with a cleared and mulched understorey (Figure 1). This vegetation is present in a highly modified landscape which, based on intact vegetation nearby, was likely jarrah (*Eucalyptus marginata*) - *Banksia* woodland.

Vegetation Condition Completely Degraded - The structure of the 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 (Keighery, 1994).

Soil Type The soil type within the application area is mapped as ENVGeol S8 Phase - sand; very light grey at surface, yellow at depth, fine to medium-grained, sub-rounded quartz, moderately well sorted of eolian origin (Schoknecht *et al.*, 2004).

Comments The local area is defined as a 10 kilometre radius from the application area.
A review of available databases has determined that the local area retains approximately 32.8% of its pre-European clearing extent.

The applicant has proposed a 10:1 planting of local native seedlings within the Armadale Fitness and Aquatic Centre grounds to mitigate the impacts of the proposed clearing.

Figure 1: vegetation within application area (City of Armadale, 2019)



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

Given the completely degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition of the vegetation under application, the application area is not likely to contain any threatened or priority flora species and does not resemble vegetation associated with a priority ecological community or a threatened ecological community. The application area does not comprise of a high level of biological diversity, with only jarrah (*Eucalyptus marginata*) over a mulched understorey noted in photographs supplied by the applicant.

All trees within the application area are semi-mature, with a diameter at breast height less than 500 mm and no hollows noted, which indicates unsuitable habitat for black cockatoo breeding or roosting. Jarrah (*Eucalyptus marginata*) is one of the preferred foraging trees of forest red-tailed black cockatoos (*Calyptorhynchus banksii naso*) and is also utilised by Carnaby's Cockatoos (*Calyptorhynchus latirostris*) (DotEE, 2013). Based on the small application area and the presence of approximately 5.5 hectares of remnant vegetation located 25 metres to the south of the application area (Bush Forever Site 62), the removal of nine semi-mature jarrah trees is not likely to significantly impact the potential foraging capacity of the local area by black cockatoos.

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 local area retains 32.8% of the vegetation compared to pre-1750 vegetation extent, however, most (~77%) of this remnant vegetation is present in a different Bioregion (Jarrah Forrest) to the application area (Swan Coastal Plain) (Government of Western Australia, 2018). The local area within the Swan Coastal Plain Bioregion retains 13% of the vegetation compared to pre-1750 vegetation extent (Government of Western Australia, 2018).

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, 2015; EPA, 2003). As the clearing area is very small in size and the remnant vegetation is above the 10% minimum for the Swan Coastal Plain, the proposed clearing is not likely to be considered a significant remnant within an extensively cleared area, or likely to have a significant residual impact.

No watercourses, wetlands or conservation areas are recorded within close proximity to the application area; the closest wetland (low value Multiple use Wetland) is more than 500 metres from the application area.

The proposed clearing is located approximately 25 metres north-west of Bush Forever Site 62. Noting the extent of the proposed clearing and the condition of the vegetation within the application area, the proposed clearing is not likely to impact on this conservation area. The clearing of the proposed area is also not likely to exacerbate or contribute to land degradation, deteriorate the quality of ground water, or cause or exacerbate flooding.

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

The clearing permit application was advertised on the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation's website on 6 December 2019, inviting submissions from the public within a 7 day period. No submissions were received in relation to this application.

The application area is mapped within an Aboriginal Site of Significance. 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

City of Armadale (2019) Supporting Information for clearing permit application CPS 8679/1. City of Armadale. Received by DWER on 23 September 2019 (DWER Ref: A1825416).

Commonwealth of Australia (2001) National Objectives and Targets for Biodiversity Conservation 2001-2005, Canberra.

Department of the Environment and Energy (DotEE) (2013) Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 referral guidelines for three threatened black cockatoo species: Carnaby's cockatoo (endangered) *Calyptorhynchus latirostri*, Baudin's cockatoo (vulnerable) *Calyptorhynchus baudinii*, Forest red-tailed black cockatoo (vulnerable) *Calyptorhynchus banksii naso*. DotEE, Canberra.

EPA (2003) Greater Bunbury Region Scheme. Bulletin 1108. Environmental Protection Authority, Western Australia.

EPA (2015) Perth and Peel @ 3.5 million Environmental impacts, risks and remedies, Interim strategic advice of the Environmental Protection Authority to the Minister for Environment under section 16(e) of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*. Environmental Protection Authority, Western Australia July 2015.

Government of Western Australia (2018) 2017 South West Vegetation Complex Statistics. Current as of October 2017. WA Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions, Perth.

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.

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.

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 July 2019)
- Soils, Statewide
- Topographic contours
- Wetlands