



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Purpose Permit number:	8728/1
Permit Holder:	Arc Infrastructure Pty Ltd
Duration of Permit:	22 January 2020 – 22 January 2025

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

Installation of a temporary road diversion to allow railway crossing replacement

2. Land on which clearing is to be done

Un-named Road Reserve – PIN 11428788, Menzies

Railway Reserve – PIN 1025787, Menzies

Lot 157 on Deposited Plan 35571, Menzies

Lot 91 on Deposited Plan 217649, Menzies

Lot 92 on Deposited Plan 217649, Menzies

Lot 93 on Deposited Plan 217649, Menzies

3. Area of Clearing

The Permit Holder must not clear more than 0.408 hectares of native vegetation within the area cross hatched yellow on attached Plan 8728/1.

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.

PART II – MANAGEMENT CONDITIONS

5. 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.

PART III - RECORD KEEPING AND REPORTING

6. 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); and
- (d) actions taken to avoid, minimise and reduce the impacts and the extent of clearing in accordance with condition 5 of this Permit.

7. Reporting

The Permit Holder must provide to the *CEO* the records required under Condition 6 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*;



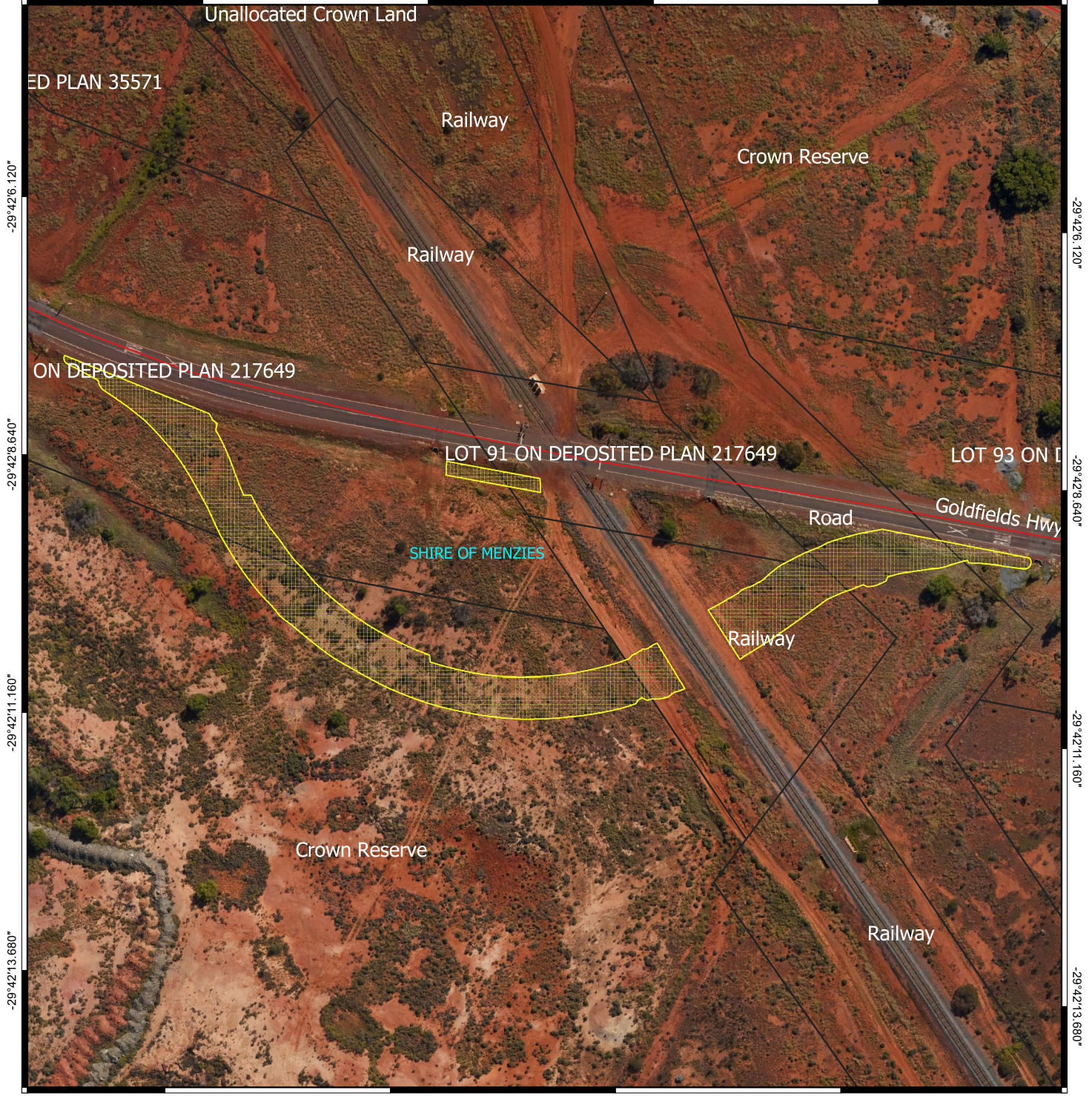
Mathew Gannaway
MANAGER
NATIVE VEGETATION REGULATION

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




23 December 2019

Plan 8728/1

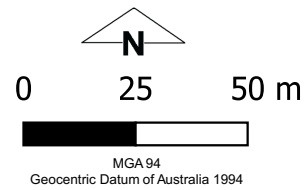
121°1'53.040" 121°1'55.560" 121°1'58.080" 121°2'0.600"



Legend

-  CPS areas approved to clear
-  Local Government Authorities
-  Roads

Image



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



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WESTERN AUSTRALIA
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1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 8728/1
Permit type: Purpose Permit

1.2. Applicant details

Applicant's name: Arc Infrastructure Pty Ltd
Application received date: 08 November 2019

1.3. Property details

Property: Un-named Road Reserve – PIN 11428788, Menzies
Railway Reserve – PIN 1025787, Menzies
Lot 157 on Deposited Plan 35571, Menzies
Lot 91 on Deposited Plan 217649, Menzies
Lot 92 on Deposited Plan 217649, Menzies
Lot 93 on Deposited Plan 217649, Menzies
Local Government Authority: Shire of Menzies
Localities: Menzies

1.4. Application

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

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Granted
Decision Date: 23 December 2019

Reasons for Decision: The clearing permit application has been assessed against the clearing principles, planning instruments and other matters in accordance with section 51O of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (EP Act). 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 determined that the proposed clearing is not likely to have any unacceptable impacts to the environment.

2. Site Information

Clearing Description The application is to clear 0.408 hectares of native vegetation within Lots 91, 92 and 93 on Deposited Plan 217649, Lot 157 on Deposited Plan 35571, Railway Reserve (PIN 1025787) and Un-named Road Reserve (PIN 11428788), Menzies (the Application area), for the purpose of installing a temporary road diversion to allow railway crossing replacement (Figure 1a-d).

Vegetation Description The Application area occurs within the 'Murchison' Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation for Australia (IBRA) bioregion, and is mapped as the following Beard vegetation association (Shepherd et al., 2001):

- 251 which is described as low woodland; mulga and *Allocasuarina cristata*.

Vegetation Condition The condition of the vegetation within the Application area is considered to be in good to degraded condition, described as:

- Good: More obvious signs of damage caused by human activity since European settlement, including some obvious impact on the vegetation structure such as that caused by low levels of grazing or slightly aggressive weeds (Trudgen, 1988); to
- Degraded: Severely impacted by grazing, very frequent fires, clearing or a combination of these activities. Scope for some regeneration but not to a state approaching good condition without intensive management (Trudgen, 1988).

The condition of the vegetation was determined based on aerial imagery and supporting information provided by the applicant (Arc Infrastructure Pty Ltd, 2019).

Soil type The Application area is mapped as the following land system (Northcote et al., 1960-1968):

- Moriarty System 265Mo, which is described as low greenstone rises and stony plains supporting chenopod shrublands with patchy eucalypt overstoreys.

Comments The local area is considered a 20 kilometre radius from the perimeter of the Application area.



Figure 1a



Figure 1b



Figure 1c



Figure 1d

Figures 1a-d: Representative photos of the vegetation within the Application area (Arc Infrastructure Pty Ltd, 2019).

3. Minimisation and mitigation measures

In relation to whether alternatives have been considered that would avoid or minimise the need for clearing, the applicant has advised (Arc Infrastructure Pty Ltd, 2019):

“The road has been designed as a single lane 40kmph road under traffic management, rather than dual lane road designed for a higher speed, which would increase the impact area. To minimise the impact area, the batter of the road has been designed at 1:4 with additional safety controls in place, instead of 1:6 slope. Alternative routes were investigated and determined to be unsuitable. The final road design was made to avoid the two trees in the vicinity of the works.”

4. Assessment of application against clearing principles

Given the species identified within the application area, mapped soil type, and its small size, the application area is not likely to contain any threatened or priority flora species, is unlikely to comprise the whole or a part of, or be necessary for the maintenance of a priority ecological community or threatened ecological community and is not considered to comprise a high level of biodiversity.

The application area does not contain any hollows or significant foraging or breeding habitat for conservation significant fauna recorded within the local area.

As the application area retains more than 30 per cent of its pre-European clearing extent (Government of Western Australia, 2019), the relatively small size of the application area and the lack of conservation significant flora and fauna, the proposed clearing is not likely to be considered a significant remnant within an extensively cleared area.

The closest watercourse or wetland is Minor River located approximately 14 kilometres northeast from the application area. No riparian vegetation was observed within the application area. Considering this, the proposed clearing is not likely to impact on any watercourse or wetland.

Noting the extent of the proposed clearing and the condition of the vegetation within the application area, the proposed clearing is not likely to exacerbate or contribute to further land degradation, deteriorate the quality of surface or underground water, cause or exacerbate flooding than that which is currently present.

The closest conservation area is Goongarrie National Park (R 35637, Class A) located approximately 42 kilometres southwest from the Application area. Given this and the extent of the Application area, the proposed clearing is not likely to have an impact on the environmental values of any nearby conservation areas.

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

Planning instruments and other relevant matters.

In relation to the proposed clearing, the Shire of Menzies (2019) advised that no planning applications are necessary, no approvals are required and the proposed application is consistent with the Shire's local Planning Scheme. Hence, the Shire did not have any objections to the proposed clearing.

No Aboriginal sites of significance have been mapped within the application area.

The clearing permit application was advertised on the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation website on 04 December 2019 with a 14 day submission period. No public submissions have been received in relation to this application.

5. References

- Arc Infrastructure Pty Ltd. (2019). Application form related to Clearing Permit application CPS 8728/1. DWER Ref: A1839782.
- Government of Western Australia. (2019). 2018 Statewide Vegetation Statistics incorporating the CAR Reserve Analysis (Full Report). Current as of March 2019. WA Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions, Perth.
- Northcote, K.H. with Beckmann, G.G., Bettenay, E., Churchward, H.M., van Dijk, D.C., Dimmock, G.M., Hubble, G.D., Isbell, R.F., McArthur, W.M., Murtha, G.G., Nicolls, K.D., Paton, T.R., Thompson, C.H., Webb, A.A. and Wright, M.J. (1960-68): 'Atlas of Australian Soils, Sheets 1 to 10, with explanatory data'. CSIRO and Melbourne University Press: Melbourne.
- 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 Menzies. (2019). Advice received in relation to the clearing permit application CPS 8728/1. DWER Ref: A1850171.
- Trudgen, M.E. (1988). A Report on the Flora and Vegetation of the Port Kennedy Area. Unpublished report prepared for Bowman Bishaw and Associates, West Perth.

GIS databases:

NatureMap (conservation significant fauna)
Soils of WA
Beard vegetation associations
Managed Tenure
Environmentally Sensitive Areas
TPFL Data November 2019
WAHerb Data November 2019
Aboriginal Sites Register
IBRA Vegetation WA
WA TECPEC