



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

PERMIT DETAILS

Area Permit Number: 8742/1
File Number: DWERVT4606
Duration of Permit: From 21 April 2020 to 21 April 2022

PERMIT HOLDER

Daybreak Cropping Pty Ltd

LAND ON WHICH CLEARING IS TO BE DONE

Lot 235 on Deposited Plan 144649, Bodallin

AUTHORISED ACTIVITY

The Permit Holder shall not clear more than 0.0173 hectares of native vegetation within the area cross-hatched yellow on attached Plan 8742/1.

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. 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 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.

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 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.



Samara Rogers
MANAGER
NATIVE VEGETATION REGULATION

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

31 March 2020

Plan 8742/1

118°52'12.000"E

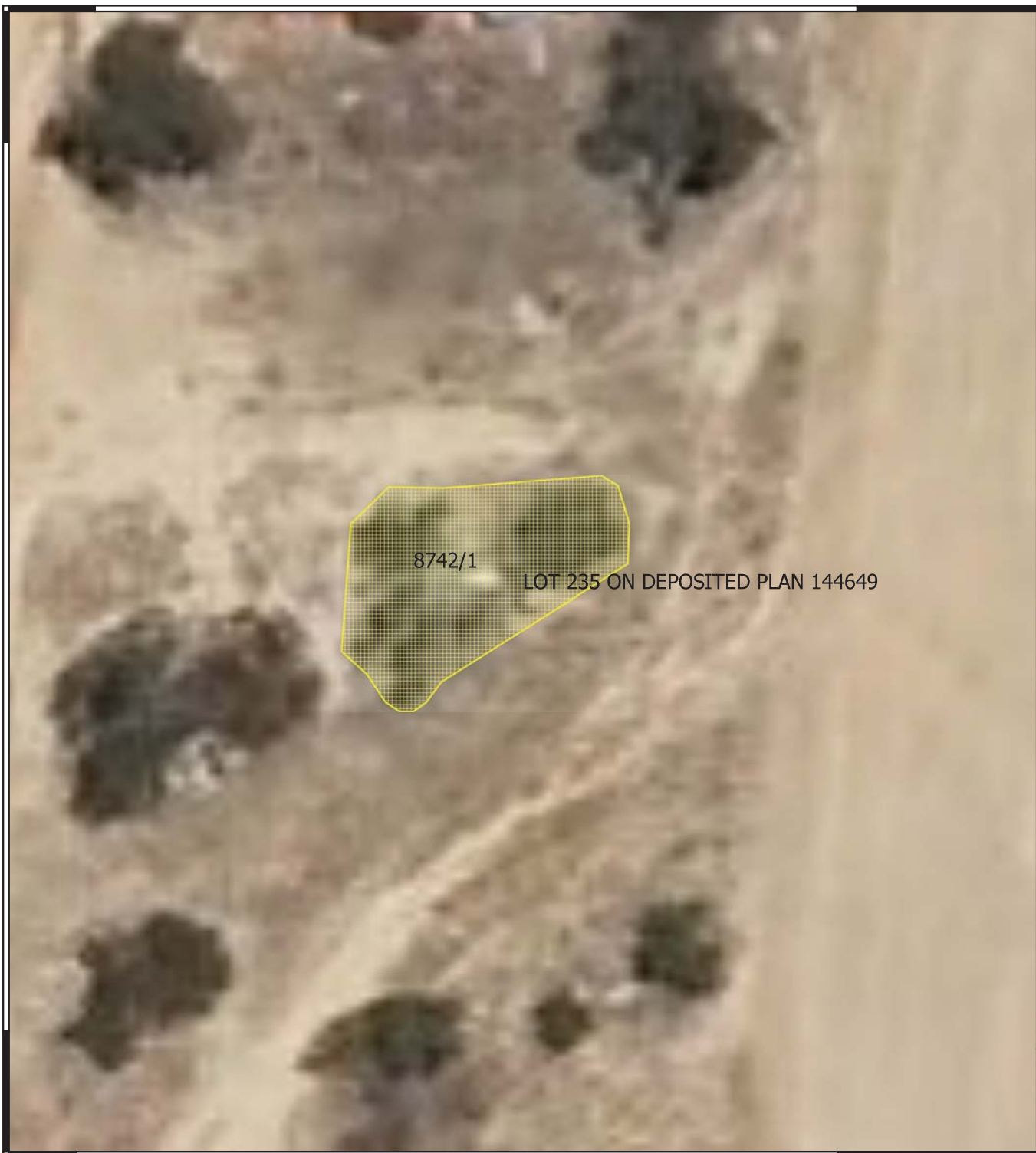
118°52'13.800"E

31°26'56.400"S

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118°52'12.000"E

118°52'13.800"E

Legend

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-  Cadastre - LGATE 218
-  Local Government Authorities

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Samara Rogers

2020.03.31

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Officer delegated under section 20 of the
Environmental Protection Act 1986



GOVERNMENT OF
WESTERN AUSTRALIA



Clearing Permit Decision Report

1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 8742/1
Permit type: Area Permit

1.2. Applicant details

Applicant's name: Daybreak Cropping Pty Ltd
Application received date: 25 November 2019

1.3. Property details

Property: Lot 235 on Deposited Plan 144649
Local Government Authority: Shire of Yilgarn
Localities: Bodallin

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	Purpose category:
0.0173	3	Mechanical Removal	To provide a 6 metre clearance from power line installation

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Granted
Decision Date: 31 March 2020

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*. It has been concluded that the proposed clearing may be at variance with principle (e) and is not likely to be at variance with the remaining clearing principles.

Through assessment it has been determined that the application area is within an extensively cleared area. However, noting that the vegetation does represent a significant remnant, the proposed clearing may be at variance with principle (e). The Delegated Officer determined that the proposed clearing was not likely to have a significant impact on a significant remnant in an area that has been extensively cleared.

Through the assessment it was identified that the proposed clearing may impact surrounding native vegetation through the introduction and spread of weeds. A weed management condition has been placed on the clearing permit to minimise the risk of weeds spreading into adjacent areas of remnant vegetation

In determining to grant a clearing permit subject to conditions, the Delegated Officer found that the proposed clearing is unlikely to lead to an unacceptable risk to the environment.

2. Site Information

Clearing Description The application proposes to clear 0.0173 hectares of native vegetation, including three trees, across one site within Lot 235 on Deposited Plan 144649, Bodallin, within an area zoned "Rural/mining". The purpose of the clearing is to provide a 6 metre clearance from power lines.

Vegetation Description The Application area occurs within the 'Avon Wheatbelt' Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation for Australia (IBRA) bioregion, and is mapped as vegetation association 8; Medium Woodland; salmon gum and gimlet (Shepherd et al, 2001).

Photographs taken of the application area (Figures 1 to 4) show three *Eucalyptus* species mallee trees with an understorey comprised of grass including introduced species. The trees are approximately 3-5 metre tall, and tree branches are of a diameter at breast height (DBH) of less than 300 millimetre.

Vegetation Condition Photographs taken of the application area (Figures 1 to 4) show that vegetation within the application area is in Completely Degraded condition: The structure of the vegetation is no longer intact and the area is completely or almost completely without native species (Keighery, 1994).

Soil type Soil type within the application area is mapped as Wadderin 1 Subsystem (258Wd_1) described as gently undulating rises with weakly expressed breakaways. Shallow and loamy gravels and long gentle backslopes comprising yellow and sandy earths under Kwongan heath, Acacia and Allocasuarina woodland.

Comment

The local area is defined as a ten kilometre radius from the application area.

A review of available databases has determined that the local area retains approximately 20 per cent of its pre-European clearing extent.



Figure 1 – Vegetation within application area



Figure 2 – Vegetation within application area



Figure 3 – Vegetation within application area



Figure 4 – Vegetation within application area

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

No records of threatened flora species, and three records of priority flora species, exist within the local area (Western Australian Herbarium 1998-). Likelihood analysis including available data on soil type, vegetation composition and existing records suggests two of these priority flora species have the potential to occur within the application area; *Acacia filifolia* and *Gompholobium cinereum*. However given the minimal extent of clearing proposed, the vegetation within the application area is not likely to contain any threatened or priority flora species. Vegetation within the application area does not resemble vegetation associated with any known priority or threatened ecological communities. Therefore, the application area is not likely to comprise vegetation of a high level of biological diversity.

According to available databases, two fauna species of conservation significance (one threatened and one other specially protected fauna) have been recorded within the local area (Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions, 2007-). The application area may provide suitable habitat for some of these species, however noting the extent of the proposed clearing, the application area is not likely to comprise significant habitat for indigenous fauna, including species of conservation significance.

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 mapped vegetation association retains 49.87% of its pre European extent, however, only 18.51% of its pre European extent within the Avon Wheatbelt Bioregion (Government of Western Australia 2019). The local area retains approximately 20% of its pre-European clearing extent. As such, the application area is considered to be within an extensively cleared area. Noting the extent of the proposed clearing, that the vegetation does not include significant habitat for any threatened or priority flora or fauna, is not likely to comprise any TEC or PEC and is not significant as an ecological linkage, the vegetation is not considered a significant remnant. Therefore the proposed clearing may be at variance with principle (e).

There are no watercourses or wetlands mapped within the application area, therefore native vegetation within the application area is not considered to be growing in, or in association with, an environment with a watercourse or wetland.

Given the distance from the nearest conservation area (an unnamed Nature Reserve, located approximately 3.4 kilometres south of the application area) and separation from this area by previously cleared land, the proposed clearing is not likely to have an impact on the environmental values of any adjacent or nearby conservation areas. The proposed clearing may increase the risk of weeds and dieback being introduced into areas of adjacent vegetation. Weed and dieback management will assist in mitigating this risk.

While the sandy soils mapped within the application area are prone to wind erosion and subsurface acidification, given the extent of the clearing, that the application area is in Completely Degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition and adjacent vegetation within the property will be retained, the proposed clearing is unlikely to cause appreciable land degradation.

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

Planning instruments and other relevant matters.

The clearing permit application was advertised on the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation's (DWER) website on 28 January 2020, inviting submissions from the public within a 14 day period ending on 11 February 2020. No submissions were received in relation to this application.

No Aboriginal Sites of Significance have been mapped within the application area. It is the applicant's responsibility to comply with the Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972 and ensure that no Aboriginal Sites of Significance are damaged through the clearing process.

4. References

- Commonwealth of Australia (2001) National Objectives and Targets for Biodiversity Conservation 2001-2005, Canberra.
- 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/>. Accessed March 2020.
- Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD) (2019). NRInfo Digital Mapping. Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development. Government of Western Australia. URL: <https://maps.agric.wa.gov.au/nrm-info/>. Accessed March 2020.
- Government of Western Australia. (2019). 2018 South West Vegetation Complex Statistics. Current as of March 2019. WA Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions, Perth, <https://catalogue.data.wa.gov.au/dataset/dbca>
- 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.
- Western Australian Herbarium (1998-). FloraBase - the Western Australian Flora. Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions. <https://florabase.dpaw.wa.gov.au/> Accessed March 2020

Publicly available GIS Databases used (data.wa.gov.au):

- Soil and Landscape Mapping – Best Available
- Wheatbelt Wetlands Stage 1 (DBCA-021)
- IBRA Vegetation Statistics
- Remnant Vegetation
- Groundwater Salinity Statewide (DWER-026)
- Contours (DPIRD-073)
- Hydrography - Inland Waters - Waterlines
- Soil and Landscape Quality – Wind Erosion Risk (DPIRD-016)
- Soil and Landscape Quality – Water Erosion Risk (DPIRD-013)
- Soil and Landscape Quality – Waterlogging Risk (DPIRD-015)
- Soil and Landscape Quality – Water Repellence Risk (DPIRD-014)
- Soil and Landscape Quality – Subsurface Acidification Risk (DPIRD-011)
- Soil and Landscape Quality – Phosphorus Export Risk (DPIRD-010)

- Soil and Landscape Quality – Salinity Risk (DPIRD-009)
- Flood Risk (DPIRD-007)
- DBCA – Lands of Interest (DBCA-012)
- DBCA Legislated Lands and Waters (DBCA-011)
- Regional Parks (DBCA-026)
- Aboriginal Heritage Places (DPLH-001)
- Local Planning Scheme – Zones and Reserves (DPLH-071)
- CAWSA Part 2A Clearing Control Catchments (DWER-004)
- Contaminated Sites (DWER-059)

Restricted GIS Databases used:

- Threatened Flora (TPFL)
- Threatened Flora (WAHerb)
- Threatened Fauna
- TECs and PECs
- TECs and PECs (buffered)
- Black Cockatoo roost sites
- Statewide Vegetation Complex Statistics