

Management Plan

to accompany

Application for a clearing permit (area permit) – Form C1

from

Department of Water and Environmental Regulation

for

Peter Robert BEEBE

Background

Peter Beebe owns a grazing property bounded by Boorara Road and Loverock Road, approximately eight kilometres south-east of the town of Northcliffe in the south-west of Western Australia.

The total area of the property, which comprises three locations, is approximately 157 hectares, of which approximately half is cleared and leased for cattle grazing and production of hay. The naturally vegetated portion of the property includes some healthy stands of mixed karri/marri forest and a significant area of riparian vegetation along creek lines.

Mr Beebe is seeking to conduct some sustainable timber harvesting on the forested areas of his property in order to earn some income, to improve fence-line clearances and to mitigate the threat of bushfires.

Current status of the native forest subject to this application to clear (thin)

The approximately 30 hectares of native forest on the property for which a clearing (thinning) permit is sought is comprised of mixed karri (*Eucalyptus diversicolor*) and marri (*Corymbia calophylla*) with an understorey typical of the southern karri belt. Some blackbutt (*Eucalyptus patens*) also exists. This forest has been subject to some selective harvesting many (100?) years ago, with evidence of harvesting extraction tracks and stumps. The current forest lends itself to a selective thinning from above.

Fig 1 is an example of the karri/marri forest on the property.

Soils under the remnant patches of forest are mostly karri loam. Drainage is fair which means that harvesting will likely need to be restricted to generally dry soil conditions.



Fig 1. Mixed karri/marri forest on Peter Beebe's Northcliffe property

Silvicultural/harvesting prescription

- The prescription to be adopted will be to thin the karri/marri forest to a basal area of 10-15 m²/ha of future crop trees, evenly spaced.
- At least two habitat trees per hectare, on average, will be retained. Habitat trees will be generally sound, older trees with hollows or potential hollows, for fauna.
- Harvesting machinery will be cleaned of any soil and plant matter before entering the property to minimise any risk of introducing jarrah dieback disease or undesirable weeds.
- Harvesting will be carried out by an experienced and qualified local harvesting contractor using machinery suitable for the harvesting of regrowth karri/marri forest. This will comprise a tree harvester to fell trees and cut boles into appropriate lengths. Extraction of logs will be carried out using a rubber-tyred skidder or forwarder. Trucks will be loaded using a forwarder or front-end-loader with forks.
- Extraction tracks will, where necessary, be created by the tree harvester and will maximise use of natural gaps between trees.
- Harvesting slash will be removed from around the bases of retained trees during harvesting.
- All harvesting activity will be conducted in accordance with the WA timber industry Codes of Practice, as published from time to time by the Forest Industries Federation (WA) Inc.
- Following harvesting, the thinned areas will be “tops burnt”, that is harvesting debris will be burnt under cool conditions in autumn or winter such that only recently dried harvesting slash and any rolled understory vegetation will burn.

Black cockatoo habitat trees

Because of the importance of conservation of habitat trees for Western Australia’s three species of black cockatoo (Carnaby’s cockatoo, Baudin’s cockatoo and Forest red-tailed cockatoo), any tree with hollows of a size potentially suitable for nesting by any of these three species will be retained as habitat trees. These trees tend to be over-mature or dead trees, particularly marri trees.

Estimated quantities of forest products to be harvested

The estimated quantities of forest products, by species and grade, to be produced from the proposed operation are:

- Karri sawlog: 500 tonnes
- Marri sawlog: 400 tonnes
- Blackbutt: 100 tonnes
- **Total:** approx. 1000 tonnes

Future management

After the proposed thinning and post-thinning burn, the managed forest will need little attention for at least five years. At that time, a cycle of regular mild prescribed burning should be adopted to reduce the risk of damage from bushfires.

A further thinning operation may be feasible approximately 20 years hence.

NA

Peter Beebe's properties; Northcliffe.

Google Maps



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□ = PROPERTY BOUNDARY

▨ = AREAS TO BE THINNED.

الواقعة

LOCATION OF PETER BEEBE'S PROPERTIES
NORTHVILLE

