

CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

PERMIT DETAILS

Area Permit Number: 8802/2

File Number: DWERVT5307

Duration of Permit: 19 May 2020 – 19 May 2022

PERMIT HOLDER

City of Swan

LAND ON WHICH CLEARING IS TO BE DONE

Railway Parade Road Reserve (PIN 11727298), Bullsbrook

AUTHORISED ACTIVITY

The Permit Holder shall not clear more than 0.7609 hectares of native vegetation within the area cross-hatched yellow on attached Plan 8802/2a, Plan 8802/2b, Plan 8802/2c, Plan 8802/2d and Plan 8802/2e.

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;
- (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:

- (a) In relation to the clearing of native vegetation authorised under this Permit:
 - 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;
 - (ii) the date that the area was cleared;
 - (iii) the size of the area cleared (in hectares);
 - (iv) the direction of the clearing;
 - (v) actions taken to avoid, minimise and reduce the impacts and extent of clearing; in accordance with condition 1 of the Permit; and
 - (vi) actions taken to minimise the risk of the introduction and spread of *weeds* and *dieback* in accordance with condition 2 of the 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 administering the clearing provisions contained within the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*;

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.

Mathew Gannaway

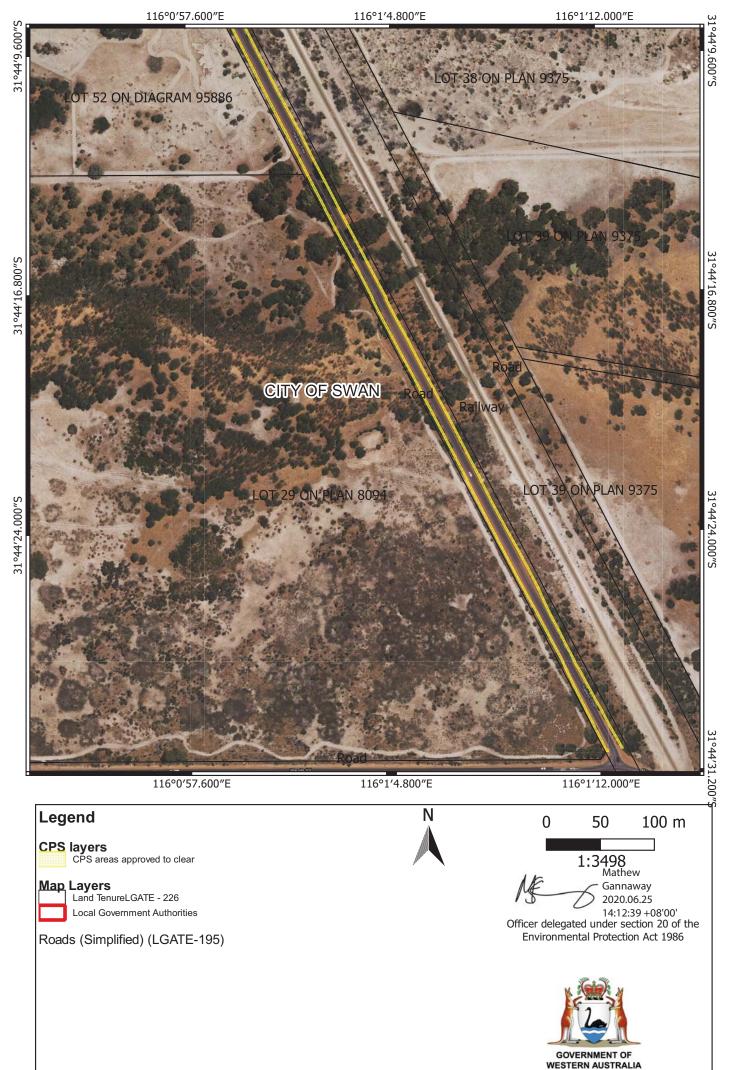
MANAGER

NATIVE VEGETATION REGULATION

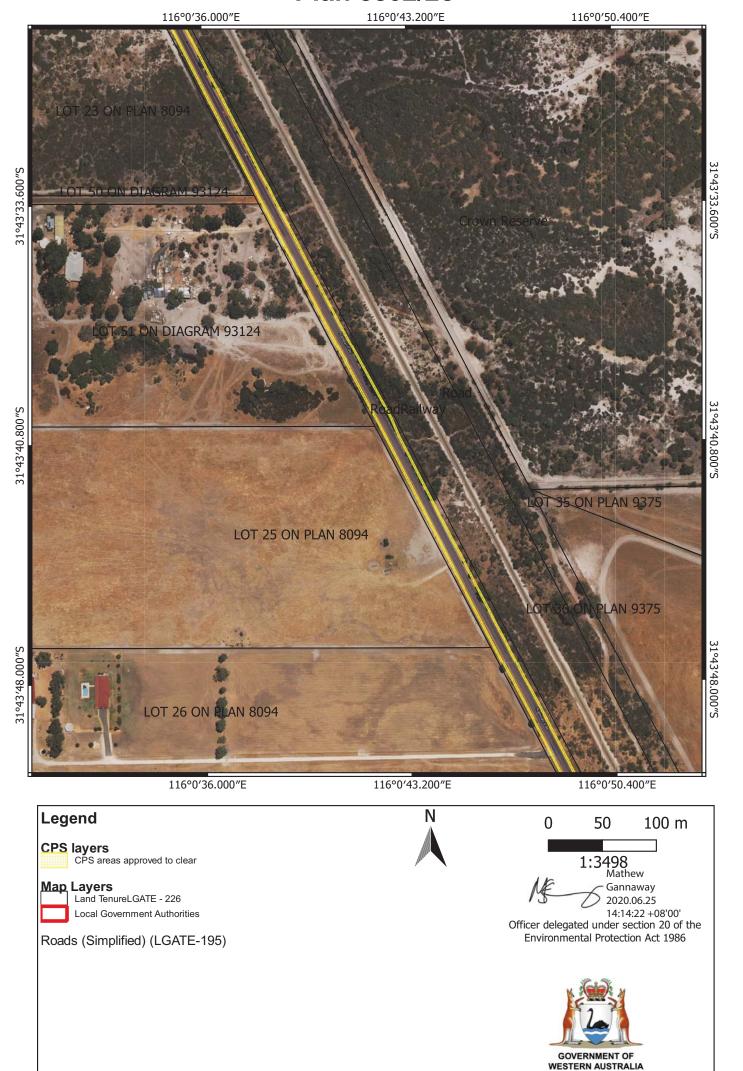
Officer delegated under Section 20 of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

25 June 2020

Plan 8802/2a

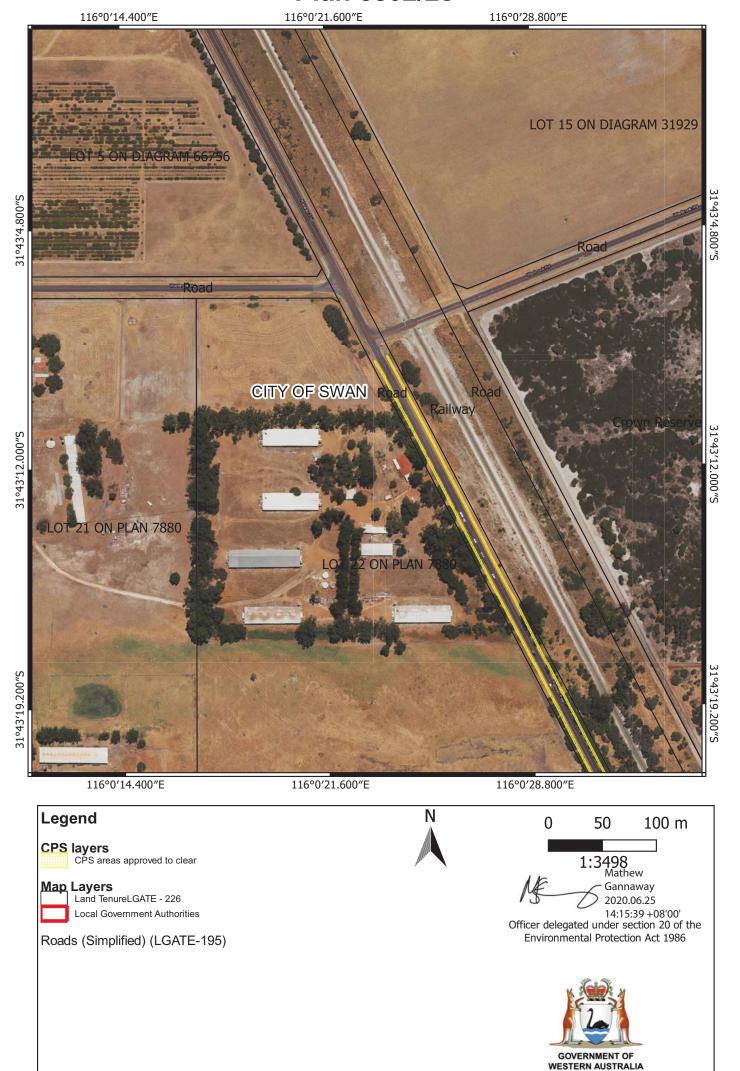


Plan 8802/2c



Plan 8802/2d 31°43′12.000″S 31°**4**86**1**2.′**28**08′**5**0″E 116°0′21.600″E 116°0′36.000″E 31°43′19.200"S 31°43′19.200″S **LOT 22 ON PLAN 7880** CITY OF SWAN 31°43′26.400″S 31°43'26.400"S 31°43'33.600"S 31°43′33.600″S ON DIAGRAM S 116°0′21.600″E 116°0′28.800″E 116°0′36.000″E Legend N 50 100 m CPS layers CPS areas approved to clear 1:3498 Mathew Map Layers Land TenureLGATE - 226 Gannaway 2020.06.25 Local Government Authorities 14:15:03 +08'00' Officer delegated under section 20 of the Environmental Protection Act 1986 Roads (Simplified) (LGATE-195) GOVERNMENT OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Plan 8802/2e





Clearing Permit Decision Report

1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 8802/2
Permit type: Area Permit

1.2. Applicant details

Applicant's name: City of Swan
Application received date: 20 May 2020

1.3. Property details

Property:

Railway Parade Road Reserve (PIN 11727298),

Local Government Authority:

City of Swan Bullsbrook

Localities:

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha) No. Trees

Method of Clearing

Purpose category:

0.7609 Mechanical Removal

chanical Removal Road construction or upgrades

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Decision Date:

Granted

Reasons for Decision:

25 June 2020

The application to amend was received on 20 May 2020 and has been assessed against the clearing principles, planning instruments and other matters in accordance with section 510 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*, and it has been concluded that the findings from the previous assessment CPS 8802/1 are still relevant, with further consideration of

Principle (b) discussed in Section 4 below.

New information accompanying the application to amend has noted the hollows within trees discussed within the Clearing Permit Decision Report CPS 8802/1 are not suitable as

nesting habitat for Carnaby's Cockatoo (Calyptorhynchus latirostris).

In considering the new information received, the Delegated Officer decided to grant an amended permit which does not contain fauna management conditions.

2. Site Information

Clearing Description

The City of Swan (the applicant) proposes to clear 0.76 hectares of native vegetation within Railway Parade Road Reserve (PIN 11727298), Bullsbrook, for the purpose of improving road safety (Figure 1a-b and Figure 2a-d).

The application area comprises of all vegetation that falls within 1.5 metres from the edge of the existing formation (edge of shoulders) on both sides of Railway Parade. Up to three metres of native vegetation will remain on either side of the proposed clearing area.

Vegetation Description

The application area occurs within the 'Swan Coastal Plain' Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation for Australia (IBRA) bioregion, and is mapped as the 'Yanga Complex' Swan Coastal Plain vegetation complex (Heddle et al., 1980). The Yanga Complex is described as a predominantly closed scrub of *Melaleuca* species and low open forest of *Casuarina obesa* (Swamp Sheoak) on the flats subject to inundation. On drier sites the vegetation reflects the adjacent vegetation complexes of Bassendean and Coonambidgee.

A site inspection of the application area was conducted by the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) on 13 March 2020.

The site inspection identified that vegetation within the application area comprises of four vegetation types:

- Parkland cleared vegetation approximately 52.5 per cent (0.4 hectares) of the application area (Figure 2a);
- A mixture of Melaleuca sp., Jacksonia furcellata, Acacia saligna over weedy understorey – approximately 27.5 per cent (0.21 hectares) of the application area (Figure 2b):
- Vegetation appeared to be representative of Banksia Dominated Woodlands of the Swan Coastal Plain (Banksia woodland) – approximately 13 per cent (0.099 hectares) of the application area (Figure 2c); and
- Marri woodland over weedy understorey approximately seven per cent (0.05 hectares) of the application area (Figure 2d).

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The DWER site inspection (2020) noted that a portion of the application area (approximately 0.005 hectares) has been impacted by a recent burn.

Vegetation Condition

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

- Degraded: Structure severely disturbed; regeneration to good condition requires intensive management (Keighery, 1994).
- Completely Degraded; No longer intact, completely/almost completely without native species (Keighery, 1994).

The condition of the vegetation was determined based on the DWER site inspection (DWER, 2020).

Soil type

The Application Area is mapped as the following land subsystems (Schoknecht et al., 2004):

- Yanga 8x Phase subsystem (approximately 28 per cent) is described as flat plain with occasional low dunes. Subject to seasonal inundation. Deep white and pale yellow sands interspersed with swamp and generally underlain by siliceous/humic pans at depth:
- Yange 9x Phase subsystem (approximately 24 per cent) is described as flat plain with
 occasional low dunes. Subject to seasonal inundation. Humic and peaty sands, wet
 and semi-wet soils generally underlain by siliceous / humic pans at depth. E. rudis,
 Melaleuca spp., reeds and some Banksia on dunes;
- Yanga 14x Phase subsystem (approximately 34 per cent) is described as sandy rises
 on flat to gently sloping plain with occasional low dunes. Pale sands overlying
 siliceous / humic pans, bog iron and clay. Low woodland of Banksias prionotes, B.
 illicifolia and B. littoralis, Melaleuca dense shrubbery.
- Yanga 7x Phase (approximately 10 per cent) is described as flat plain with occasional low dunes. Marl maybe at the surface or deeply buried, overlying alluvium, often with siliceous hardpans. Low woodland with occasional tall *Eucalyptus rudis*, *Melaleuca* spp., Teatree and *E. camaldulensis*.
- Yanga 6x Phase (approximately 4 per cent) is described as Flat plain with occasional low dunes. Yellowish brown duplex and poorly structured clay soils often with pans underlying. Low woodland with occasional tall *Eucalyptus rudis*, *Melaleuca* spp., Teatree and *E. camaldulensis* and *Casuarina* spp.

Comments

The local area is considered a 10 kilometre radius from the perimeter of the Application area



Figure 1a Northern section of the application area cross-hatched blue

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Figure 1b Southern section of the application area cross-hatched blue

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Figures 2a-d: Representative photos of the vegetation within the application area (DWER, 2020).

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 (Applicant, 2020a):

"Previously considered widening the road formation width from 8m to 10m but determined that this would result in the removal of too many trees. Therefore, the existing eight-meter formation width has been kept the same in favour of minimising tree removal."

The applicant confirmed that the City of Swan had considered treatment options to minimise the impact on flora and fauna in the area of proposed clearing along Railway Parade. The City of Swan arrived to the conclusion that clearing vegetation within 1.5 metre of the existing edge of formation will minimise the impact, while also ensuring that the necessary work is conducted to ensure road user safety at this location (Applicant, 2020b).

4. Assessment of application against clearing principles

This amendment has been made to remove Condition 3, Condition 4, Condition 5(b), and Condition 5(c) from CPS 8802/1 which pertained to black cockatoo fauna management.

The City of Swan engaged consultants in April 2020 to undertake a detailed inspection of a tree containing hollows as identified within the site inspection (DWER, 2020). The tree survey was not provided to DWER at the time of granting CPS 8802/1 and so a decision to grant was made with the information that was available at the time. The decision report CPS 8802/1 determined that a tree with hollows considered to be suitable for nesting by black cockatoo species was present within the application area, and a permit to clear was conditioned with fauna management conditions to minimise impacts to nesting habitat for black cockatoo species (DWER, 2020b). The detailed inspection of the tree hollows demonstrated that the hollows are not suitable for nesting by black cockatoo species (Figures 3a and 3b below; Applicant, 2020d). The tree survey identified that due to the collapsed hollow chamber and advanced state of decay of the tree, the tree can no longer be considered suitable as a black cockatoo nesting tree, and is not currently being utilised by black cockatoos (Applicant, 2020d).

The amendment application has been assessed against the clearing principles, planning instruments and other matters in accordance with section 51O of the EP Act. A review of current environmental information including additional information provided by the City of Swan, reveals that the proposed clearing is not likely to impact on nesting habitat for black cockatoo

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species. The assessment against the remaining clearing principles has not changed from the Clearing Permit Decision Report CPS 8802/1.



Figure 3a: Image from hollow inspection (Applicant, 2020d)

Figure 3b: Image from hollow inspection (Applicant, 2020d)

Planning instruments and other relevant matters.

The clearing permit amendment application was advertised on the DWER website on 5 June 2020 with a seven day submission period. No public submissions have been received in relation to this amendment application.

The assessment against planning instruments and other matters is unchanged and can be found in the Decision Report prepared for Clearing Permit CPS 8802/1.

5. References

Applicant. (2020a). Clearing permit application form and supporting documents in relation to clearing permit application CPS 8802/1. DWER Ref: A1865554.

Applicant. (2020b). Additional advice in relation to clearing permit application CPS 8802/1. DWER Ref: A1877266.

Applicant. (2020c). Additional advice in relation to clearing permit application CPS 8802/1. DWER Ref: A1883452.

Applicant. (2020d). Application to amend CPS 8802/1. DWER Ref: A1895142

Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD) (2020). NRInfo Digital Mapping. Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development. Government of Western Australia. URL: https://maps.agric.wa.gov.au/nrm-info/(accessed 20 March 2020).

Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER). (2020). Site inspection report in relation to clearing permit application CPS 8802/1. DWER Ref: A1877616.

Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER). (2020b). CPS 8802/1 – Clearing Permit Decision Report, Grant and plans. URL: https://ftp.dwer.wa.gov.au/permit/8802/

Heddle, E. M., Loneragan, O. W., and Havel, J. J. (1980) Vegetation Complexes of the Darling System, Western Australia. In Department of Conservation and Environment, Atlas of Natural Resources, Darling System, Western Australia.

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.

GIS databases:

- CPS Areas applied to clear
- Nature Map (conservation significant fauna)
- DAFWA Subsystems V5
- Soils of WA
- Vegetation Complexes Swan Coastal Plain
- Managed Tenure
- Environmentally Sensitive Areas
- TPFL Data March 2020
- WAHerb Data March 2020
- Aboriginal Sites Register
- IBRA Vegetation WA
- WA TECPEC
- Land Degradation Hazards

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