



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Purpose permit number:	CPS 890/3
Permit holder:	Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes
Purpose of clearing:	Road widening, bridge abutment upgrades and extraction sites.
Shire:	Bridgetown-Greenbushes
Duration of permit:	7 October 2006 – 7 October 2012

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The permit holder is authorised to clear native vegetation for the above stated purposes, subject to the conditions of this Permit.

PART I – CLEARING AUTHORISED

1. Land on which clearing is to be done

Bridge on Slades Road near Tweed Road;
 Bridge on Old Bridgetown Road between Waterhole Road and Blackboy Flat Road;
 Bridge on Blackbutt Road near McKelvie Road;
 Bridge on Blackbutt Road near Wilga Road;
 Bridge on McKelvie Road near Blackbutt Road;
 Bridge on Greenbushes-Boyuip Brook road near Perks Road;
 Bridge on Hester Cascades Road between Haines Road and Warner Street;
 Bridge on Maranup Ford Road near Five Gates Road;
 Bridge on Blackwood Park Road near South Western Highway;
 Bridge on Blackwood Park Road;
 Bridge on Winnejup Road between Doust Road and Waters Ford Road;
 Bridge on Winnejup Road near Tweed Road;
 Bridge on Falnash Road;
 Lot 11952 on Plan 206069;
 Lot 900 on Plan 187459;
 River Road;
 Blackwood Terrace between Ford Road and Mottram Street;
 Winnejup Road between Dalmore Road and Doust Road;
 Padbury Street between Steere Street and Turner Road;
 Whittells Road between Woodlands View and Woodhead Avenue;
 Peninsula Road between Walter Willis Road and Crowd Wheatley Road;
 Hester Road between South Western Highway and Hester Cascades Road;
 Greenbushes-Boyuip Brook Road between Eastcott Road and Woods Road;
 Yovanche Road; and
 Eedle Terrace.

2. Area of clearing

Clearing of up to 12.45 hectares of native vegetation.

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. Compliance with Assessment Sequence and Management Procedures

Prior to clearing any native vegetation under conditions 1 and 2 of this Permit, the Permit Holder must comply with the Assessment Sequence and the Management Procedures set out in Part II of this Permit.

PART II – ASSESSMENT SEQUENCE AND MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES

5. Avoid, minimise etc clearing

- (a) In determining the amount of native vegetation to be cleared for the purposes of road upgrades the Permit Holder must have regard to the following principles, set out in order of preference:
- (i) avoid the clearing of native vegetation;
 - (ii) minimise the amount of native vegetation to be cleared; and
 - (iii) reduce the impact of clearing on any environmental value.

6. Dieback and weed control

- (a) When undertaking any *clearing* and *revegetation*, or other activity pursuant to this Permit the Permit Holder must take the following steps to minimise the risk of introduction and spread of *dieback*:
- (i) clean earth-moving machinery of soil and vegetation prior to entering and leaving the area to be cleared;
 - (ii) avoid the movement of soil in wet conditions;
 - (iii) ensure that no *dieback*-affected *road building materials, mulches* or *fill* are brought into an area that is not affected by *dieback*; and
 - (iv) restrict the movement of machines and other vehicles to the limits of the areas to be cleared.
- (b) When undertaking any *clearing* and *revegetation*, or other activity pursuant to this Permit the Permit Holder must take the following steps to minimise the risk of the introduction and spread of *weeds*:
- (i) clean earth-moving machinery of soil and vegetation prior to entering and leaving the area to be cleared;
 - (ii) ensure that no *weed*-affected *road building materials, mulch, fill* or other material is brought into the area to be cleared; and
 - (iii) restrict the movement of machines and other vehicles to the limits of the areas to be cleared.
- (c) At least once in each 12 month period for the *term* of this Permit, the Permit Holder must remove or kill any *weeds* growing within areas *cleared* and *revegetated* under this Permit.

7. Revegetation

- (a) The Permit Holder shall retain the vegetative material and topsoil removed by clearing in accordance with this Permit.
- (b) Within one month of the area no longer being required for the purpose of gravel extraction the Permit Holder must revegetate the area by:
- (i) Deliberately planting and/or seeding *native vegetation* that will result in a similar species composition, structure and density of *native vegetation* to pre-clearing vegetation types in that area;

- (ii) Ensuring only local provenance seeds and propagating material from within 10km of the area cleared are used to revegetate the area;
 - (iii) Lay vegetative material and topsoil retained in accordance with condition 7(a) on the area.
- (c) Within one year of undertaking revegetation in accordance with condition 7(b), the Permit Holder must:
- (i) Determine the species composition, structure and density of the area revegetated in accordance with condition 7(b); and
 - (ii) Where, in the opinion of an *environmental specialist*, the composition structure and density determined under condition 7(c)(i) will not result in a similar species composition, structure and density to pre-clearing vegetation types in that area the Permit Holder must undertake additional planting or seeding of *native vegetation* in accordance with the requirements of condition 7(b)(i) and (ii).

8. Fauna management

- (a) Prior to clearing within the areas described in Clearing Authorised above, the areas shall be inspected by a *fauna specialist* who shall identify trees that contain hollows suitable to be utilised as habitat by fauna listed in the *Wildlife Conservation (Specially Protected Fauna) Notice 2005*.
- (b) The Permit Holder shall ensure that any fauna identified in condition 8(a) shall only be removed and relocated by a *fauna clearing person*, in accordance with a licence issued by the Department of Environment and Conservation.

9. Flora Management

- (a) Prior to undertaking clearing within the areas described in Clearing Authorised above, the areas shall be inspected by a *flora specialist* who shall identify *Rare Flora* and *Priority flora taxa*.
- (b) Where *Rare Flora* or *Priority Flora* are identified in relation to condition 9(a) the Permit Holder shall ensure that:
 - (i) All records of DRF and priority flora are submitted to the Department of Environment and Conservation, Species and Communities Branch.
 - (ii) No clearing occurs with 50m of identified DRF, unless approved by the *CEO*.

PART III – RECORD KEEPING AND REPORTING

10. Records must be kept

The Permit Holder must maintain the following records for activities done pursuant to this Permit, as relevant:

- (a) In relation to the *clearing of native vegetation* undertaken pursuant to conditions 2 and 3:
 - (i) The species composition, structure and density of the cleared area;
 - (ii) The location where the clearing occurred, recorded using Geocentric Datum Australia 1994;
 - (iii) The date that the area was cleared; and
 - (iv) The size of the area cleared (in hectares).

- (b) In relation to the *revegetation* and *rehabilitation* of areas pursuant to condition 7:
 - (i) The location of any area *revegetated* and *rehabilitated* recorded using Geocentric Datum Australia 1994;
 - (ii) A description of the *revegetation* and *rehabilitation* activities undertaken; and
 - (iii) The size of the area *revegetated* and *rehabilitated* (in hectares).
- (c) In relation to Flora Management pursuant to condition 9:
 - (i) The location of each *Rare Flora* and *Priority Flora* recorded using Geocentric Datum Australia 1994; and
 - (ii) The species of each *Rare Flora* or *Priority Flora* identified.
- (d) In relation to Fauna Management pursuant to condition 8:
 - (i) The location of each habitat tree identified recorded using Geocentric Datum Australia 1994;
 - (ii) The species of each habitat tree identified;
 - (iii) The species of fauna reasonably likely to utilise, or that have been observed utilising the habitat trees;
 - (iv) The species and number of each species relocated; and
 - (v) The location and date where relocated fauna was released, using Geocentric Datum Australia 1994.

11. Reporting

The Permit Holder must provide to the *CEO*, on or before 30 June of each year, a written report of records requested under condition 10 and activities done by the Permit Holder under this Permit between 1 January and 31 December of the preceding year.

12. Definitions

The following meanings are given to terms used in this Permit:

CEO means the Chief Executive Officer of the Department of Environment and Conservation;

clearing has the meaning given to it in section 51A of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*;

dieback means the effect of *Phytophthora* species on *native vegetation*;

Environmental Specialist means a person who is engaged by the permit holder for the purpose of providing environmental advice, who holds a tertiary qualification in environmental science or equivalent, and has experience relevant to the type of environmental advice that an environmental specialist is required to provide under this Permit;

EP Act means the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*;

fauna specialist means a person with training and specific work experience in fauna identification or faunal assemblage surveys of Western Australian fauna;

fauna clearing person means a person who has obtained a licence from the Department of Conservation and Land Management, issued pursuant to the *Wildlife Conservation Regulations 1970* (as amended) authorising them to take fauna in order to carry out the approved clearing associated with this permit;

fill means material used to increase the ground level, or fill a hollow;

flora specialist means a person with specific training and/or experience in the ecology and taxonomy of Western Australian flora;

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;

native vegetation has the meaning given to it in sections 3 and 51A of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*;

priority flora taxa means those plant taxa that described as priority flora classes 1, 2, 3 or 4 in the *Declared Rare and Priority Flora List for Western Australia*, Department of Conservation and Land Management, as amended;

rare flora means flora that is declared to be rare flora under section 23F of the *Wildlife Conservation Act 1950*;

rehabilitation means actively managing an area containing native vegetation in order to improve the ecological function of that area;

revegetation means the re-establishment of a cover of *native vegetation* in an area such that the species composition, structure and density is similar to *pre-clearing* vegetation types in that area, and can involve regeneration, direct seeding and/or planting;

road building materials means rock, gravel, soil, stone, timber, boulders and water;

term means the duration of this Permit, including as amended or renewed;

weed means a species listed in Appendix 3 of the "Environmental Weed Strategy" published by the Department of Conservation and Land Management (1999), and plants declared under section 37 of the *Agricultural and Related Resources Protection Act 1976*.



Kelly Faulkner
MANAGER
NATIVE VEGETATION CONSERVATION BRANCH

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

29 September 2011



1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 890/3
Permit type: Purpose Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Shire of Bridgetown - Greenbushes

1.3. Property details

Property: Lot 11952 on Plan 206069 (CATTERICK)
Lot 900 on Plan 187459 (BRIDGETOWN)
Various Road Reserves, Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes
Local Government Area: Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
12.45	Mechanical Removal	Road construction or maintenance

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: GRANT
Decision Date: 29 September 2011

2. Site Information

2.1. Existing environment and information

2.1.1. Description of the native vegetation under application

Vegetation Description	Clearing Description	Vegetation Condition	Comment
Beard units: 3 & 992	6ha over two gravel pit locations. 3.85ha for road widening over 10 roads. 2.6ha to maintain a cleared area around bridge abutments over 13 bridge locations. Max of 0.2ha for each bridge.	Completely Degraded: No longer intact; completely/almost completely without native species (Keighery 1994)	Vegetation condition established through site visit photographs. Vegetation condition varies from completely degraded to good throughout the locations.
Mattiske: D1, CC1, GR, NWg1, HR, BL, BLf, BT, BTf, NWf1, DMg, DM1 & LK1		Degraded: Structure severely disturbed; regeneration to good condition requires intensive management (Keighery 1994)	
Hedde: Catterick Complex, Dwellingup & Hester Complex, Balingup Complex, Bridgetown Complex & Michibin Complex		Good: Structure significantly altered by multiple disturbance; retains basic structure/ability to regenerate (Keighery 1994)	

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

Comments

An application from the Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes to extend the duration of their clearing permit CPS 890/1 was received by the Department of Environment and Conservation on the 9 June 2011 (Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes, 2011a). This application was later withdrawn due to a planned review of the Shire's clearing permits. As such the duration of the permit is to be extended by one year to provide sufficient time to undertake this review. Until a review of the permit is undertaken the variances against the clearing principles have not changed and can be found in the Clearing Permit Decision Report CPS 890/1.

Methodology

References:
- Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes (2011a)

Planning instrument, Native Title, Previous EPA decision or other matter.

Comments

The Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes does not have any objections to the extension of the duration of the permit for the review and advised that they wish to waive the 28 day notification period for the amended clearing permit (Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes, 2011b).

Methodology **References:**
- Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes (2011b)

4. References

- Keighery, B.J. (1994) Bushland Plant Survey: A Guide to Plant Community Survey for the Community. Wildflower Society of WA (Inc). Nedlands, Western Australia.
- Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes (2011a) Application for an amendment to a clearing permit – CPS 890/1, Lot 11952 on Plan 206069, Catterick, Lot 900 on Plan 187459, Bridgetown and various road reserves. Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes, Bridgetown Western Australia. DEC ref A402551.
- Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes (2011b) Email correspondence: Notification of Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes waiver of 28 day notification period for CPS 890/3. Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes, Bridgetown Western Australia. DEC ref A435620.

5. Glossary

Term	Meaning
CALM	Department of Conservation and Land Management (now DEC)
DAFWA	Department of Agriculture and Food
DEC	Department of Environment and Conservation
DEP	Department of Environmental Protection (now DEC)
DoE	Department of Environment
DoIR	Department of Industry and Resources
DoW	Department of Water
DRF	Declared Rare Flora
EPP	Environmental Protection Policy
GIS	Geographical Information System
ha	Hectare (10,000 square metres)
TEC	Threatened Ecological Community
WRC	Water and Rivers Commission (now DoW)