

#### **CLEARING PERMIT**

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

#### PERMIT DETAILS

Area Permit Number: CPS 9032/1

File Number: DWERVT6418

Duration of Permit: From 15 September 2022 to 15 September 2029

#### PERMIT HOLDER

C.A. Ryan Pty Ltd

#### LAND ON WHICH CLEARING IS TO BE DONE

Lot 1486 on Deposited Plan 115192, Balbarrup

#### **AUTHORISED ACTIVITY**

The permit holder must not clear more than 49.82 hectares of *native vegetation* within the area cross-hatched yellow in Figure 1 of Schedule 1.

#### **CONDITIONS**

## 1) Period in which clearing is authorized

The permit holder shall not clear any native vegetation after 15 September 2024.

## 2) Type of clearing authorised

To the extent authorised under this permit, the permit holder may undertake the following activities within the area cross-hatched yellow on Figure 1 of Schedule 1:

- a) Thinning of Marri (Corymbia calophylla) and Jarrah (Eucalyptus marginata) trees;
- b) culling and burning of unsaleable trees;
- c) clearing for the establishment of up to two *log landings* no larger than 0.05 hectares in size in total;
- d) clearing of *understorey* where undertaken in association with the activities described under conditions 2(a), (b) or (c); and
- e) prescribed burning of understorey on one occasion.

#### 3) Avoid, minimise, and reduce impacts and extent of clearing

In determining the *native vegetation* authorised to be cleared under this permit, the permit holder must apply the following principles, set out in descending 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.

# 4) Weed and dieback management

When undertaking any clearing authorised under this permit, the permit holder must take the following measures to minimise the risk of 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) only move soils in *dry conditions*; and
- d) restrict the movement of machines and other vehicles to the limits of the areas to be cleared.

## 5) Vegetation management – thinning

- a) Thinning activities undertaken in accordance with condition 2(a) of this permit must be performed by a *forestry operator*.
- b) Operation of logging machinery used to undertake activities authorised under this permit must only be performed during *dry conditions*.
- c) Prior to undertaking any clearing authorised under this permit, an *environmental* specialist must determine the species composition, structure and density of the *understorey* of areas proposed to be *thinned*.
- d) Prior to undertaking any clearing authorised under this permit, a *forestry operator* must inspect all *habitat trees* within the area cross-hatched yellow in Figure 1 of Schedule 1 and:
  - i) demarcate any *habitat trees* containing hollows suitable for use by *black* cockatoo species or *Phascogale tapoatafa wambenger* (south-western brush-tailed phascogale);
  - ii) provide locations of each *habitat tree* identified in accordance with condition 5(d)(i), recorded using a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit set to Geocentric Datum Australia 2020 (GDA20), expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings, to the *CEO*.
- e) The permit holder must not clear any *habitat trees* containing hollows suitable for use by *black cockatoo species* or *Phascogale tapoatafa wambenger* (southwestern brush-tailed phascogale) identified in accordance with condition 5(d)(i) of this permit.
- f) The permit holder must retain a minimum of an average of five (5) habitat trees per hectare.

- g) A minimum retention rate of 15 m<sup>2</sup>/hectare basal area is required within the area of clearing authorised under this permit.
- h) A minimum of one 30 metre diameter patch of *healthy representative understorey*, on average, per hectare authorised to be cleared under this permit, is required to be retained, preferencing *healthy representative understorey*, where present containing *suitable western ringtail possum habitat*;
- i) On average, a minimum of one *ground habitat log* per hectare authorised to be cleared under this permit, is required to be retained;
- j) The permit holder must remove all *woody fuels* present within a 1 metre radius of each *habitat tree* (retained under conditions 5(e) and 5(f) of this Permit) and each ground habitat log (retained under condition 5(i) of this permit);
- k) The permit holder must, by no later than 15 December 2024, during *dry conditions*, rehabilitate established *log landings* and *extraction tracks* by scarifying the soil surface to reduce compaction and facilitate natural regeneration.
- 1) Within two years of 15 September 2024, the permit holder must:
  - i) engage an *environmental specialist* to determine the species composition, structure and density of the *understorey* of areas subject to *thinning*; and
  - ii) where, in the opinion of an *environmental specialist*, there is evidence that *understorey* will not recover and develop towards its pre-clearing composition, structure and density determined under condition 5(c), the permit holder must undertake *remedial action* at an *optimal time* within the next 12 months to ensure re-establishment of *understorey* prior to expiry of this permit.

## 6) Vegetation management – prescribed burning

The permit holder must ensure that any *prescribed burning* undertaken in accordance with condition 2(e) of this permit shall only occur:

- a) Between spring and early summer in any year; and
- b) During suitable conditions.

## 7) Directional clearing

The permit holder must conduct clearing activities in a slow, progressive manner from one direction towards adjacent *native vegetation* to allow fauna to move into adjacent *native vegetation* ahead of the clearing activity.

## 8) Records that must be kept

The permit holder must maintain records relating to the listed relevant matters in accordance with the specifications detailed in Table 1.

Table 1: Records that must be kept

| No. | Relevant matter  | Specif | Specifications   |  |
|-----|--|--------|--|--|
| 1.  | In relation to the authorised clearing activities generally  | a)     | the species composition, structure, and density of the cleared area;   |  |
|     |  | b)     | the location where the clearing occurred, recorded using a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit set to Geocentric Datum Australia 2020 (GDA20), expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings; |  |
|     |  | c)     | the date that the area was cleared;  |  |
|     |  | d)     | the direction that clearing occurred;  |  |
|     |  | e)     | the size of the area cleared (in hectares);  |  |
|     |  | f)     | actions taken to avoid, minimise, and reduce the impacts and extent of clearing in accordance with condition 3;  |  |
|     |  | g)     | actions taken to minimise the risk of the introduction and spread of <i>weeds</i> and <i>dieback</i> in accordance with condition 4.   |  |
| 2.  | In relation to vegetation management pursuant to condition 5 | a)     | the <i>environmental specialist</i> 's report documenting the species composition, structure and density of the <i>understorey</i> in accordance with condition 5(c);  |  |
|     |  | b)     | for <i>habitat trees</i> retained in accordance with conditions 5(d) and (e):  |  |
|     |  |        | i) the species of each tree;   |  |
|     |  |        | ii) the location of each tree, recorded using a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit set to Geocentric Datum Australia 2020 (GDA20), expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings;            |  |
|     |  |        | iii) a photograph of each tree; and  |  |
|     |  |        | iv) the number per hectare of <i>habitat trees</i> retained;   |  |
|     |  | c)     | monitoring undertaken to ensure that the specified minimum <i>basal area</i> is retained;  |  |
|     |  | d)     | the locations of patches of <i>healthy</i> representative understorey vegetation retained, recorded using a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit set to  |  |

| No. | Relevant matter  | Specifications |  |
|-----|--|----------------|--|
|     |  |                | Geocentric Datum Australia 2020 (GDA20), expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings;  |
|     |  | e)             | actions taken to remove <i>woody fuels</i> surrounding retained <i>habitat trees</i> and <i>ground habitat logs</i> in accordance with condition 5(j) of this Permit;  |
|     |  | f)             | number of <i>log landings</i> established and their location, recorded using a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit set to Geocentric Datum Australia 2020 (GDA20), expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings; |
|     |  | g)             | the date(s) the <i>log landings</i> and <i>extraction tracks</i> were rehabilitated;   |
|     |  | h)             | photographs of the <i>understorey</i> taken at one year, two years and three years after completing clearing authorised under this permit; and   |
|     |  | i)             | A detailed description of the nature and extent of any <i>remedial actions</i> undertaken in accordance with 5(l)(ii).   |
| 3.  | In relation to vegetation management pursuant to condition 6 | a)             | date(s) when the prescribed burning activities were undertaken.  |

## 9) Reporting

- a) The permit holder must provide to the *CEO* on or before 30 June of each year, a written report:
  - (i) of records required under condition 8 of this permit; and
  - (ii) concerning activities done by the permit holder under this permit between 1 January to 31 December of the preceding calendar year.
- b) If no clearing authorised under this permit was undertaken between 1 January to 31 December of the preceding calendar year, a written report confirming that no clearing under this permit has been carried out, must be provided to the *CEO* on or before 30 June of each year.
- c) Prior to XX January 2029, the permit holder must provide to the *CEO* a written report of records required under condition 8 of this permit where these records have not already been provided under condition 9(a) of this permit.

# **DEFINITIONS**

In this permit, the terms in Table 2 have the meanings defined.

**Table 2: Definitions** 

| Term                               | Definition  |
|------------------------------------|---|
| basal area                         | is the method of expression of tree cover density in an area where the total area of tree trunk, whose diameter over bark is measured at 1.3 metres above the ground, is expressed as square metres per hectares of land area.  |
| CEO                                | Chief Executive Officer of the department responsible for the administration of the clearing provisions under the <i>Environmental Protection Act 1986</i> .  |
| clearing                           | has the meaning given under section 3(1) of the EP Act.   |
| condition                          | a condition to which this clearing permit is subject under section 51H of the EP Act.   |
| culled/ing                         | means the selective removal and/or killing of unsaleable trees for <i>thinning</i> , using methods including notching, felling or machine puching.  |
| dieback                            | means the effect of <i>Phytophthora</i> species on native vegetation.   |
| dry conditions                     | means when soils (not dust) do not freely adhere to rubber tyres, tracks, vehicle chassis or wheel arches.  |
| environmental specialist           | means an external person with experience relevant to the type of environmental advice that an environmental specialist is required to provide under this permit, or who is approved by the <i>CEO</i> as a suitable environmental specialist.   |
| extraction tracks                  | means tracks along which trees felled by logging machinery are moved from the cutting site to a landing or roadside.  |
| EP Act                             | Environmental Protection Act 1986 (WA)  |
| fill                               | means material used to increase the ground level, or to fill a depression.  |
| forestry operator                  | means an external person with a minimum of 5 years of experience in conducting forestry activities to meet harvest and silvicultural standards required for native forest operations on lands managed by Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions.  |
| ground habitat log                 | means a log with a minimum length of 3 metres and a minimum internal hollow diameter of 10 centimetres.   |
| habitat tree                       | means trees that have a diameter, measured over bark at 1.3 meters from the base of the tree, of at least 70 centimetres for karri ( <i>Eucalyptus diversicolor</i> ) and of at least 50 centimetres for jarrah ( <i>Eucalyptus marginata</i> ), marri ( <i>Corymbia calophylla</i> ) or blackbutt ( <i>Eucalyptus patens</i> ), that contain or have the potential to develop hollows or roosts suitable for native fauna. |
| healthy representative understorey | means native <i>understorey</i> vegetation that is vigorous, free of disease, and has a similar species composition to typical pre-clearing <i>understorey</i> vegetation present within the area in which clearing is authorised.  |
| log landing                        | means an area established for the purpose of stockpiling commercially harvested trees, to enable loading for collection.  |
| 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 under section 3(1) and section 51A of the EP  |

| Term  | Definition   |
|---|--|
|   | Act.   |
| optimal time                                | means the period from April to June for undertaking direct seeding, and the period from May to July for undertaking planting.  |
| prescribed burning                          | is the process of planning and applying fire to a predetermined area, under specific environmental conditions, to minimise the size and intensity of fire on life, property and critical infrastructure.   |
| remedial action                             | means for the purpose of this permit, any activity that is required to ensure successful re-establishment of <i>understorey</i> to its pre-clearing composition, structure and density, and may include a combination of soil treatments and revegetation.   |
| suitable conditions                         | mean conditions that have been determined by a Bush Fire Officer appointed under the <i>Bush Fires Act 1954</i> to be suitable to allow the burning of vegetation within the area authorised under this Permit to occur.   |
| suitable western<br>ringtail possum habitat | means habitat known to support western ringtail possums ( <i>Pseudocheirus occidentalis</i> ) within the known current distribution of the species, typically characterised by abundant foliage, presence of suitable nesting structures such as tree hollows, as well as high canopy cover and continuity. Known habitat includes peppermint ( <i>Agonis flexuosa</i> ) dominated woodlands, jarrah ( <i>Eucalyptus marginata</i> ) and marri ( <i>Corymbia calophylla</i> ) forests, riparian vegetation with a canopy of Bullich ( <i>Eucalyptus megacarpa</i> ) or flooded gum ( <i>Eucalyptus rudis</i> ), karri ( <i>Eucalyptus diversicolor</i> ) forests, sheoak ( <i>Allocasuarina fraseriana</i> ) dominated woodlands, and other stands of myrtaceous trees growing near swamps, watercourses or floodplains. |
| thinned/ing                                 | describes a silvicultural activity to promote the growth of selected trees<br>by reducing competition through the removal of smaller stems with<br>consideration of tree spacing to maintain the overall structure and<br>composition of the dominant overstorey species.  |
| understorey                                 | means, for the purpose of this permit, all native vegetation that does not include trees to be <i>culled</i> or subject to harvest.  |
| weeds                                       | means any plant —  (a) that is a declared pest under section 22 of the <i>Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act 2007</i> ; or  (b) published in a Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions species-led ecological impact and invasiveness ranking summary, regardless of ranking; or  (c) not indigenous to the area concerned.   |
| woody fuels                                 | mean woody vegetative materials that have a diameter of 75 mm or greater and a length of 1 metre or greater.   |

# **END OF CONDITIONS**

Mathew Gannaway

**MANAGER** 

# NATIVE VEGETATION REGULATION

Officer delegated under Section 20 of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

22 August 2022

# **SCHEDULE 1**

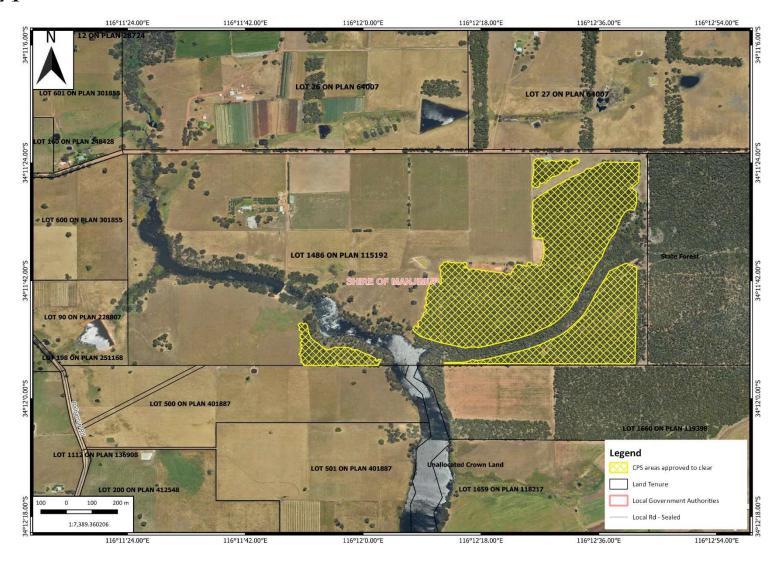


Figure 1: Map of the boundary of the area within which clearing may occur

CPS 9032/1, 22 August 2022