



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Purpose Permit number:	CPS 9093/1
Permit Holder:	City of Busselton
Duration of Permit:	From 21 December 2020 – 21 December 2025

The Permit Holder is authorised to clear native vegetation subject to the following conditions of this Permit.

PART I – CLEARING AUTHORISED

1. Purpose for which clearing may be done

Clearing for the purpose of constructing a footpath.

2. Land on which clearing is to be done

Beach Road Reserve (PIN 11410885), Dunsborough

3. Area of Clearing

The permit holder must not clear more than 3 native trees within the area cross-hatched yellow in Figure 1 of Schedule 1.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Meenu Vitarana".

Meenu Vitarana
A/MANAGER
NATIVE VEGETATION REGULATION

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

26 November 2020

SCHEDULE 1

The boundary of the area authorised to be cleared is shown in the map below (Figure 1).

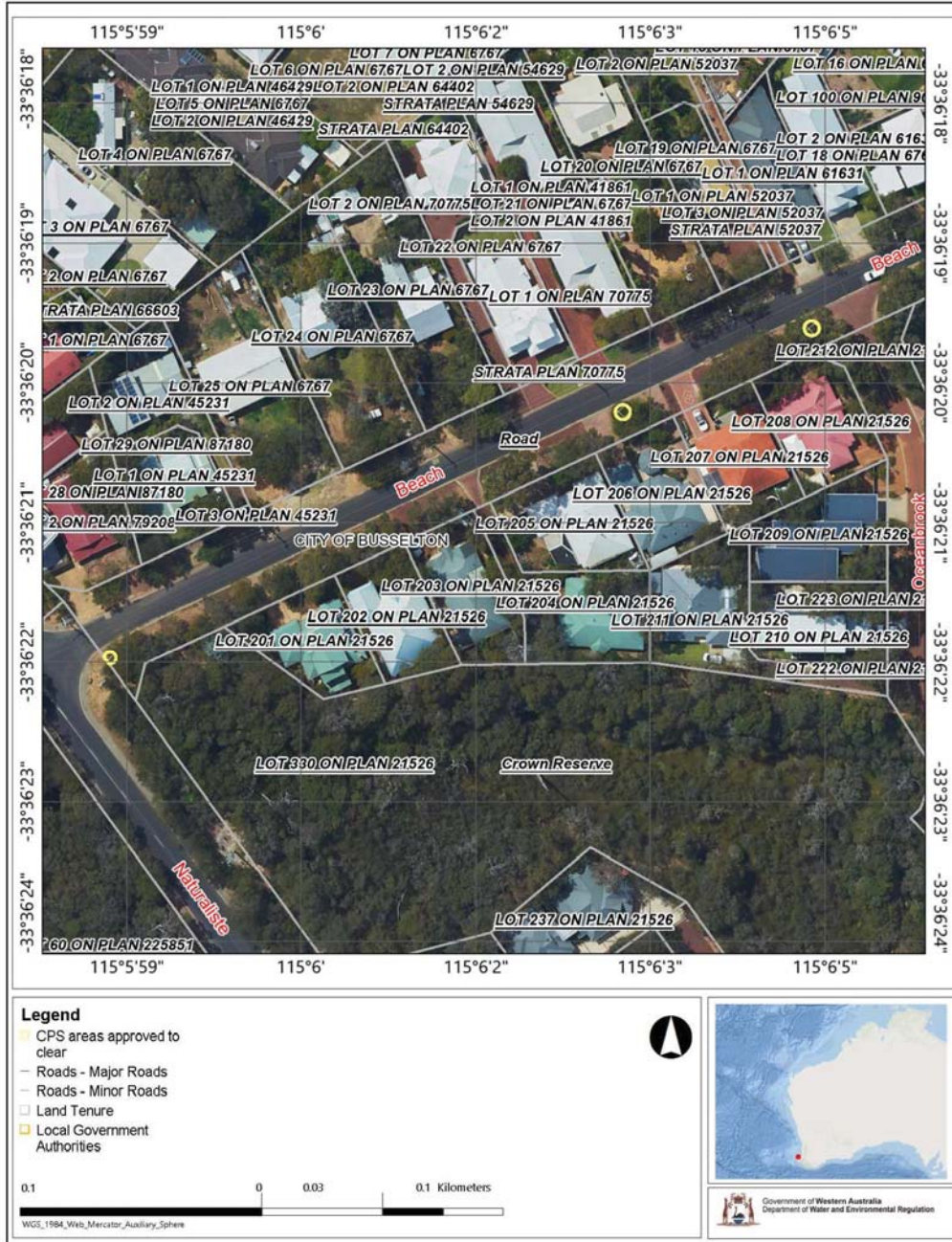


Figure 1: Map of the area within which clearing may occur.



Clearing Permit Decision Report

1. Application details and outcome

1.1. Permit application details

Permit number:	CPS 9093/1
Permit type:	Purpose permit
Applicant name:	City of Busselton
Purpose of clearing:	Footpath construction
Property:	Beach Road Reserve (PIN 11410885), Dunsborough
Location (LGA area/s):	City of Busselton

1.2. Description of clearing activities

The application is for the proposed clearing of 3 native trees to facilitate the construction of a two-metre concrete footpath along a portion of Beach Road, Dunsborough. The 3 native trees proposed to be cleared includes one *Corymbia calophylla*, one *Callistemon* sp. and one *Melaleuca* sp., dispersed throughout a range of non-native species planted within the road reserve (Accendo, 2020).

1.3. Decision on application and key considerations

Decision:	Granted
Decision date:	26 November 2020
Decision area:	3 native trees

1.4. Reasons for decision

This clearing permit application was made in accordance with section 51E of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (EP Act) and was received by the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) on 27 October 2020. DWER advertised the application for public comment for a period of 7 days, and no submissions were received.

In undertaking the assessment, the Delegated Officer had regard for the site characteristics, relevant datasets, photographs of the vegetation, the clearing principles set out in Schedule 5 of the EP Act, and any other matters considered relevant to the assessment. The assessment identified that the proposed clearing will have negligible impact on habitat for flora, fauna and ecological communities, conservation areas and/or wetlands.

After consideration of the available information, the Delegated Officer determined that the proposed clearing is not likely to lead to an unacceptable risk to the environment. The Delegated Officer decided to grant a clearing permit with nil management conditions.

2. Assessment of application

2.1. Avoidance and mitigation measures

The applicant has advised that the construction of the footpath was relocated to the southern side of Beach Road, Dunsborough, which comprises less native vegetation (City of Busselton, 2020). Noting the small scale and low impact of the clearing, it was deemed that no further consideration is required to minimise impacts on environmental values.

2.2. Assessment

The assessment against the ten clearing principles identified that the native vegetation proposed to be cleared is not likely to provide habitat for conservation significant flora; does not contain, or form a part of a threatened or priority ecological community; or impact on any riparian vegetation. The juvenile marri tree proposed to be cleared (diameter

at breast height of approximately 20 centimetres, Accendo, 2020) is not likely to provide significant foraging or breeding habitat for any black cockatoo species (*Calyptorhynchus banksii naso*, *Calyptorhynchus baudinii*, or *Calyptorhynchus latirostris*), or any other conservation significant fauna species. The vegetation may provide suitable habitat for the western ringtail possum (*Pseudocheirus occidentalis*) and contribute to canopy connectivity along the road reserve. However, it is noted that the proposed clearing involves the removal of three individual trees dispersed throughout a range of non-native species and containing no hollows for diurnal refuge, and that the application area is adjacent to two Crown reserves, which are likely to provide a larger area of more suitable habitat for western ringtail possums. Given the above, it is not considered likely that the proposed clearing will impact significant habitat for any conservation significant fauna species or significantly reduce vegetation connectivity for fauna species in the local area.

The application is within an environmentally sensitive area (ESA), however this ESA is associated with a buffer to a threatened ecological community (TEC), and noting the distance to this TEC and that the vegetation adjacent to the three trees proposed to be cleared is not representative of any known ecological communities, the proposed clearing is not likely to have any significant impacts to TECs within the local area.

The application area may be considered to be growing in association with a wetland, as it includes a riparian species (*Melaleuca* sp.) and occurs within 10 metres of a mapped palusvale. However, given the application area is located within a highly developed residential area and noting the extent of the proposed clearing, it is not considered likely that the removal of three individual trees within a predominantly planted road reserve will impact the environmental values associated with the riparian communities of this mapped wetland.

At the bioregion (Jarrah Forest) and local (10-kilometre radius from the perimeter of the application area) scale, over 30 per cent of the pre-European vegetation extent remains. The nearest conservation area, Ngari Capes Marine Park, is located over 300 metres east of the application area. Noting the proposed clearing is separated to this conservation area by cleared land, the proposed clearing is not likely to impact on the environmental values of this area. The proposed clearing of three trees is not likely to lead to appreciable land degradation or impacts surface water quality, groundwater quality or lead to increase in flooding.

Based on the above, the proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance with the clearing principles.

It is the permit holder's responsibility to comply with the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972* (WA) and ensure that no Aboriginal Sites of Significance are damaged through the clearing process.

Appendix A - References and databases

A.1. GIS datasets

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

- Aboriginal Heritage Places (DPLH-001)
- Cadastre Address (LGATE-002)
- DBCA – Lands of Interest (DBCA-012)
- DBCA Legislated Lands and Waters (DBCA-011)
- Directory of Important Wetlands in Australia – Western Australia (DBCA-045)
- Environmentally Sensitive Areas (DWER-046)
- Flood Risk (DPIRD-007)
- Hydrography – Inland Waters – Waterlines
- IBRA Vegetation Statistics
- Imagery
- Local Planning Scheme – Zones and Reserves (DPLH-071)
- Pre-European Vegetation Statistics
- Public Drinking Water Source Areas (DWER-033)
- Regional Parks (DBCA-026)
- Remnant Vegetation, All Areas
- RIWI Act, Groundwater Areas (DWER-034)
- RIWI Act, Surface Water Areas and Irrigation Districts (DWER-037)
- Soil Landscape Mapping – Best Available
- Soil Landscape Mapping – Systems

Restricted GIS Databases used:

- ICMS (Incident Complaints Management System) – Points and Polygons
- Threatened Flora (TPFL)
- Threatened Flora (WAHerb)
- Threatened Fauna
- Threatened Ecological Communities and Priority Ecological Communities
- Threatened Ecological Communities and Priority Ecological Communities (Buffers)

A.2. References

Accendo (2020) *Beach Road, Dunsborough – Clearing Permit Application Supporting Information* (DWER Ref: DWERDT356640).

City of Busselton (2020) *Purpose permit application form and supporting information for Clearing Permit Application CPS 9093/1* (DWER Ref: DWERDT356640).