

CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

PERMIT DETAILS

Area Permit Number: 921/1 File Number: DEC 21896

Duration of Permit: From 18 June 2007 to 18 June 2012

PERMIT HOLDER

City of Bunbury

LAND ON WHICH CLEARING IS TO BE DONE

LOT 454 ON DEPOSITED PLAN 210577

AUTHORISED ACTIVITY

1. Clearing of up to 0.75 hectares of native vegetation within the area cross hatched yellow on attached Plan 921/1.

CONDITIONS

1. Avoid, minimise etc clearing

In determining the amount of native vegetation to be cleared for the purpose of the construction of a new road 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. Fauna management

- a) Prior to clearing within the area described in Authorised Activity above, the area shall be inspected by a fauna specialist who shall identify the presence of Pseudocheirus occidentalis (Western Ringtail Possum).
- b) The Permit Holder shall ensure that any fauna identified in condition 2(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.

3. 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* under this Permit.

4. Offsets

- (a) The Permit Holder shall undertake revegetation and rehabilitation of the areas cross-hatched red on attached Plan 921/1 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) The Permit Holder shall selectively remove or kill plant species that are not native vegetation within the area cross-hatched red on attached Plan 921/1 for the term of this permit.
- (b) Within one year of undertaking revegetation and rehabilitation in accordance with condition 4(a), the Permit Holder must:
 - (i) Determine the species composition, structure and density of the area revegetated; and
 - (ii) Where, in the opinion of an *environmental specialist*, the composition structure and density determined under condition 4(a)(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 4(a)(i) and (ii).

5. Records to be kept

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

- (a) The Permit Holder must maintain the following records in relation to Fauna Management pursuant to condition 2:
 - (i) The number of the species identified, and that have been observed utilising the area;
 - (ii) The number of the species relocated; and
 - (iii) The location and date where relocated fauna was released, using Geocentric Datum Australia 1994.
- (b) In relation to the offsets of areas pursuant to condition 4:
 - (i) The commencement date of revegetation and rehabilitation;
 - (ii) The location of any area revegetated and rehabilitated recorded using Geocentric Datum Australia 1994;
 - (iii) A description of the revegetation and rehabilitation activities undertaken;
 - (iv) The size of the area revegetated and rehabilitation (in hectares); and
 - (v) The species, structure and composition of revegetation and rehabilitation measured.

6. 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 5 and activities done by the Permit Holder under this Permit between 1 January and 31 December of the preceding year.

7. Definitions

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

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.

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 Environment and Conservation, 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;

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 and regulation 4 of the Environmental Protection (Clearing of Native Vegetation) Regulations 2004;

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

revegetation or **revegetated** 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.

K.J. Taylor

A/Deputy Director General Environment Department of Environment and Conservation.

Officer delegated under Section 20

of the Environmental Protection Act 1986