



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Purpose Permit number:	CPS 9372/2
Permit Holder:	Red Gully Forge Pty Ltd
Duration of Permit:	6 November 2021 – 6 November 2026

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 upgrading an existing electrical connection to a residential house.

2. Land on which clearing is to be done

Brookton Highway Road reserve (PIN 11559717)

3. Area of Clearing

The permit holder must not clear more than 0.05597 hectares of native vegetation within the area cross-hatched yellow in Figure 1 of Schedule 1.


Ryan Mincham
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Ryan Mincham
MANAGER
NATIVE VEGETATION REGULATION

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

24 January 2022

SCHEDULE 1

Plan of authorised clearing area

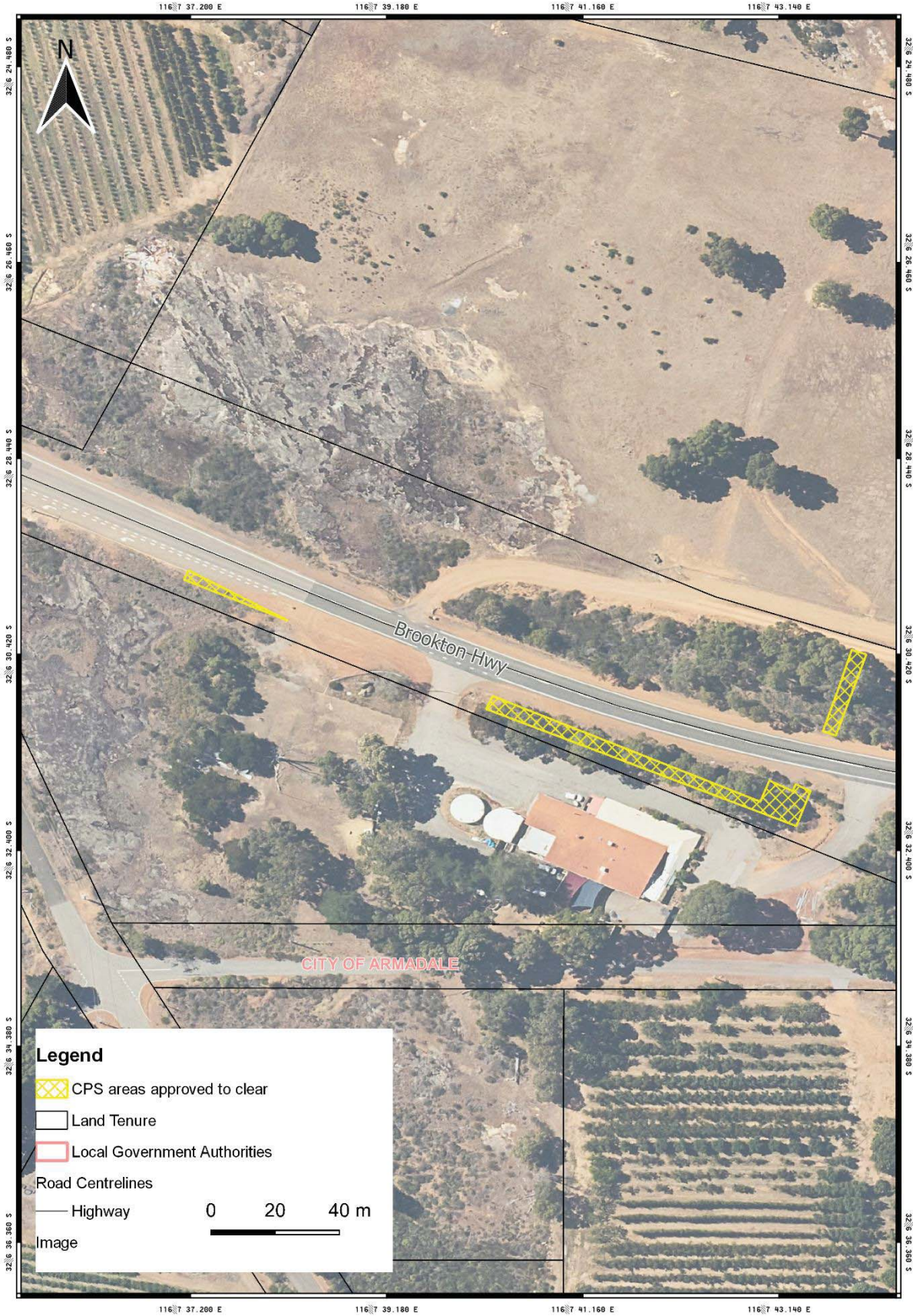


Figure 1: Plan of the areas authorised to be cleared (cross-hatched yellow)



Clearing Permit Decision Report

1. Application details and outcome

1.1. Permit application details

Permit number:	CPS 9372/2
Permit type:	Purpose permit
Applicant name:	Red Gully Forge Pty Ltd
Purpose of clearing:	Upgrade of residential power supply
Property:	Brookton Highway Road reserve (PIN 11559717)
Location (LGA area/s):	City of Armadale

1.2. Description of clearing activities

The amendment is to alter the permit boundary and decrease the area approved to be cleared under CPS 9372/1 to 0.05597 hectares (see Figure 1, Section 1.5). CPS 9372/1 allowed for the clearing of 0.0914 hectares of native vegetation in two sections, both within Brookton Highway Road reserve (PIN 11559717) for the purpose of upgrading an existing electrical connection to a residential house. When works commenced on the cable route, areas of hard rock were identified and Western Power decided to amend the route as it was operationally too difficult and costly to drill through the rock. As a result, Western Power are extending the existing overhead line and undergrounding from the new pole location to the residence's point of connection and crossing under Brookton Highway 65 metres east of the original approved crossing.

The proposed clearing will selectively remove vegetation to accommodate works for the placement of an underground electrical connection and a duct underneath the Brookton Highway. There are now three new proposed clearing areas:

- a strip of tapering vegetation approximately 30 metres in length on the southern side of the Brookton Highway, which is west and adjacent to the area previously approved within the road reserve;
- an approximately 90 metre isolated strip of vegetation on the southern side of the Brookton Highway within the road reserve, which includes a 10 x 10 metre patch of vegetation that has to be cleared to accommodate the ducting underneath Brookton Highway; and
- an approximately 65 x 4 metre strip of vegetation on the north side of the Brookton Highway, running north to south between the Brookton Highway and the gravel entrance road to the property.

The application has been made to cover the inadvertent impacts to vegetation along the route that may be caused by the works and the clearing of 10 x 10 metre patch of vegetation within the 0.05597 hectare envelope. The vegetation to be cleared consists mainly of grasses, weeds and immature trees, which include Marri (*Eucalyptus calophylla*) and Peppermint tree (*Agonis flexuosa*).

1.3. Decision on application and key considerations

Decision:	Granted
Decision date:	24 January 2022
Decision area:	0.05597 hectares (ha) of native vegetation.

1.4. Reasons for decision

This clearing permit amendment application was submitted, accepted, assessed and determined in accordance with sections 51E and 51O of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (EP Act) and was received by the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) on 16 November 2021. 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 determination has not changed since the assessment for CPS 9372/1. The assessment identified that the proposed amendment will still have negligible impact on habitat for flora, fauna and ecological communities, conservation areas and/or wetlands.

After consideration of the available information, as well as the applicant's minimisation and mitigation measures, the Delegated Officer determined that the proposed amendment is not likely to lead to an unacceptable risk to the environment. The Delegated Officer decided to grant an amendment to clearing permit CPS 9372/1 with nil management conditions.



Map illustrating the proposed amendment to Clearing Permit CPS 9372/1

1.5. Site map



Figure 1: Map of the application area. The areas cross-hatched yellow indicates the areas authorised to be cleared under the granted clearing permit.

2. Assessment of application

2.1. Avoidance and mitigation measures

While no evidence of avoidance or mitigation measures was provided to support the application, 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 or fauna and does not contain, or form a part of a threatened or priority ecological community (see Appendix A for site photographs). The proposed clearing area is an area that has already been significantly altered for road construction and vehicle access.

Spatial data indicates the local area (10-kilometre radius from the centre of the area proposed to be cleared) retains approximately 80 per cent of the original native vegetation cover. The extent of the native vegetation in the local area is consistent with the national objectives and targets for biodiversity conservation in Australia.

The area is situated between two conservation areas; Midgegooroo National Park located approximately 150 metres east and Stinton Cascades Nature Reserve located approximately 270 metres west of the application area. The minimal scale of proposed clearing is not likely to impact on the environmental values of these conservation areas. The proposed clearing is not likely to lead to appreciable land degradation or impacts to surface water quality, groundwater quality or lead to increase in flooding.

Based on the above, the proposed amendment is not likely to be at variance with any of 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 – Site Photographs



Areas in road reserve that may be inadvertently cleared due to the placement of underground ducts



In the foreground, the 10 x 10 metre area on the north side of Brookton Highway that will need to be cleared to duct electrical connection cable underneath the Brookton Highway.

Appendix B – References and databases

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)
- 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)

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)

2. References

Red Gully Forge Pty Ltd (2021). Application to amend CPS 9372/1 application form and supporting information for Amendment Application CPS 9372/2 (DWER Ref: DWERVT8367)

Mattiske, E.M. and Havel, J.J. (1998) *Vegetation Complexes of the South-west Forest Region of Western Australia*. Maps and report prepared as part of the Regional Forest Agreement, Western Australia for the Department of Conservation and Land Management and Environment Australia.