

Department of Water and Environmental Regulation
Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety

Application for new permit or referral to clear native vegetation

This is the form to submit a referral of proposed clearing or apply for a clearing permit under Part V of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (EP Act).

Before you submit this form, please check you have completed all the fields for the form type and fully prepared any required supporting documents (including maps etc.). We will return / decline any forms that are not correctly completed.

To find out more about the stages of assessment for clearing permit forms, see the *Procedure: Native vegetation clearing permits*.

Part 1 – Form type

Select your form type.	☐ Referral of proposed clearing (section 51DA of the EP Act)
NOTE: Where appropriate in this form, and unless stated	☐ Application for an area permit (section 51E of the EP Act)
otherwise, the terms 'application' and 'applicant' also mean 'referral' and 'referrer' respectively.	☑ Application for a purpose permit (section 51E of the EP Act)

Part 2 – Applicant details

2.1 Applicant name

For area permits:	☐ Applying as a	n individual – complete	the following:	
If granted, the	Title	☐ Mr ☐ Mrs ☐ Ms	□ Other:	
name(s) of (all) landowner(s) will be listed as	Name(s)			
'permit holders' on the permit.		Applying as a body corporate or other entity formed at law – complete the lowing:		
For purpose permits:	Name	Arc Infrastructure		
If granted, the name(s) of (all)	Australian Company Number (ACN) 094 721 30		094 721 301	
applicant(s) will go on the permit.	☐ Applying as a government entity (e.g. government department, local government authority, or other statutory body)		epartment, local	
Pomic	Name			

2.2 Applicant contact details

Provide the contact details for the above (primary contact).

Title	□ Mr □ Mrs ⋈ Ms □ Other:
First name	
Last name	
Position	
Company name	
Contact phone number (1)	Phone number (2)
Email address	

2.2 Applicant contact postal details

Provide the postal address for the above individual, body corporate or local government authority (primary contact).

Address line 1		
Address line 2		
Suburb		
State	Postcode	

2.3 Applicant contact – registered business address

If applying as a company, incorporated body, local government authority or public authority, please also supply the registered business office address.

Address line 1	
Address line 2	_
Suburb	
State	Postcode
Contact phone number (1)	Phone number (2)

2.4 Electronia	correspon	dence	consent
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Both the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) and Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety (DMIRS) prefer to send all correspondence via email. We request that you consent to receiving all correspondence relating to instruments and notices under Part V of the EP Act via email. Please indicate your consent in this section of the form.

I consent that all written correspondence between myself (the applicant) and DWER/DMIRS (as applicable) about the subject of this form will be exclusively via email, using the email address provided above.				⊠ Yes	□ No
2.5 Contact details for enquiries If different from the applicant's contact details, enter the contact details of a person with whom DWER or DMIRS should liaise with (e.g. a consultant).					n
Same as applicant's contact details ☐ Yes ☒ No				⊠ No	
If 'No' – complete the following:					
Contact name					
Position (if applicable)					
Company name (if applicable)					
Contact phone number (1)		Phone r	number (2)		
Business or postal address line 1			·		
Business or postal address line 2					
Suburb					
State			Postcode		
Email address		'			

Part 3 – Land details

- You must accurately describe the location of the land where your clearing is proposed.
- If you have a large number of properties, please provide the relevant details for each property in a separately attached supporting document.

3.1 Property details

relevant details in an attached supporting document.
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If 'No' – complete the following:

Land description Provide the following details, as applicable,	Railway corridor, with specific areas from KM 344.9-346.485 along the Esperance Branch Line, Line 51.		
for all properties:	Lot on Plan	A RAIL WAY	
volume and folio number lot or location number(s)	Lot on Plan	V CROWN LAN	D
crown lease or reserve number pastoral lease number mining tenement number	Land ID Number Lot on Plan		_
Street address – Line 1	Land ID Number	3110989	_
Street address – Line 2			
Suburb	Scaddan		
State	Western Australia	Postcode	6447
Local government area(s)	Esperance		
Land zoning	Transport corridor	– Freight Railwa	у

Part 4 – Relationship to landowner

Tell us which of the following options best describes you as the person completing and submitting this form. If you are filling out this form on behalf of the applicant, answer this question as though you are the applicant.

<u>Proof of ownership</u> may include:

- a certificate of title (that is less than 6 months old)
- a pastoral or mining lease
- public authority that has care, control or management of the land
- other form of lease, land tenure or specific arrangement.

Relationship to landowner (select one of the following options)	Complete the following
□ I am the landowner	□ Attach <i>proof of ownership</i>
☐ I am lodging a form on behalf of the landowner (e.g. a consultant)	☐ Attach <i>proof of ownership</i>
☐ I am acting on the landowner's behalf and will be jointly responsible for the clearing permit (i.e. joint form)	☐ Attach <u>proof of ownership</u> ☐ Complete and attach an ' <u>Acting on behalf and jointly responsible'</u> letter
☐ I am likely to become the landowner	☐ Attach the Certificate of Title ☐ Attach evidence of the pending transfer of ownership and/or contract of sale ('offer and acceptance')
☑ I will undertake the clearing activities with the landowner's authority and will be the permit holder	☐ Attach <i>proof of ownership</i> ☑ Complete and attach an 'Authority to access and clear native vegetation' letter (if the applicant is not the landowner)
☐ A person with multiple land parcels	□ Attach <u>proof of ownership</u> □ Complete and attach ' <u>Authority to access and clear native</u> <u>vegetation</u> ' letter (if the applicant is not the landowner)

Part 5 - Proposed clearing

5.1 Maps and/or spatial data

Select which map type(s) you will attach with your form.

Note: We will decline / return forms (as applicable) if you do not provide sufficient information for this question.

- · Geometry type: polygon shape
- Coordinate system: Geocentric Datum of Australia (GDA) 1994/2020 (geographic latitude / longitude)
- Datum: GDA 1994 / GDA 2020 (please specify which was provided)

 \square An aerial photograph or map with a north arrow, clearly marking the proposed clearing area

Note:

- An ESRI shapefile must use one of the following filename extensions: .shp, .shx, .dbf, and/or .prj
- You must provide an ESRI shapefile if the form requires an assessment under an Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Cth) (EPBC Act) accredited process. See Part 8 of this form for more information.

5.2 Size

- If you propose to clear a patch(s) of vegetation, enter a hectare value for the total size of the area (mark number of trees as zero).
- If you propose to remove only individual trees from the area(s) (i.e. the shrubs, grasses, groundcover plants will remain intact), provide the number of trees (and mark total area as estimated hectares).
 - Note: If any shrubs, grasses, and/or groundcover plants MAY be damaged in the clearing process, add this to the total area.
- If you propose to clear an area of vegetation within a larger footprint, enter the hectare
 value for the total size of the area to be cleared (mark number of trees as zero) and the
 size of the footprint. For example, 5 hectares of clearing within a 10 hectare footprint.
 This option is only available for purpose permit applications.
- Enter values for BOTH number of trees and the size of the area if you are clearing individual trees in one area AND a patch of vegetation in a different area.
- Please note the following area conversions/calculations:

1 hectare = 10,000 m² Area of circle = 3.14 x radius²
1 acre = 0.4 hectares / 4,000 m² Area of a rectangle = length x width
1 tree = 0.01 hectares / 100 m² Area of a triangle = ½ length x perpendicular height

Total area of clearing proposed (hectares)	3.31ha
Footprint of clearing (hectares) (purpose permit only)	
Number of individual trees to be removed	

Note: Calculate the area of a tree based on the area encompassed by the tree's drip line; that being the outermost circumference of the tree's canopy.

5.3 Purpose

Provide the reason for proposed clearing (e.g. road construction, grazing and pasture, hazard reduction, horticulture, timber harvesting etc.)	Infrastructure maintenance – Railway
Specify what the final land use will be after clearing	Laydown areas – will not be rehabilitated

5.4 Method

Proposed method of clearing	Mechanical clearing – Bulldozer, front-end	
(i.e. burning, cutting, draining, flooding, grazing,	loader, Skid-steer Bob Cat	
mechanical clearing/bulldozing or other – specify)		

5.5 Timeframe

Period within which you propose to do the clearing (e.g. 1/7/2022 to 30/8/2024)	Start date: as soon as possible End date: 10 years post approval
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Note: The clearing referral process is not suitable for any clearing that is expected to take longer than two years.

5.6 Avoidance and mitigation

Explain how you have, or will, put avoidance and mitigation measures in place to eliminate, reduce, or otherwise mitigate the need for and scale of the proposed clearing of native vegetation.

Attach supporting documents to substantiate your explanation.

Your explanation should demonstrate you have planned the project so that the least clearing possible is to be undertaken. The following questions may help you frame your explanation:

- Why did you select this location and amount of clearing?
- What alternatives to clearing e.g. engineering solutions did you consider?
- What changes, if any, did you make to the location or amount of clearing to reduce the impacts of the clearing?

Note: If you do not demonstrate adequate efforts to avoid and mitigate clearing, we will ask you to do so during the validation of this form.

Provide the avoidance and mitigation details

Clearing of native vegetation will be avoided as much as practicable. Native vegetation is being cleared for the purpose of formalizing access tracks and creating lay-down material storage yards used in the maintenance (resleepering) of the railway track. Where a smaller area is feasible (for example 60 x 15m, opposed to the standard 60x20m), clearing will be reduced at the time of works to avoid and reduce impacts.

Mitigation of environmental impact has already occurred through the selection of sites included in the clearing permit. Existing access tracks or cleared areas present were utilized and thus avoiding clearing.

As this site is present within an Environmentally Sensitive Area (through DWER's systems and Arc Infrastructures internal systems), it is recognized that

a high level of ecological literacy is required when clearing. As required an independent environmental expert (Bio Diverse Solutions) will be engaged during the clearing to monitor on-ground the works being conducted to ensure that where possible, the least amount of environmental impact occurs.

More laydown areas have been identified than will likely be used. It is likely that the overall impact will be reduced where possible, with not all laydown areas utilized.

Part 6 - Offset

Do you want to submit a clearing offset proposal with your form?	☐ Yes ☒ No
If 'Yes' – please complete and attach Appendix A of the <u>Clearing of native vegetation offsets procedure</u> guideline as a supporting document for your form.	☐ Appendix A attached

Part 7 – Surveys for assessments (IBSA and IMSA)

7.1 Biodiversity surveys

If you want to submit any biodiversity surveys to support this form, you must follow the Environmental Protection Authority's (EPA) *Instructions for the preparation of data packages for the Index of Biodiversity Surveys for Assessments* (IBSA). If you do not meet the IBSA requirements, DWER/DMIRS (as applicable) may decline/return your form.

Please provide the IBSA number(s) – or submission number(s) if the IBSA number has not yet been issued – in the space provided. Note that a submission number is not confirmation that a biodiversity survey has been accepted and is not the same as an IBSA number. IBSA numbers are only issued once a survey has been accepted. Once an IBSA number is issued, please notify DWER/DMIRS (as applicable). Please note DWER / DMIRS will suspend the assessment timeframes for your form until you provide the IBSA number(s).

Have you submitted all the biodiversity surveys that support this form to the Index of Biodiversity Surveys for Assessment, available at ibsasubmissions.dwer.wa.gov.au ?	☑ Yes☐ Not applicable
Provide an IBSA number (preferred) or a submission number(s)	Reconnaissance and Targeted Flora, Vegetation and Fauna report not completed – IBSA submission number will be provided once reports complete