



## CLEARING PERMIT

*Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986*

### PERMIT DETAILS

Area Permit Number: CPS 9650/1  
File Number: DWERVT9701  
Duration of Permit: From 14 April 2022 to 14 April 2024

### PERMIT HOLDER

City of Gosnells

### LAND ON WHICH CLEARING IS TO BE DONE

Lot 3188 on Plan 214859 (Crown Reserve R31993), City of Gosnells

### AUTHORISED ACTIVITY

The permit holder must not clear more than 4 native trees within the area cross-hatched yellow in Figure 1 of Schedule 1.

### CONDITIONS

#### 1. 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; and
- (c) restrict the movement of machines and other vehicles to the limits of the areas to be cleared.

## DEFINITIONS


In this permit, the terms in Table 1 have the meanings defined.

**Table 1: Definitions**

Term	Definition
clearing	has the meaning given under section 3(1) of the EP Act.
dieback	means the effect of <i>Phytophthora</i> species on native vegetation.
department	means the department established under section 35 of the <i>Public Sector Management Act 1994</i> (WA) and designated as responsible for the administration of the EP Act, which includes Part V Division 3.
EP Act	<i>Environmental Protection Act 1986</i> (WA)
fill	means material used to increase the ground level, or to fill a depression
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.
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.

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## END OF CONDITIONS

  
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Ryan Mincham  
MANAGER  
NATIVE VEGETATION REGULATION

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

22 March 2022

# SCHEDULE 1

The boundary of the area authorised to be cleared is shown in the map below

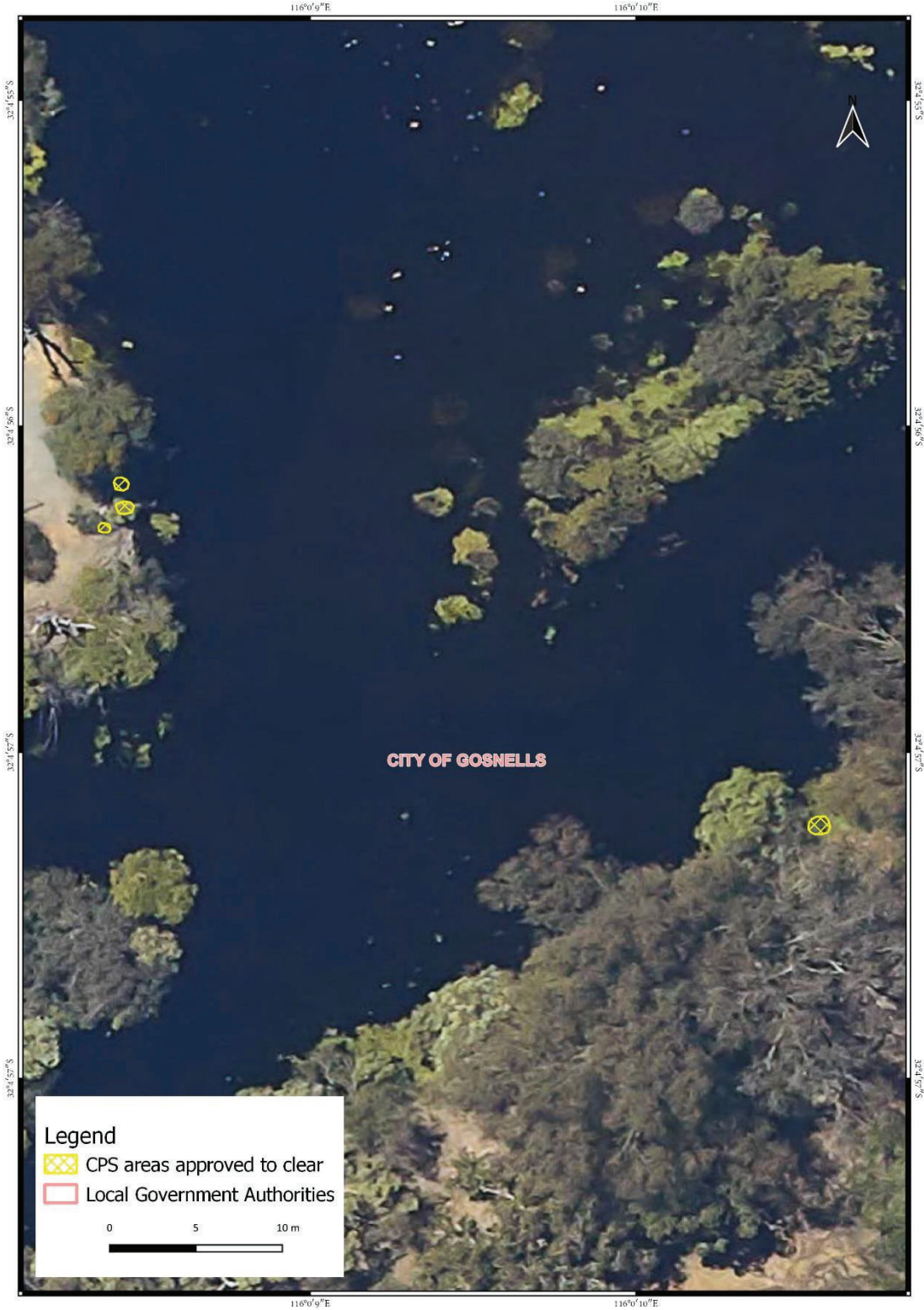


Figure 1: Map of the boundary of the area within which clearing may occur



# Clearing Permit Decision Report

## 1. Application details and outcome

### 1.1. Permit application details

<b>Permit number:</b>	CPS 9650/1
<b>Permit type:</b>	Area permit
<b>Applicant name:</b>	City of Gosnells
<b>Purpose of clearing:</b>	Installation of the Mary Carroll pedestrian bridge
<b>Property:</b>	Lot 3188 on Plan 214859 (Crown Reserve R31993)
<b>Location (LGA area/s):</b>	City of Gosnells

### 1.2. Description of clearing activities

The application is for the proposed clearing of 4 immature trees within Lot 3188 on Plan 214859 (Crown Reserve R31993) for the purpose of installing of the Mary Carroll pedestrian bridge.

The overall project proposal will include the installation of a large and small pedestrian bridge over the northern wetland at Mary Carroll Park. The large bridge will comprise two spans connected by a central viewing platform. The small bridge comprises the replacement of an existing bridge. This application is to selectively remove four immature trees to accommodate works for the placement of the spans for the large pedestrian bridge.

The project will result in the removal of four immature native plants and a few planted plants and non-native plants. No mature trees will be cleared, only the four native trees are included in the permit application.

Details of the four native plants to be removed are outlined below and photo evidence was provided by the applicant (Appendix A):

- Tree 1: *Melaleuca raphiophylla* has a 14 cm Diameter at Breast Height (DBH) and is located outside of the mapped Conservation Category Wetland (CCW)
- Tree 2: *Acacia saligna* has a 3 cm DBH and is located on the man-made causeway bund in the mapped CCW.
- Tree 3: *Melaleuca raphiophylla* has a 3 cm DBH and is located on the man-made causeway bund in the mapped CCW
- Tree 4: *Eucalyptus rudis* has a 2.5 cm DBH and is located on the man-made causeway bund in the mapped CCW.

### 1.3. Decision on application and key considerations

<b>Decision:</b>	Granted
<b>Decision date:</b>	22 March 2022
<b>Decision area:</b>	4 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 11 March 2022. 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 wetlands.

The assessment identified that there would be a loss of vegetation growing in association with a conservation category wetland (Mary Carroll Park Lake). The Delegated Officer considered the impacts of the proposed clearing

are not likely to have any long-term adverse impacts on the hydrological and ecological values of the wetland or watercourse.

After consideration of the available information, as well as the applicant's minimisation and mitigation measures, 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 a weed and dieback management condition imposed to preserve the environmental values of adjacent vegetation.

## **2. Assessment of application**

### **2.1. Avoidance and mitigation measures**

The applicant has advised that measures were taken to avoid and minimise clearing of vegetation and impacts to the wetland in the design process. Several site meetings were undertaken with the contractor to discuss the proposed bridge location to avoid impacts to any mature trees. As part of this process, a large mature *Eucalyptus rudis* was avoided and will be retained to compliment the sensitive approach of this project (City of Gosnells, 2022).

The applicant has further advised that the impermeable clay layer in the wetland will not be disturbed, and the Contractor will be required to submit a Construction Environmental Management Plan that meets the satisfaction of the City prior to undertaking any works within and around the wetland to further ensure any potential health and environmental impacts are appropriately managed during construction (City of Gosnells, 2022).

As part of the planning phase the applicant consulted with the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA) on the planning and design process. The DBCA was supportive of the project and commented that while the works proposed are within a mapped wetland classified as Conservation Category, it appears the undertaking will assist in controlling public access and was planned to minimise any environmental impacts. DBCA therefore raised no further concerns (City of Gosnells, 2022).

The City, along with the support of the Armadale Gosnells Landcare Group (AGLG) and the Friends of Mary Carroll Wetlands undertake regular revegetation projects at the Mary Carroll Wetlands. The City will continue this collaborative relationship and will be revegetating the outlet drain coming off Verna Street near the proposed bridge (City of Gosnells, 2022).

The Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage (DPLH) were consulted in relation to impacts to environmental values associated with Bush Forever site (No 124) and indicated that they do not have any objections to the proposal, as the City is undertaking revegetation works in the area.

The applicant adequately demonstrated that all reasonable efforts had been taken to avoid and minimise potential impacts of the clearing on environmental values and that additional measures are being taken to increase the environmental values of the area.

### **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 and fauna and does not contain or form a part of a threatened or priority ecological community.

At the bioregion (Swan Coastal Plain (1001)) and local area (5-kilometre radius from the perimeter of the application area) scale, over 22 and 25 per cent of the pre-European vegetation extent remains. The four trees are located within the Mary Carroll Park which is a Bush Forever site (No 124) and a Conservation Wetland of the Swan Coastal Plain, however, due to the small extent and nature of the proposed clearing it is not likely to impact on the environmental values of this area.

The proposed clearing is not likely to lead to appreciable land degradation, impacts to surface and groundwater quality or lead to an increase in flooding.

Noting that the application comprises of vegetation associated with a wetland, the proposed clearing is at variance to principle (f). The proposed clearing is not likely to impact the structural stability of the wetland and deteriorate water quality, on which basis the impacts are not considered significant.

Based on the above, the proposed clearing is at variance to principle (f) and is not likely to be at variance with the remaining 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

### PLATES



Plate 1. *M. raphiophylla* (14cm DBH) to be cleared is circled in red.



Plate 2. Three native species to be removed on the causeway bund. *A. saligna* shown in blue, *M. raphiophylla* shown in pink and *E. rudis* shown in yellow.

## Appendix B – References and databases

### 1. GIS datasets

Publicly available GIS Databases used (sourced from [www.data.wa.gov.au](http://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

City of Gosnells (2022). Area permit application form and supporting information for Clearing Permit Application CPS 9650/1 (DWER Ref: DWERT9701)]

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.