

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

<p>Select your form type.</p> <p>NOTE: Where appropriate in this form, and unless stated otherwise, the terms 'application' and 'applicant' also mean 'referral' and 'referrer' respectively.</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Referral of proposed clearing (s.51DA of the EP Act)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Application for an area permit (s.51E of the EP Act)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Application for a purpose permit (s.51E of the EP Act)</p>
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Part 2 – Applicant details

2.1 Applicant name

<p>For area permits:</p> <p>If granted, the name(s) of (all) landowner(s) will be listed as 'permit holders' on the permit.</p> <p>For purpose permits:</p> <p>If granted, the name(s) of (all) applicant(s) will go on the permit.</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Applying as an individual – complete the following:</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Title</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Mr <input type="checkbox"/> Mrs <input type="checkbox"/> Ms <input type="checkbox"/> Other:</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Name(s)</td> <td colspan="2"></td> </tr> </table> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Applying as a body corporate or other entity formed at law – complete the following:</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Name</td> <td colspan="2">Thunderbird Operations</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Australian Company Number (ACN)</td> <td colspan="2">611 351 743</td> </tr> </table> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Applying as a government entity (e.g. government department, local government authority, or other statutory body)</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Name</td> <td colspan="2"></td> </tr> </table>	Title	<input type="checkbox"/> Mr <input type="checkbox"/> Mrs <input type="checkbox"/> Ms <input type="checkbox"/> Other:		Name(s)			Name	Thunderbird Operations		Australian Company Number (ACN)	611 351 743		Name		
Title	<input type="checkbox"/> Mr <input type="checkbox"/> Mrs <input type="checkbox"/> Ms <input type="checkbox"/> Other:															
Name(s)																
Name	Thunderbird Operations															
Australian Company Number (ACN)	611 351 743															
Name																

2.2 Applicant contact details

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

Title	
First name	
Last name	
Position	
Company name	
Contact phone number (1)	
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	

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	
Contact phone number (1)	

2.4 Electronic correspondence consent

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.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
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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).

Same as applicant's contact details	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
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If 'No' – complete the following:

Contact name	
Position (if applicable)	
Company name (if applicable)	
Contact phone number (1)	
Business or postal address line 1	
Business or postal address line 2	
Suburb	
State	
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

I have a large number of properties and have given the relevant details in an attached supporting document.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes – skip to Part 4 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
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If 'No' – complete the following:

<p><u>Land description</u></p> <p>Provide the following details, as applicable, for all properties:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – volume and folio number – lot or location number(s) – crown lease or reserve number – pastoral lease number – mining tenement number 	Lot 420 on Plan 218391 (land corridor immediately surrounding the Great Northern Highway by approximately 700 m to both the north and south).		
Street address – Line 1			
Street address – Line 2			
Suburb			
State		Postcode	
Local government area(s)	Shire of Derby-West Kimberley		
Land zoning	Major Road Reserve		

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.

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

Part 5 – Proposed clearing

5.1 Maps and/or spatial data

<p>Select which map type(s) you will attach with your form.</p> <p>Note: We will decline / return forms (as applicable) if you do not provide sufficient information for this question.</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An ESRI shapefile with the following properties (<i>preferred</i>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Geometry type: polygon shape • Coordinate system: Geocentric Datum of Australia (GDA) 2020 (geographic latitude / longitude) • Datum: GDA 2020 <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An aerial photograph or map with a north arrow, clearly marking the proposed clearing area</p> <p>Note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 <i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i> (Cth) (EPBC Act) accredited process. See Part 8 of this form for more information.
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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 m ²	Area of circle = 3.14 x radius ²
1 acre = 0.4 hectares / 4,000 m ²	Area of a rectangle = length x width
1 tree = 0.01 hectares / 100 m ²	Area of a triangle = ½ length x perpendicular height

Total area of clearing proposed (hectares)	3.48
Footprint of clearing (hectares) (purpose permit only)	
Number of individual trees to be removed	0

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.)	Road construction
Specify what the final land use will be after clearing	Clearing will enable the construction of slip lanes and an acceleration lane at the junction between a site access road for a mining operation (Thunderbird mineral sands project) and a main regional roadway (Great Northern Highway) so that safe access and egress of traffic to and from the mine site can be made.

5.4 Method

Proposed method of clearing (i.e. burning, cutting, draining, flooding, grazing, mechanical clearing/bulldozing or other – specify)	Mechanical clearing
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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 approval is granted End date: Within 90 days of 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 is required by Main Roads to expand the junction and accommodate an acceleration lane and slips lanes. The additional lanes have been designed to enable safe access/egress of traffic to and from the Thunderbird mine site. The clearing extent has been restricted to the minimum required to accommodate this expansion. Alternative options were explored within initial designs to avoid additional
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clearing. This included design of a bulge on the southern side of the Great Northern Highway, however, Main Roads WA deemed this insufficient in addressing road safety requirements.

An assessment of the vegetation type and values indicated there to be no known conservation significant flora, fauna, or ecological communities present within or close to the proposed clearing area, thus all are avoided.

As more than 99% Vegetation Association 750 is to remain, impact to existing flora, vegetation and fauna will be limited, and is not considered to be significant.

Table 1. Assessment of Clearing Against the Referral Criteria

Criterion	Description	Thunderbird Assessment
1	Extent of proposed clearing north of the 26° South latitude line must not exceed 10ha. More than 30% of vegetation association must be present in IBRA bioregion and within 10km buffer zone of clearing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proposed clearing area totals 3.48 ha Vegetation Association 750 covers an area of approximately 1,225,000ha equaling approximately 99.68% of pre-European extents Supporting documentation demonstrates Vegetation Association 750 is well represented within the Dampierland Bioregion and in the surrounds of the proposed clearing area
2	There are no known or likely significant environmental values within the area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vegetation condition within the proposed clearing area is of Good Condition (Trudgen 1988), likely degraded due to development and association with the Great Northern Highway Corridor No currently listed Priority flora taxa occur in proximity to the proposed clearing area as demonstrated in the attached supporting documentation Only one conservation significant fauna species has been identified in proximity to the proposed clearing area (Ecologia 2016). The common Greenshank (marine migratory under the EPBC) was identified approximately 2km from the proposed clearing area.
3	The state of scientific knowledge of native vegetation within the region is adequate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Five flora and vegetation studies were undertaken over the broader project area between 2012 and 2016 totaling an area of 18,885 ha

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supporting documentation includes existing flora surveys and summary of key findings of all surveys
4	Conditions will not be required to manage environmental impacts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduction of new invasive flora species and/or spread of existing populations of invasive flora species is deemed the primary potential environmental impact Thunderbird Environmental Management System incorporates a Weed Management Plan, which covers the Thunderbird Vehicle Hygiene Procedure, Vehicle Hygiene Inspection and Vehicle Hygiene Checklist. This system assists to prevent the introduction of new weeds coming into the project. Furthermore, regular inspections of disturbed areas are conducted by the Thunderbird Rangers and Environmental team to monitor and control any invasive species. These procedures and processes will be applied within the proposed clearing area.

Part 6 – Offset

Do you want to submit a clearing offset proposal with your form? For more information on environmental offsets, refer to DWER's website and Fact Sheet 11: Environmental offsets for native vegetation clearing permits .	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
If 'Yes' – please complete and attach Appendix A of the Clearing of native vegetation offsets procedure guideline as a supporting document for your form.	<input type="checkbox"/> Appendix A attached

Part 7 – Surveys for assessments (IBSA and IMSA)

Do you want to submit marine or biodiversity surveys in	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No – skip to Part 8
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support of your form?	
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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. For further information on IBSA, refer to [DWER’s website](#).

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 IBSA portal, via ibsasubmissions.dwer.wa.gov.au ?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Not applicable
Provide an IBSA number (preferred) or a submission number(s)	Pending

7.2 Marine surveys

If you want to submit any marine surveys to support this form, you must follow the EPA’s [Instructions for the preparation of data packages for the Index of Marine Surveys for Assessments](#) (IMSA). If you do not meet the IMSA requirements, DWER may decline / return your form. For more information on IMSA, refer to [DWER’s website](#).

Have you prepared all the marine surveys that support this form in accordance with the EPA’s <i>Instructions for the preparation of data packages for the Index of Marine Surveys for Assessments</i> ?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not applicable
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