

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 (maps etc.). The Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) or Department of Energy, Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety (DEMIRS) will return/decline any forms that are not correctly completed.

☑ Referral of proposed clearing (section 51DA of the EP Act)

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.

Note: Where appropriate in this form, and unless stated otherwise, the terms 'application' and 'applicant' also mean 'referral' and 'referrer' respectively.	☐ Application for an area permit (section 51E of the EP Act) ☐ Application for a purpose permit (section 51E of the EP Act)		
		 □ Department of Energy, Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety □ Department of Water and Environmental Regulation 	
For all other clearing activities, select 'Department of Water and Environmental Regulation'.			

Part 2 – Applicant details

2.1 Applicant name



2.2 Applicant contact details

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

Title	
First name	
Last name	
Position	
Company name	
Phone number	
Email address	

2.3 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						
2.4 Applicant contact – re If applying as a company, inco please also supply the registe	orporated body, lo	ocal gover	nment authori	ty or public a	authority,	
Address line 1						
Address line 2						
Suburb						
State			Postcode			
Phone number			Mobile			
2.5 Electronic correspondence consent DWER/DEMIRS 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/DEMIRS (as applicable) about the subject of this form will be exclusively via email, using the email address provided above.				<i>r</i> ia		
2.6 Contact details for end If different from the applicant's DWER/DEMIRS should liaise	contact details,		contact details	of a person	with whor	m
Same as applicant's contact	Same as applicant's contact details ☑ Yes □ N			□No		
If 'No' – complete the following:						
Title	□ Mr □ Mr	s □ Ms □	Other:			
Contact name						
Position (if applicable)						
Company name (if applicable	;)					
Phone number			Mobile			

Email address		
Business or postal address line 1		
Business or postal address line 2		
Suburb		
State	Postcode	

Part 3 - Land details

- You must accurately describe the location of the land where your clearing is proposed.
- Provide copies of associated documents registered against the Certificate of Title (limitations, interests, encumbrances or notifications) where the clearing may impact them (i.e. caveats within freehold Lots).
- If you have a large number of properties, please provide the relevant details for each property in a separately attached supporting document.

I have a large number of properties and have given the relevant details in an attached supporting document.	☐ Yes – skip to Part 4 ☐ No
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If 'No' – complete the following:

Land description Provide the following details, as applicable, for all properties: - volume and folio number - lot or location number(s) - crown lease or reserve number - pastoral lease number - mining tenement number	Volume 2054 Folio 619 Lot 2542 on Deposited Plan 233368		
Street address – Line 1	415 Curnow Road		
Street address – Line 2			
Suburb	Quindanning		
State	WA	Postcode	6391
Local government area(s)	Boddington Shire		
Land zoning	Rural		

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
- · 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 proof of ownership
☐ I am lodging a form on behalf of the landowner (e.g. a consultant)	☐ Attach proof of ownership
☐ I am acting on the landowner's behalf and will be jointly responsible for the clearing permit (i.e. joint form)	☐ Attach proof of ownership ☐ Attach a letter, in which the landowner authorises you to act on their behalf and acknowledge they will be jointly responsible for the clearing permit
☐ I am likely to become the landowner	☐ Attach evidence of the pending transfer of ownership, including details of current proprietor on certificate of title, 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 proof of ownership ⊠ Attach a letter, in which the landowner authorises you to access and clear native vegetation within the property(ies) as detailed in section 3.1 (if the applicant is not the landowner)
☐ I am a person with multiple land parcels within which clearing is proposed	☐ Attach proof of ownership and/or ☐ Attach letters, in which the landowner authorises you to access and clear native vegetation within the properties as detailed in section 3.1 (if the applicant is not the landowner)
☐ I will undertake the clearing activities through the exercise of power conferred by different legislation (e.g. the <i>Energy Operators (Powers) Act 1979</i>)	□ Provide relevant legislative details:

Part 5 - Proposed clearing

5.1 Maps and/or spatial data

☐ An ESRI shapefile with the following properties (preferred) Select which map type(s) you will attach Geometry type: polygon shape with your form. Coordinate system: Geocentric Datum of Australia (GDA) 2020 Note: DWER/DEMIRS (geographic latitude/longitude) will decline/return forms (as applicable) Datum: GDA 2020 if you do not provide sufficient information ☑ An aerial photograph or map with a north arrow, clearly marking the for this question. 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(es) of vegetation, enter a hectare value for the total size of the area (mark number of trees as zero). For example, "clearing of 5 hectares".
- If you propose to clear only individual trees (i.e. the shrubs, grasses, groundcover plants will remain intact), provide the number of trees. For example, "clearing of 10 trees". If any shrubs, grasses, and/or groundcover plants may be damaged in the clearing process, enter the total area only.
- If you propose to clear an area of native 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 only 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 = $10,000 \text{ m}^2$ Area of circle = 3.14 x radius^2 1 acre = $0.4 \text{ hectares/}4,000 \text{ m}^2$ Area of a rectangle = length x width 1 tree = $0.01 \text{ hectares/}100 \text{ m}^2$ Area of a triangle = $\frac{1}{2}$ length x perpendicular height

Total area of clearing proposed (hectares)	
Footprint of clearing (hectares) (purpose permit only)	
Number of individual trees to be cleared	50

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.).

If applicable, provide any additional project overview or explain in detail the activities on the property (e.g. provide context of work proposed and describe how clearing will contribute to overall work activities onsite etc.).

Clarified the overal purpose during the assessment of the referral. The applicant intends to reduce fire fuel load and obtain a licence to sell the wood for profit

The reasons for the cleaning include bushfire fuel load reduction, grazing and pasture improvement and dead timber harvesting. No live timber or native vegetation will be cleared during the cleaning process. The farming property has been cleared for decades and currently grazes 60 to 120 Friesian steers throughout its' entirety. In 2022/3 South 32 re-routed the property's access road, Curnow Road, as they expanded their Saddleback bauxite mine footprint and in the process bulldozed, (with a permit to do so), about 40 jarrah trees that they left on our northern boundary fence line which runs along the new re-routed Curnow Road. My wife owns the property, and her first husband passed away in 2015 after several years battling lung cancer, during which time a number of trees and tree branches fell over during storms, and were not able to be cleaned up due to my wife's first husband's illness. Also, in 2014 or 2015, a significant bushfire passed through the northern section of the property and the local fire brigade bulldozed a firebreak between a wooded parkland cleared area of the property and our blue-gum plantation, leaving several dead trees that also need to be cleaned up. We intend to cut the dead trees and fallen branches up into 30 cm long rounds using our chainsaws and our Terrex Posi-Track Skid Steer with wood grapple before transporting them to our homestead yard in our trailer to split for firewood.

Specify what the final land use will be after clearing

Breeding and raising cattle

5.4 Method

Proposed method of clearing (i.e. burning, cutting, draining, flooding, grazing, mechanical clearing/bulldozing or other – specify)

We intend to cut the dead trees and fallen branches up into 30 cm long rounds using our chainsaws and our Terrex Posi-Track Skid Steer with wood grapple before transporting them to our homestead yard in our trailer to split for firewood.

5.5 Timeframe

Period within which you propose to do the clearing (e.g. 1/7/2022 to 30/8/2024)

Start date: 01/08/2024

End date: 31/07/2026

Note: The clearing referral process is not suitable for any clearing that is expected to take longer than two years.

5.6 Pre-application scoping

Historic clearing of native vegetation in the Swan Coastal Plain and Avon Wheatbelt Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation for Australia (IBRA) bioregions has been extensive.

DWER/DEMIRS strongly recommends a pre-application meeting if you propose to clear native vegetation within these bioregions.

	 ☐ Yes – complete section below ☐ I have had a pre-application meeting with DWER/DEMIRS 		
	Insert date of meeting and officer name(s):		
Do you propose to clear native vegetation within the Swan Coastal	☐ I have contacted DWER/DEMIRS in relation to a pre-application meeting and been advised that a meeting is unnecessary in this case.		
Plain or Avon Wheatbelt bioregions?	Insert date of conversation and officer name(s):		
	 ☐ I have not had a pre-application meeting with DWER/DEMIRS. I understand that this may increase the likelihood of requests for further information and/or delays in assessment. ☑ No – proceed to next question. 		

Part 6 - Mitigation hierarchy

6.1 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? (Attach design drawings where applicable)
- 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, DWER/DEMIRS will ask you to do so during the validation of this application. Offsets will only be considered by DWER/DEMIRS as a last resort, once avoidance and minimisation measures have been clearly demonstrated.

demonstrated.			
Provide the avoidance details (e.g. retention of vegetation on property)	We only intend to cut up fallen, dead and dried timber that is readily accessible in our paddocks which are currently being grazed by our cattle.		
Provide the mitigation details (e.g. management of weed spread, rehabilitation)	We clean our vehicle before each trip to the farm, and regularly clean our Terrex Posi-Track Skid Steer in our homestead yard to avoid spreading any weed seeds		
6.2 Offsets			
Do you want to subm	nit a clearing offset proposal with your form?	□ Yes ⊠ No	
of native vegetation of	If 'Yes' – please complete and attach Appendix A of the <u>Clearing</u> Appendix A attached <u>of native vegetation offsets procedure</u> guideline as a supporting document for your form.		
Part 7 – Surveys for assessments (IBSA and IMSA)			
Do you want to submit marine or biodiversity surveys in support of your form? ☐ Yes ☒ No − skip to Part 8			
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/DEMIRS will 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/DEMIRS. Please note DWER/DEMIRS will suspend the assessment timeframes for your application until you provide the IBSA number(s).			
Have you submitted all the biodiversity surveys that support this form to the <u>Index of Biodiversity Surveys for Assessment</u> ?		☐ Yes ☐ Not applicable	
Provide an IBSA number (preferred) or a submission number(s)			

7.2 Marine surveys

If you want to submit any marine surveys to support this form, you must follow the EPA's <u>Instructions for the preparation of data packages for the Index of Marine Surveys for Assessments</u> (IMSA). If you do not meet the IMSA requirements, DWER/DEMIRS will decline/return your form.

	☐ Yes
accordance with the EPA's Instructions for the preparation of data	
packages for the Index of Marine Surveys for Assessments?	□ Not applicable

Part 8 - Assessment bilateral agreement

The native vegetation clearing processes under Part V of the EP Act have been accredited by the Commonwealth of Australia under the EPBC Act and so can be assessed under an assessment bilateral agreement.

To be assessed this way, the proposed clearing action must have been referred to the Commonwealth under the EPBC Act and deemed a 'controlled action' before you submit this form. DWER/DEMIRS will decline to deal with your application without the proposed clearing first being deemed a controlled action.

For further information, see DWER's guidance on the assessment bilateral agreement.

Do you want your proposed clearing action assessed in accordance with, or under, an EPBC Act Accredited Process, such as the assessment bilateral agreement or accredited assessment?	☐ Yes ☑ No – skip to Part 9
Is your proposed clearing a controlled action?	□ Yes
If 'Yes', please make sure you have entered all the mandatory details in the Annex C7 form	EPBC number:
	☐ Annex C7 form attached
	☐ No (DWER/DEMIRS cannot assess the application under an EPBC Act Accredited Process)
List the controlling provisions identified in the notification of the controlled action decision	

Part 9 – Other approvals

9.1 Environmental impact assessment (Part IV of the EP Act)

Clearing may be referred to the EPA if it is considered to be part of a 'significant proposal', as defined by section 37B(1) of the EP Act, or will likely to be part of a larger development. An example is when the clearing is for a road to a future mine.

Section 37B(1) of the EP Act defines a 'significant proposal' as "a proposal likely, if implemented, to have a significant effect on the environment". If a decision-making authority (e.g. DWER/DEMIRS) considers the proposal in this form is likely to constitute a 'significant proposal', under section 38(5) of the EP Act they must refer the proposal to the EPA under Part IV, if such a referral has not already been made.

Has the proposed clearing or any	□ Yes			
related matter been referred to	Enter details:			
the EPA?	No − complete question below.			
If 'No' – do you intend to refer the proposal to the EPA?	 Yes – intend to refer (proposal is a 'significant proposal') Yes – intend to refer (proposal will require a section 45C amendment to the current Ministerial Statement) No – a current valid Ministerial Statement applies Enter Ministerial Statement number: No – not a significant proposal 			
9.2 Other approvals – works approval, licence or registration (Part V Division 3 of the EP Act)				
Have you applied or do you intend to apply for a works approval, licence, registration or an amendment to any of the above, under Part V Division 3 of the EP Act? It is an offence to perform any action that would cause a premises to become a prescribed premises of a type listed in Schedule 1 of the Environmental Protection Regulations 1987, unless that action is done in accordance with a works approval, licence or registration. For further guidance, see DWER's <u>Procedure: Prescribed premises works approvals and licences</u> and <u>Guideline: Industry regulation guide to licensing</u> .		 ☐ Yes Application reference: ☐ No – a valid works approval applies ☐ No – a valid licence applies ☐ No – a valid registration applies ☑ No – not required 		
9.3 Water licences and permits (Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914)				
a licence or amer water (surface water (surfac	do you intend to apply for: ndment to a licence to take ater or groundwater) ndment to a licence to ncluding bores and soaks),	 ☐ Yes ☐ No – a current valid licence applies Licence number: ☐ Not applicable 		
	dment to a permit to bed and banks of a			

watercourse?				
For further guidance on water licences and permits under the <i>Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914</i> , see DWER's <u>Procedure: Water licences and permits</u> .				
9.4 Planning and other approvals				
Has the proposal obtained all relevant planning approvals and/or have you applied for all relevant planning approvals (e.g. Development Approval, Extractive Industry Licence, etc.)?	□ Yes			
	Enter details:			
	□ No – planning approval is not required			
	Enter details:			
	Not applicable ■			