

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.

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

☐ Application for an area permit (section 51E of the EP Act)

☐ Application for a purpose permit (section 51E 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.

form, and unless stated

and 'applicant' also mean 'referral' and 'referrer'

respectively.

NOTE: Where appropriate in this

otherwise, the terms 'application'

Part 2 – Applicant details					
2.1 Applicant name					
For area	□ Applying as an individual – complete the following:				
permits:  If granted, the name(s) of (all) landowner(s) will be listed as	Title	⊠ Mr □ Mrs □ Ms □ Other:			
	Name(s)	Michael Charles Beanland			
'permit holders' on the permit.	☐ Applying as a body corporate or other entity formed at law – complete the following:				
For purpose permits:  If granted, the name(s) of (all) applicant(s) will go on the permit.	Name				
	Australian Company Number (ACN)				
		government entity (e.g. government department, local nority, or other statutory body)			
	Name				

# 2.2 Applicant contact details

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

Title	⊠ Mr □ Mrs □ Ms □ O	ther:			
First name					
Last name					
Position					
Company name					
Contact phone number (1)					
Email address					
<b>2.2 Applicant contact pos</b> Provide the postal address fo authority (primary contact).		corporate or lo	cal go	overnment	
Address line 1					
Address line 2					
Suburb					
State		Postcode			
2.3 Applicant contact – relationships as a company, incomplease also supply the register	corporated body, local gover	nment authority	or pu	ıblic authority,	
Address line 1					
Address line 2					
Suburb					
State		Postcode			
Contact phone number (1)		Phone numbe	r (2)		

## 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.				⊠ 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).					
Same as applicant's contact details				⊠ Yes	□ 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

	☐ Yes – skip to Part 4	⊠ No
relevant details in an attached supporting document.		

# 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: 2684 Folio: 563  Lot 2 on Deposited Plan 69174  SKETCH OF LAND: DP69714  PREVIOUS TITLE: 1503-581		
Street address – Line 1	236 Guernsey Gully		
Street address – Line 2			
Suburb	Meerup, Northcliffe		
State	WA	Postcode	6262
Local government area(s)	cal government area(s)  Manjimup		
Land zoning Priority Agriculture			

# 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
⊠ I am the landowner	⊠ Attach <u>proof of ownership</u>
☐ 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 <i>proof of ownership</i> ☐ Complete and attach an 'Acting on behalf and jointly responsible' 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	<ul> <li>□ Attach <u>proof of ownership</u></li> <li>□ Complete and attach an '<u>Authority to access and clear native vegetation</u>' letter (if the applicant is not the landowner)</li> </ul>
☐ A person with multiple land parcels	<ul> <li>□ Attach <u>proof of ownership</u></li> <li>□ Complete and attach '<u>Authority to access and clear native</u> <u>vegetation</u>' letter (if the applicant is not the landowner)</li> </ul>

## 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.

- ☐ An ESRI shapefile with the following properties (*preferred*)
  - 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)
- ⊠ 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 <u>purpose permit</u> 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<sup>2</sup> Area of circle = 3.14 x radius<sup>2</sup> 1 acre = 0.4 hectares / 4.000 m<sup>2</sup> Area of a rectangle = length x width

1 tree = 0.01 hectares /  $100 \text{ m}^2$  Area of a triangle =  $\frac{1}{2}$  length x perpendicular height

Total area of clearing proposed (hectares)	<1ha
Footprint of clearing (hectares) (purpose permit only)	39ha
Number of individual trees to be removed	zero

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.)	Fire Hazard Reduction Access for Weed removal
Specify what the final land use will be after clearing	Tourism

#### 5.4 Method

Duamanad weatherd of allowing	
Proposed method of clearing	Mulcher / mechanical clearing the track
(i.e. burning, cutting, draining, flooding, grazing, mechanical clearing/bulldozing or other – specify)	
meentamear elearnig/bandozing or other speeny)	

#### 5.5 Timeframe

(e.g. 1/7/2022 to 30/8/2024)	Start date: 1 April 2022 End date: 1 June 2022
	End date: 1 June 2022

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

Primarily the track around the wetland is to avoid a fire hazard reduction burn of the entire block at once, that could negatively affect the wetlands, we want to divide the wetland from the treed higher area that we have been notified has to have major hazard reduction that can only be done realistically via a burn. We do not want to 'clear' any of the block, but the other track down the middle is to access the huge number of weeds alongside the gully down the middle. We want to remove weeds, via access to the worst areas that need work, and fix the

mess that exists on the block, before the winter rains. I have an entire report and multiple photos and research I have started to do which I can come and bring and discuss with you in person if it will assist to understand the direction we are headed, and why this initial bit is just stage one, but needs to be done now, to make this happen in the optimal manner, in stages.

#### **SUMMARY**

I purchased a Nature Based camp ground in Northcliffe, from 40 year DPaW employee Sid, who has now retired. The nature based campground previously known as SIDs (now renamed Northcliffe Bush Camp) is the major drawcard for Northcliffe, bringing visitors from around Australia to see its fauna. It is of major benefit to the town as it brings more visitors into town than any other business or tourism drawcard. The Nature based camp is less then 5 km away - It is hoped that this new wetland block on Guernsey Gully can be rehabilitated as a wetland to bring people to see what is hoped can one day become a unique but small wetland.

www.facebook/northcliffebushcamp

We wish to make this newly purchased block (236 Guernsey Gully) and it's wetland into a wetland nature based tourism location.

We are planning (and have begun to) remove weeds outside the wetlands, and now wish to do more of this, in the wetlands, and to also make the land safe from fire, remove all the mess that is there that has been created by previous less than careful contractors. This is the intention of the application.

The next, medium-term aim is to include ten small discrete camp sites on higher ground, for campers that provide their own totally self contained caravan or RV, so there is no footprint, they bring everything they need and take away what they bring, and they can walk around the wetland.

Longer term and subsequent to substantial mapping and surveys and consultation with experts, we are considering the benefits of creating a small patch of open water / a lake for wetland birds and local fauna. It may also be beneficial to find and open up some parkland cleared space off to the side of the wetland for local fauna - being emus and kangaroos mostly.

Use / function of this wetland is to be to optimize the flora and fauna and in doing to make it a great example we can allowe people spend time in, to observe, by way of trails, the varied parts of the wetlands flora and fauna.

#### **CLEARING DETAILS**

The urgency of this application is due to the fact that the track creation work need to be done now and finished within the next few weeks before the rains come in late April.

The machinery is in place waiting on the block, and the spray rig is ready and we just need the permit, or to be told we don't need a permit to do this initial work (preferable) so we can clear the tracks.

Brand new machinery has been brought in to fix up the huge piles of dirt and dead vegetation pushed up into windrows left around by a contractor hired by the government when the elderly owner became unsound and placed into care. The machinery we brought onto the site was purchased brand new in order to

avoid any dieback or risk of bringing anything onto the property.

This is the first place that the spray rig, ATV and other machinery will go.

This application is for two purposes.

- (1) Fire Hazard Reduction and
- (2) Weed control access tracks.

#### **Fire Hazard Reduction**

We have been notified and are required by the Shire to lower the fuel load and have been visited by the Shire Ranger and given instructions on what has to be done.

We can either:

- A) do a burn of the entire block this winter or
- B) carry out discrete smaller burns of the higher ground, and of clearly defined sections with higher fuel loads and in a way that allows fauna to escape, and does not risk the flora of the wetland.

We prefer (B) however to do that we need to prepare for it now, when it is dry.

To do that we need to ensure we are permitted to create the access ways so that we can improve this property.

Effectively, we would like to / need to immediately;

- 1) Create the Firebreak around the outside of the property and
- 2) Create a track surrounding the designated wetlands

To create a Firebreak around the boundary perimeter it needs to be done now, as it is inaccessible in the pre fire season. Last year it was not accessible until January, so has to be done now, pre the April rains.

#### Prepare for Fire Hazard Reduction.

The next stage after the firebreak and the track around the wetlands would be to divide the property up into multiple small similar flora areas, so that each can be managed differently based on their flora, which itself is based on contours, elevation, watertable and also soil types. By creating tracks between sections, cool winter burns can be done in each discrete section without risk of impacting others or having an uncontrolled burn get from one area into another.

Existing tracks and the two huge cleared roadways that dissect the wetlands currently will both be rehabilitated and returned to the wetlands. I have high resolution photos from commercial drone of all of these.

#### 2) Weed Control Access

Track for spray gear access

Create vehicular access track to enable access to both sides of what is currently a gully with weeds, where water will flow down this winter. This in order to access the location and use hand weeding as well as spot weeding via lance and hose from a ute - with safe non residual herbicide to remove the invasive weeds that are moving through the waterway (see PHOTOS at the end of this document of the upstream and downstream ends of the waterway, with thistle growing prolifically)

# **FLORA DIVISIONS** Create trails and vehicular access around the perimeter of the designated wetland, using flora concentrations to designate each area as per the included diagram. Avoiding straight lines we preferably will follow contours, and make tracks along natural borders. Creating discrete sections with tracks / a pathway around the perimeter of the defined wetland and between major flora type will serve many purposes, fire and weed control being the initial, but they will also allow management to best occur by giving access to all areas, allowing better mapping and interpretive work also to be done. Experts will be brought in to identify and label flora and signs will identify these for guests. It is a degraded wetland that we wish to enhance to achieve more ecological functions and create aspects of a wetland that did not exist before. Part 6 – Offset Do you want to submit a clearing offset proposal with your ☐ Yes ☒ No form? If 'Yes' – please complete and attach Appendix A of the □ Appendix A attached Clearing of native vegetation offsets procedure 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 ☐ Yes ☐ No – skip to Part 8 support of your form? 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 ☐ Yes

form to the Index of Biodiversity Surveys for Assessment, available at <u>ibsasubmissions.dwer.wa.gov.au</u> ?	☐ Not applicable				
Provide an IBSA number (preferred) or a submission number(s)					
7.2 Marine surveys	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, DWE form.	ER may decline/return your				
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>	☐ Yes ☐ Not applicable				