



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Purpose Permit number:	CPS 8118/1
Permit Holder:	Shire of Manjimup
Duration of Permit:	22 November 2018 – 22 November 2023

The Permit Holder is authorised to clear native vegetation subject to the following conditions of this Permit.

PART I – CLEARING AUTHORISED

1. Purpose for which clearing may be done

Clearing for the purpose of road upgrades

2. Land on which clearing is to be done

North Walpole Road reserve, Walpole (PIN: 11561543)

3. Area of Clearing

The Permit Holder shall not clear more than 0.74 hectares of native vegetation within the area hatched yellow on attached Plan 8118/1.

4. Application

This Permit allows the Permit Holder to authorise persons, including employees, contractors and agents of the Permit Holder, to clear native vegetation for the purposes of this Permit subject to compliance with the conditions of this Permit and approval from the Permit Holder.

5. Type of clearing authorised

This Permit authorises the Permit Holder to clear native vegetation for the activities described in condition 1 of this Permit to the extent that the Permit Holder has the power to carry out works involving clearing for those activities under the *Local Government Act 1995* or any other written law.

PART II – MANAGEMENT CONDITIONS

6. Avoid, minimise and reduce the impacts and extent of clearing

In determining the amount of native vegetation to be cleared authorised under this Permit, the Permit Holder must have regard to the following principles, set out in order of preference:

- avoid the clearing of native vegetation;
- minimise the amount of native vegetation to be cleared; and
- reduce the impact of clearing on any environmental value.

7. Dieback and weed control

When undertaking any clearing or other activity authorised under this Permit, the Permit Holder must take the following steps to minimise the risk of the 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.

8. Records to be kept

The Permit Holder must maintain the following records for activities done pursuant to this Permit, in relation to the clearing of native vegetation authorised under this Permit:

- (a) the location where the clearing occurred, recorded using a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit set to Geocentric Datum Australia 1994 (GDA94), expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings or decimal degrees;
- (b) the date that the area was cleared;
- (c) the size of the area cleared (in hectares);
- (d) actions taken to avoid, minimise and reduce the impacts and extent of clearing in accordance with condition 6 of this Permit; and
- (e) actions taken to minimise the risk of the introduction and spread of *weeds* and *dieback* in accordance with condition 7 of this Permit.

9. Reporting

The Permit Holder must provide to the *CEO* the records required under condition 8 of this Permit, when requested by the *CEO*.

DEFINITIONS

The following meanings are given to terms used in this Permit:

CEO: means the Chief Executive Officer of the Department responsible for the administration of the clearing provisions under the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*;

dieback means the effect of *Phytophthora* species on native vegetation;

fill means material used to increase the ground level, or fill a hollow;

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;

weed/s means any plant -

- (a) that is a declared pest under section 22 of the *Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act 2007*; or
- (b) published in a Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions Regional Weed Rankings Summary, regardless of ranking; or
- (c) not indigenous to the area concerned.

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Abbie Crawford
MANAGER
NATIVE VEGETATION REGULATION

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

23 October 2018

Plan 8118/1



Legend

-  Roads - Local and Others
-  Imagery
-  Clearing Instruments Activities
-  Local Government Authority



1:4,913
 (Approximate when reproduced at A4)
 GDA 94 (Lat/Long)
 Geocentric Datum of Australia 1994

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Officer with delegated authority under Section 20 of the Environmental Protection Act 1986





1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: CPS 8118/1
Permit type: Purpose Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Shire of Manjimup

1.3. Property details

Property: North Walpole Road
Local Government Authority: Shire of Manjimup
Localities: Walpole

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
0.74		Mechanical Removal	Road upgrades

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Grant
Decision Date: 23 October 2018
Reasons for Decision: The clearing permit application was received on 28 June 2018 and has been assessed against the clearing principles, planning instruments and other matters in accordance with section 51O of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*, and it has been concluded that the proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to any of the clearing principles.

The Delegated Officer determined that the proposed clearing may increase the risk of dieback and weeds being introduced or spread into adjacent native vegetation. Dieback and weed management measures will minimise impacts to adjacent native vegetation.

In granting a clearing permit subject to conditions, the Delegated Officer determined that the proposed clearing is not likely to have any unacceptable environmental impacts.

2. Site Information

Clearing Description: The application is to clear up to 0.74 hectares of native vegetation (including approximately 12 trees) within North Walpole Road Reserve (PIN 1141701 and 11746159), Walpole for the purpose of road upgrades to increase safety.

Vegetation Description: The vegetation within the application area is mapped as South West vegetation complex:

- Hazelvale (HA): Mosaic of low woodland to woodland of *Eucalyptus marginata* subsp. *marginata*-*Eucalyptus patens*, low forest of *Agonis juniperina*-*Callistachys lanceolata* with closed heath of Myrtaceae spp. on sandy plains in the hyperhumid zone (Mattiske et al., 1998).

A site inspection was conducted by officers of the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) on 26 September 2018. The DWER site inspection found that the vegetation within the application area consists of *Corymbia calophylla* over *Pteridium esculentum* (DWER, 2018).

Vegetation Condition: Completely Degraded; The structure of the vegetation is no longer intact and the area is completely or almost completely without native species (Keighery, 1994).
To
Degraded; Basic structure severely impacted by disturbance. Scope for regeneration but not to a state approaching good condition without intensive management (Keighery, 1994).

The condition of the vegetation within the application area was determined during a site inspection by DWER Environmental Officers.

Soil/Landform Type: The application area is mapped within the following soil and landform subsystem:

- Hazelvale subsystem (254WhHA): Narrow sandy plains, slight stream incision. Humus podzols on crests of spurs; Teatree scrub. Yellow duplex soils on valley flanks; jarrah-marri low forest. Peaty podzols on minor valley floors; sedges and reeds (Schoknecht et al, 2004).

Comment: The local area referred to in this assessment is defined as the area within a 10 kilometre radius measured from the perimeter of the application area. Aerial imagery indicates that the local area retains approximately 70 per cent native vegetation cover.



Figure 1: Map of application area

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

The application is to clear up to 0.74 hectares of native vegetation (including approximately 12 trees) within North Walpole Road reserve (PIN 1141701 and 11746159), Walpole for the purpose of road upgrades to increase safety. The Shire advises that the trees will only be cleared if they are deemed to be a risk to safety.

According to available databases, seven rare flora species and 68 priority flora species have been recorded within the local area. Three of the rare flora species occur in rock crevices and granite outcrops, three occur in peat soil/low lying depressions and one species occurs in white/grey sand (Western Australian Herbarium, 1998-). The nearest record of rare flora is 600 metres from the application area. Noting the habitat preferences of these species, the degraded/completely degraded condition of vegetation found within the application area, no flora species of conservation significance are likely to occur within the application area.

According to available databases, 46 fauna species of conservation significance (26 rare or likely to become extinct, 11 Priority, seven migratory species protected under International Agreement and two other specially protected fauna) have been recorded within the local area (Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions, 2007-). Species include the forest red-tailed black cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus banksii* subsp. *naso*), Baudin's cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus baudinii*) and Carnaby's cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus latirostris*). No hollows suitable for nesting for black cockatoos were identified within the application area during a site inspection undertaken by DWER Environmental Officers (DWER, 2018). The application area may provide suitable foraging habitat for black cockatoo species, however noting the extent of the proposed clearing, the condition of the vegetation within the application area, and the extent of vegetation in the local area, the application area is not likely to comprise significant habitat for indigenous fauna, including species of conservation significance.

Noting the condition of vegetation, the application area is not likely to comprise a high level of biological diversity or a threatened or priority ecological community.

The national objectives and targets for biodiversity conservation in Australia has a target to prevent clearance of ecological communities with an extent below 30 per cent of that present pre-1750, below which species loss appears to accelerate exponentially at an ecosystem level (Commonwealth of Australia 2001). The application area forms part of the Warren IBRA region. This IBRA region retains approximately 79 per cent of its pre-European clearing vegetation extent (Government of Western Australia 2017). The Hazelvale vegetation complex currently retains approximately 41 per cent of its pre-European clearing extent (Government of Western Australia 2017). Based on the above, and the extent of remnant vegetation in the local area, the application area does not occur within an extensively cleared landscape.

The application area is located 24 metres from a mapped wetland, identified as paluslope (seasonally waterlogged slope) and palusplain (seasonally waterlogged flat). The vegetation within the application area is not considered to be riparian and is not growing in association with this wetland.

The application area is located approximately 1128 metres from Walpole-Nornalup National Park and 2557 metres from West Frankland State Forest. Given the extent of the proposed clearing and the distance from the application area, the proposed clearing is not likely to impact the environmental values of these conservation areas.

Given the extent of the proposed clearing, these clearing activities are not likely to cause appreciable land degradation, result in deterioration in the quality of surface water or groundwater resources, or cause or exacerbate the incidence or intensity of flooding.

Given the above, the proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to any of the clearing principles.

Planning instruments and other relevant matters.

The clearing permit application was advertised on the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation's website on 3 August 2018 for a 21 day public submission period. No submissions were received during this period.

No registered Aboriginal Sites of Significance occur within the application area.

4. References

- Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (2018) CPS 8118/1 Site Inspection Report (DWER Ref: A1731409).
- Government of Western Australia (2018) 2017 South West Vegetation Complex Statistics. Current as of October 2017. WA Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions, Perth, Available from: <https://catalogue.data.wa.gov.au/dataset/dbca>
- Keighery, B.J. (1994) Bushland Plant Survey: A Guide to Plant Community Survey for the Community. Wildflower Society of WA (Inc). Nedlands, Western Australia.
- 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.
- Schoknecht, N., Tille, P. and Purdie, B. (2004) Soil-landscape mapping in South-Western Australia – Overview of Methodology and outputs' Resource Management Technical Report No. 280. Department of Agriculture.
- Western Australian Herbarium (1998–). FloraBase—the Western Australian Flora. Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions. <https://florabase.dpaw.wa.gov.au/> accessed September 2018.

GIS Databases:

- Aboriginal Sites of Significance
- DBCA Managed Estate
- Directory of Important Wetlands
- Geomorphic Wetlands Augusta to Walpole
- Groundwater salinity
- Hydrography, hierarchy
- Hydrography, linear
- Land Degradation datasets
- SAC Bio Datasets
- Soils, Statewide
- Topographic contours
- Vegetation Complexes south west forest