

# Clearing Desktop Report – Short Form

## 1. PROPOSAL DETAILS

|                                       |                                                                                                                  |                         |             |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------|
| <b>Proposal Name:</b>                 | Bridges 0753/0754 Replacement and M032 Realignment:<br>Installation of new Western Power Point of Supply         |                         |             |
| <b>Region/Directorate:</b>            | Wheatbelt                                                                                                        |                         |             |
| <b>Local Government:</b>              | Northam                                                                                                          |                         |             |
| <b>Road/Bridge Name &amp; Number:</b> | Replacement of Bridges 0753 & 0754 by new Bridge 0753A and Major Culvert 0754A, on the M032 Northam-Pithara Road |                         |             |
| <b>Proposal Location (SLK):</b>       | Northam Pithara Road (M032) 4.47 – 5.85 SLK                                                                      |                         |             |
| <b>CDR Short Form TRIM Number:</b>    | D26#10247                                                                                                        |                         |             |
| <b>Spatial Data TRIM Number:</b>      | Clearing Area - D25#1458344                                                                                      |                         |             |
| <b>EOS Number:</b>                    | 2122                                                                                                             |                         |             |
| <b>Expected Proposal Start Date:</b>  | Expected May 2026                                                                                                |                         |             |
| <b>Oracle Project No:</b>             | 30004523                                                                                                         | <b>Task Code:</b>       | 19301       |
| <b>LISC TRIM Number:</b>              | D25#1453732                                                                                                      | <b>HRA TRIM Number:</b> | D25#1456415 |

## 2. PURPOSE OF CLEARING

Additional clearing to facilitate installation of a new Western Power Point of Supply as part of the Bridges 753/754 replacement and realignment of Northam Pithara Rd project.

## 3. ALTERNATIVES TO CLEARING

Design measures to avoid clearing were considered; however, due to limitations of infrastructure placement locations were chose to minimise impacts.

## 4. MEASURES TO AVOID, MINIMISE, MITIGATE AND MANAGE PROPOSAL CLEARING IMPACTS

The following alternatives to clearing were considered during the development of the proposal:

- Main Roads retains frangible vegetation where a clear zone is to be established for road projects. For this project, however, clearing will only be required to accommodate the relocation of services (Western Power), with no clear zone being established. Accordingly, the retention of frangible vegetation does not apply to this proposal.
- Options for locations of infrastructure placement are limited. Locations have been chosen to minimise impacts as far as practicable

## 5. APPROVED POLICES AND PLANNING INSTRUMENTS

The clearing of native vegetation in Western Australia is regulated under the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (EP Act) and the Environmental Protection (Clearing of Native Vegetation) Regulations 2004 (Clearing Regulations).

In addition to the matters considered in accordance with section 51O of the EP Act (see Section 1.3), Main Roads has also had regard to the following documents.

### **Environmental Protection Policies:**

- Environmental Protection (Peel Inlet - Harvey Estuary) Policy 1992
- Environmental Protection (Western Swamp Tortoise Habitat) Policy 2011

### **Other legislation of relevance for assessment of clearing and planning/other matters:**

- *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016* (WA) (BC Act)
- *Conservation and Land Management Act 1984* (WA) (CALM Act)
- *Country Areas Water Supply Act 1947* (WA) (CAWS Act)
- *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (Cth) (EPBC Act)
- *Planning and Development Act 2005* (WA) (P&D Act)
- *Soil and Land Conservation Act 1945* (WA)

- *Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914* (WA) (RIWI Act)
- *Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972* (WA) (AHA)
- *Town Planning and Development Act (WA) 1928*

**Relevant other policies and guidance documents:**

- Environmental Offsets Policy (Government of Western Australia, 2011)
- A guide to the assessment of applications to clear native vegetation (DEC, December 2014)
- Procedure: Native vegetation clearing permits (DWER, October 2019)
- Environmental Offsets Guidelines (Government of Western Australia, August 2014)
- Technical guidance – Flora and Vegetation Surveys for Environmental Impact Assessment (EPA, 2016)
- Technical guidance – Terrestrial Vertebrate Fauna Surveys for Environmental Impact Assessment (EPA, 2020)
- Approved conservation advice under section 266B of the EPBC Act for threatened flora/fauna/vegetation communities
- Approved Recovery Plans for threatened species
- EPBC Act Referral guidelines for the three threatened black cockatoo species
- Strategic advice - EPA

## 6. CLEARING AREA

|                              |                                                                                                                         |                           |   |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|---|
| <b>Clearing Area (ha):</b>   | 0.021                                                                                                                   | <b>No. Trees Cleared:</b> | 5 |
| <b>Species Name(s):</b>      | One <i>Eucalyptus loxophleba</i> (York Gum), one <i>Casuarina obesa</i> , and three <i>Hakea preissii</i> (needle tree) |                           |   |
| <b>Easting and Northing:</b> | GDA 2020 MGA Zone 50470705mE 6502728mN                                                                                  |                           |   |

## 7. EXISTING ENVIRONMENT AND SITE INFORMATION

|                                                 |                                                |
|-------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Site Vegetation Description/Association:</b> | Cleared – Paddock with scattered trees/ shrubs |
| <b>Site Vegetation Condition:</b>               | Completely degraded                            |
| <b>Pre-European Extent Remaining (%):</b>       | N/A                                            |

## 8. ASSESSMENT OF PROPOSAL AGAINST CLEARING PRINCIPLES

| <b>Is vegetation to be cleared at variance with:</b>                                                                                                                            | <b>Justification or Evidence:</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Principle (a)</b> – Native vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises a high level of biological diversity.                                                            | <p>The Clearing Area consists of one <i>Eucalyptus loxophleba</i> (York Gum), one <i>Casuarina obesa</i>, and three <i>Hakea preissii</i> (Needle tree). None of the three species to be cleared are conservation significant flora species; the vegetation does not form part of a Threatened Ecological Community or Priority Ecological Community. The Clearing Area is in the mapped distribution area for Carnaby's Black Cockatoo but not Baudin's Black Cockatoo or Forest Red-tail Cockatoo.</p> <p>The Clearing Area is not within, or providing connectivity to, a conservation area, nor is it growing in association with a watercourse or wetland. The vegetation proposed for clearing is not representative of a high level of biological diversity.</p> <p>Based on the above, the proposed clearing is not at variance to this Principle.</p> |
| <b>Principle (b)</b> – Native vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises the whole or a part of, or is necessary for the maintenance of, a significant habitat for fauna. | <p>The proposed clearing does not provide a significant habitat for fauna. Species are common and do not provide unique values.</p> <p><b>Black Cockatoos</b></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |

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|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                                                                                                                          | <p>Clearing of one native juvenile <i>Casuarina obesa</i> will have no direct impact on native fauna habitat. Although not listed in the ABCS (2025) forage species list, black cockatoos are known to forage on Sheoak species and may utilise swamp Sheoak as a low value forage resource. However, any foraging value provided by this juvenile individual is marginal.</p> <p>York Gum provides no foraging value for Carnaby's Cockatoo (ABCS, 2025). York gum provides low quality nesting and roosting habitat for Carnaby's Cockatoo (ABCS, 2025). The York Gum to be cleared has a DBH of 60cm, however, contains no hollows. The tree currently provides no nesting value.</p> <p><i>H. preissii</i> is only a moderate value foraging species for Carnaby's Cockatoo (ABCS, 2025). Juvenile <i>H. preissii</i> are unlikely to be forming a significant foraging resource for Carnaby's Cockatoo. The clearing of three juvenile <i>H. preissii</i> (needle tree) is not going to have a considerable impact on foraging habitat. <i>H. preissii</i> provides no nesting or roosting value for the three Black Cockatoo species (ABCS, 2025).</p> <p>The Clearing Area is unlikely to be significant habitat for any fauna species, given the degraded quality of the vegetation and its proximity to extensively cleared farmland.</p> |
| <p><b>Principle (c)</b> – Native vegetation should not be cleared if it includes, or is necessary for the continued existence of, threatened flora.</p>                                  | <p>The proposal is to clear one <i>E. loxophleba</i>, one <i>C. obesa</i>, and three <i>H. preissii</i>. These species are not listed as Threatened flora and the nearest threatened flora (<i>Acacia aphylla</i>) record occurs approximately <b>REDACTED</b> km southwest of the Clearing Area.</p> <p>Based on the above, the proposed clearing is not at variance to this Principle.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <p><b>Principle (d)</b> – Native vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises the whole or a part of, or is necessary for the maintenance of, a threatened ecological community.</p> | <p>Based on the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA) restricted access Threatened Ecological Community (TEC) dataset, the Clearing Area does not intersect a mapped patch of the Eucalypt woodlands of the Western Australian Wheatbelt Threatened Ecological Community (TEC), listed as Critically Endangered under the <i>EPBC Act</i>. Structure of vegetation proposed to be cleared does not represent descriptions of a TEC. Analysis of aerial imagery shows the Clearing Area is located within the previously cleared and Completely Degraded rail maintenance corridor. The rail maintenance corridor does not meet the condition thresholds to be considered part of the TEC, nor does it provide an important buffer for nearby mapped patches of TEC. A Biological survey over the proposal area was conducted by Ecoscape in 2020. Ecoscape (2020) didn't identify any patches of vegetation that were classified as TEC.</p> <p>Based on the above, the proposed clearing is not at variance to this Principle.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <p><b>Principle (e)</b> – Native vegetation should not be cleared if it is significant as a remnant of native vegetation in an area that has been extensively cleared.</p>               | <p>The Clearing Area is broadly mapped as occurring within Beard Vegetation Association 352; Medium woodland; York Gum (DPIRD-006). Vegetation Association 352 has less than 30% of its pre-European extent remaining at the State, IBRA Avon Wheatbelt bioregion (17.27%), IBRA Katanning subregion (10.74%) and Shire of Northam levels (11.41%) (Government of</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |

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|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                                                                                                                                       | <p>Western Australia, 2019). However, the proposed clearing consists of one <i>E. loxophleba</i> (York Gum), one <i>C. obesa</i>, and three <i>H. preissii</i> (Needle tree) growing in the Completely Degraded rail maintenance corridor and is therefore no longer representative of the broad scale Beard Vegetation Association. The Clearing Area does not form a significant linkage across the landscape and is not considered to be a significant remnant of native vegetation in an area that has been extensively cleared.</p> <p>Based on the above, the proposed clearing is not at variance to this Principle.</p>                                                                               |
| <b>Principle (f)</b> – Native vegetation should not be cleared if it is growing in, or in association with, an environment associated with a watercourse or wetland.                                  | <p>According to desktop GIS datasets and analysis of aerial imagery, the Clearing Area does not intersect any mapped watercourses or wetlands. The nearest watercourse (Mortlock River North) is approximately 75m west of the Proposal Area. The vegetation proposed for clearing is not associated with any watercourse or wetland.</p> <p>Based on the above, the proposed clearing is not at variance to this Principle.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Principle (g)</b> – Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause appreciable land degradation.                                                     | <p>It is unlikely that the proposed clearing will cause appreciable land degradation due to the minor nature of the clearing and the Completely Degraded condition of the area.</p> <p>Based on the above, the proposed clearing is not at variance to this Principle.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Principle (h)</b> – Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to have an impact on the environmental values of any adjacent or nearby conservation area. | <p>There are no conservation areas within, or in close proximity to, the Clearing Area. The nearest conservation area is located approximately 14 km Northeast. Given the distance to the nearest conservation area, it is unlikely the proposed clearing will have an impact on the environmental values of any conservation areas.</p> <p>Based on the above, the proposed clearing is not at variance to this Principle.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| <b>Principle (i)</b> – Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause deterioration in the quality of surface or underground water.                     | <p>The Clearing Area is located within the Avon River Catchment Area, a proclaimed Surface Water Area under the <i>RIWI Act</i>. According to desktop GIS datasets and analysis of aerial and Streetview imagery, the Clearing Area does not intersect any mapped watercourses or wetlands.</p> <p>The Clearing Area is not located within a proclaimed Groundwater Area, Public Drinking Water Source Area (PDWSA) or Clearing Control Catchment under the CAWS Act (GIS Databases).</p> <p>The clearing of one DBH <i>E. loxophleba</i>, one <i>C. obesa</i>, and three <i>H. preissii</i> is unlikely to have an appreciable impact on surface water quality in such an extensively cleared landscape.</p> |
| <b>Principle (j)</b> – Native vegetation should not be cleared if clearing the vegetation is likely to cause, or exacerbate, the incidence or intensity of flooding.                                  | <p>Based on the small area (0.021 ha) of native vegetation to be removed, it is unlikely the proposed clearing will cause or exacerbate the incidence or intensity of flooding. The Proposal Area does not include any mapped watercourses or wetlands and does not occur within a mapped floodplain area (DWER-020)</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |

**Methodology Used and References:**

Australian Black Cockatoo Specialists (2025) Unpublished report prepared for Main Roads Western Australia. July 2025.

DAWE (2022) - Referral guideline for 3 WA threatened black cockatoo species - [Referral guideline for 3 WA threatened black cockatoo species - DCCEEW](#)

Government of Western Australia (2019) – Statewide Vegetation Statistics - <https://catalogue.data.wa.gov.au/dataset/dbca-statewide-vegetation-statistics>

Main Roads Site map: Appendix 1.

Photographs: Appendix 1.

Shapefile of clearing area/trees: D25#58297

[Bureau of Meteorology – Northam Annual Rainfall](#)

GIS Datasets:

- Black Cockatoo Breeding Sites - Buffered (DBCA-063)
- Black Cockatoo Roosting Sites - Buffered (DBCA-064)
- Carnabys Cockatoo Confirmed Roost Sites (DBCA-050)
- Clearing Regulations – Environmentally Sensitive Areas (DWER-046)
- DBCA – Legislated Lands and Waters (DBCA-011)
- DBCA – Lands of Interest (DBCA-012)
- DBCA Restricted WA Herbarium Flora
- DBCA Restricted Threatened and Priority Fauna
- DBCA Restricted Threatened and Priority Flora
- DBCA Restricted Black Cockatoo Roosting Sites
- DBCA Restricted White Tailed Black Cockatoo Breeding Site Locations
- DBCA Restricted Forest Red-tailed Black Cockatoo Breeding Site Locations
- Directory of Important Wetlands in Australia – Western Australia (DBCA-045)
- EPA Redbook Recommended Conservation Reserves 1976 – 1991 (DBCA-029)
- FPM Floodplain Area (DWER-020)
- Hydrography Linear (DWER-031)
- Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation for Australia (IBRA), Version 7 (Regions and Subregions)
- Local Government Authority (LGA) Boundaries (LGATE-233)
- Medium Scale Topo Water (Line) (LGATE-018)
- Native Vegetation Extent (DPIRD-005)
- Pre-European Vegetation (DPIRD-006)
- Ramsar Sites (DBCA-010)
- Threatened Ecological Communities (DBCA-038)
- TEC\_PEC Actual Boundary

## 9. REHABILITATION, REVEGETATION AND OFFSETS

|                                         |                                                                                                                                                 |
|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Offset Proposal:</b>                 | No offset proposal is required as the proposed clearing will not result in significant residual impacts to native vegetation within the region. |
| <b>Revegetation and Rehabilitation:</b> | No temporary clearing will be undertaken as part of the Proposal activities.                                                                    |

### 10. COMPLIANCE WITH CPS818

The clearing associated with the proposal is not at variance with the Clearing Principles. Additional management actions under CPS 818 are detailed below.

| Impact of Clearing                                                                                                                                                                          | Yes/No or NA | Further Action Required                                                                                                                                                        |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>1.</b> Proposal is within a Region that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>has rainfall greater than 400mm; and,</li> <li>is South of the 26<sup>th</sup> parallel; and,</li> </ul> | <b>Yes</b>   | Standard Vehicle and Plant Management Actions Hygiene Checklists (D17#859669) and Vehicle, Plant and Machinery Hygiene Vehicle Register Template (D23#179551) will be applied. |
| <b>2.</b> Do the proposed works require clearing within or adjacent to DBCA managed lands in non-dry conditions?                                                                            | <b>No</b>    | No further action required.                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>3.</b> Main Roads has been notified by DWER or an environmental specialist that the area to be cleared is susceptible to a pathogen other than dieback.                                  | <b>No</b>    | No further action required.                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>4.</b> Weeds are likely to spread to and result in environmental harm to adjacent areas of native vegetation that are in good or better condition.                                       | <b>No</b>    | No further action required.                                                                                                                                                    |

#### Completed By:

|                  |                              |
|------------------|------------------------------|
| <b>Name</b>      | REDACTED                     |
| <b>Signature</b> | REDACTED                     |
| <b>Job Title</b> | Graduate Environment Officer |
| <b>Date</b>      | 6/01/2026                    |

**Once all sections are completed, send the form to CRSP for review and endorsement.**

### DECISION ON CLEARING ASSESSMENT

|                  |                        |
|------------------|------------------------|
| <b>Name</b>      | REDACTED               |
| <b>Job Title</b> | Environment Contractor |
| <b>Date</b>      | 7/01/2026              |

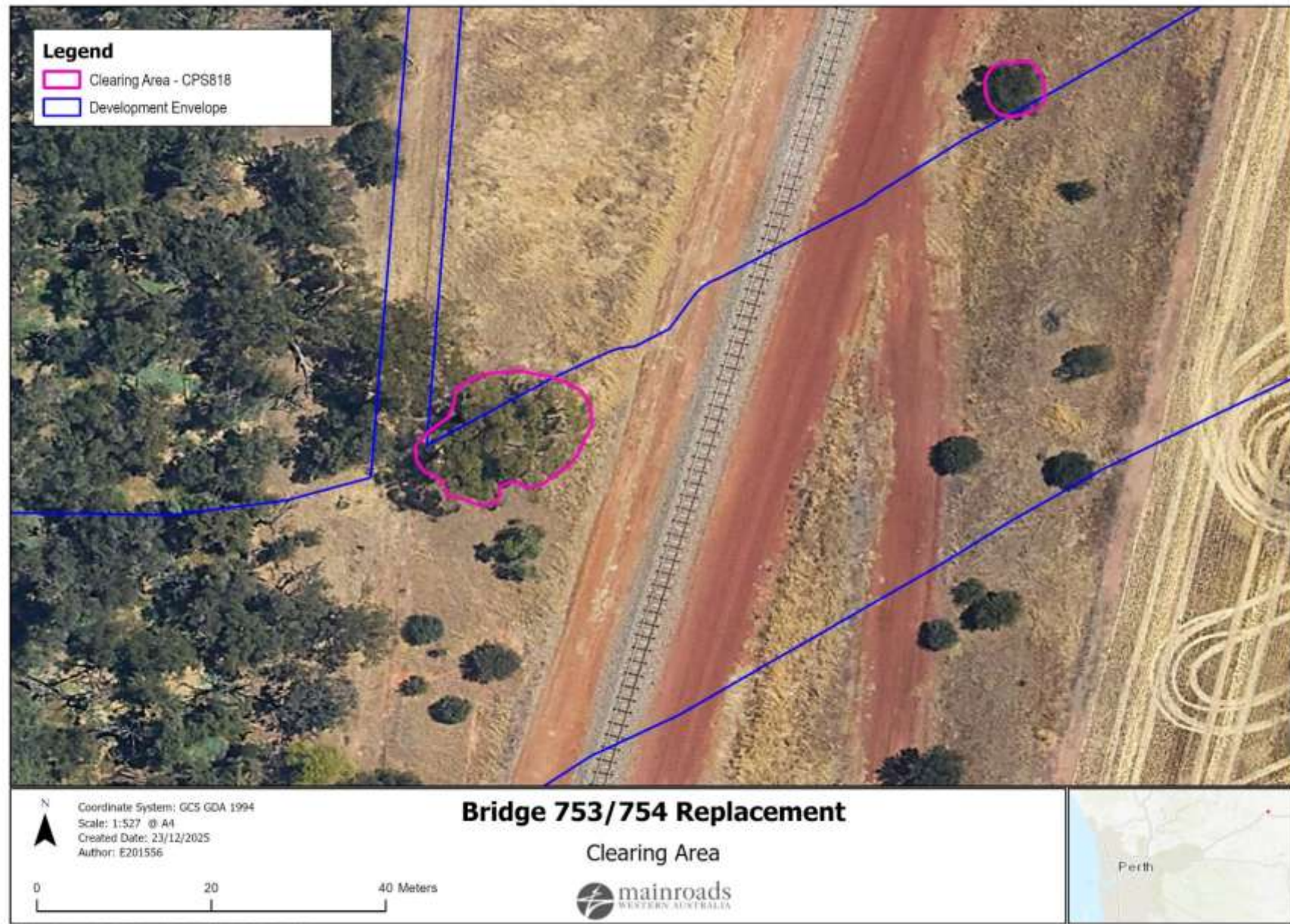
## Appendix 1. Maps and Figures



**Figure 1. York gum (*Eucalyptus loxophleba*) and three *Hakea preissii* to be cleared under CPS 818 (-31.610198 116.691120)**



**Figure 2. *Casuarina obesa* to be cleared under CPS 818 (-31.609852 116.691654)**



**Figure 3. Clearing Area Map**