



# Clearing Permit 818 - projects cleared in 2020

## External Audit Report

Main Roads WA

30 November 2021

→ The Power of Commitment



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|-------------------------|--|
| <b>Printed date</b>     | 2/12/2021 1:12:00 PM   |
| <b>Last saved date</b>  | 02 December 2021   |
| <b>File name</b>        | Clearing Permit 818 Draft Audit Report                                 |
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| <b>Client name</b>      | Main Roads WA  |
| <b>Project name</b>     | PC107-16 SR607 CPS 818 External Audit - July 2021                      |
| <b>Document title</b>   | Clearing Permit 818 - projects cleared in 2020   External Audit Report |
| <b>Revision version</b> | Rev 0  |
| <b>Project number</b>   | 12558344   |

**Document status**

| Status Code | Revision | Author       | Reviewer |           | Approved for issue |           |            |
|-------------|----------|--------------|----------|-----------|--------------------|-----------|------------|
|             |          |              | Name     | Signature | Name               | Signature | Date       |
| S3          | A        | Miles Dracup | D Farrar |           | D Farrar           |           | 21/10/2021 |
| S4          | 0        | Miles Dracup | D Farrar |           | D Farrar           |           | 30/11/2021 |
|             | 1        | Miles Dracup | D Farrar |           | D Farrar           |           | 2/12/2021  |
|             |          |              |          |           |                    |           |            |
|             |          |              |          |           |                    |           |            |

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# Executive summary

Condition 16 of Main Roads' state-wide Clearing Purpose Permit (CPS) 818/15 requires biennial external audit of compliance with Conditions of the Permit. This audit was conducted to satisfy that condition and involved risk-based selection of eight projects cleared under the Permit during 2020 and desktop evaluation of their compliance with Permit conditions. Projects were assessed against the version of the Permit relevant at the time of clearing approval (CPS 818/13, 14 or 15). This report is subject to, and must be read in conjunction with, the limitations set out in Section 1.2 and assumptions and qualifications contained throughout the Report.

The audit found requirements of the Clearing Permit were generally well met. Supporting guidelines and templates had been established, enabling a generally consistent approach, and there was a generally effective database of clearing projects and associated records.

Non-compliances were identified within one of the eight projects, associated with administrative issues:

- Lack of documentation of regard for minimising clearing and its impacts
- Lack of planning for, and records of, weed management and monitoring during and after clearing.

General partial compliance was identified in several areas across all projects, including:

- Lack of documentation of regard for relevant policies and planning instruments
- Incomplete availability and reporting of required records for some projects
- Inadequate records of implementation of vegetation management plans and dieback and weed control for some projects.

Specific findings for each of the eight audited projects have been documented in appended audit tables and summarised in Section 3 of this report.