

Clearing Desktop Report – Short Form



This Clearing Desktop Report – Short Form is required for proposals with low clearing impacts that do not require a full assessment through a Clearing Desktop Report (CDR). Clearing that may be or is at variance should not be assessed using this form. This form must be reviewed and endorsed by the Central Review and Submissions Process (CRSP) Team, who will determine whether the clearing impacts have been assessed properly. Send the form via clearingpermit@mainroads.wa.gov.au. The Environment Officer will be advised within **2 business days** if the assessment of the proposal clearing is endorsed. Refer to the [Factsheet on the Assessment of Low Impact Clearing under Main Roads Statewide Clearing Permit CPS 818](#) (D17#452322) for further information.

1. PROPOSAL DETAILS

Proposal Name:	Great Eastern Highway Bypass Interchange		
Region/Directorate:	Metro		
Local Government Authority:	City of Swan/City of Kalamunda		
Road/Bridge Name and No:	Adelaide Street		
Proposal Location (SLK):	SLK 0.49 to 1.12		
TRIM Link to Spatial Data:	D22#770986		
EOS No:	1867		
Expected Proposal Start Date:	July 2022		
Project No:	21115004	Task Code:	19101
LISC TRIM No:	D22#771278	HRA TRIM No:	D22#382734

2. PURPOSE OF CLEARING

Adelaide Street is being upgraded and connected with Abernethy Road as part of the Stirling Crescent closure at Great Eastern Highway Bypass (GEHB). This includes widening the existing seal, which currently only covers the Shire of Kalamunda side of the road. The proposed works are required to meet road safety standards. Construction of the new formation will result in an elevation differential between the adjacent property and Adelaide St.

The proposed works require the targeted clearing of two native trees within the road reserve along Adelaide St and the adjacent freehold land. This vegetation clearing comprises two planted trees and two native trees in a degraded condition within a parkland cleared landscape. The proposed clearing is not at variance with any of the clearing principles.

3. ALTERNATIVES TO CLEARING

The proposed works have been designed to avoid clearing of vegetation where practicable. Removal of these trees cannot be avoided as the road batters are being pushed out at the request in agreement with the adjacent landholder to ensure they will have direct access to the road once it is upgraded.

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

The contractor (GCA) has investigated alternatives to the proposed clearing. Moving the alignment to the south would result in clearing the fringes of an area of intact native vegetation, which was considered the least desirable option.

GCA will implement the following management procedures:

- Works will be in accordance with the project's Environmental Management Plan (GEHBI-GCA-PLN-A000-PM-00012).
- A Ground Disturbance Permit will be completed and issued before any ground disturbing commences.
- A site environmental representative will be present during initial ground disturbance to ensure environmental compliance during the works. This will be captured via the Environmental Inspection Report, which will be used to monitor environmental issues on site and will be issued to the Project Leader. The report will be completed on a weekly basis.
- Works will be undertaken in consultation with the affected landowner, and will be done during normal work hours
- Dust control measures will be applied during earthworks to minimise the effect of dust on adjacent properties.

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

Clearing Area (ha):	0.02	No. Trees Cleared:	2
Species Name:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planted <i>Callitris</i> sp. • <i>Allocasuarina</i> sp. (likely <i>fraseriana</i>) • Planted shrub, myrtaceous species. Likely a <i>Taxandria</i> or <i>Leptospermum</i>. • <i>Eucalyptus todtiana</i> 		
Easting and Northing:	116.0043089, -31.9263502		

7. EXISTING ENVIRONMENT AND SITE INFORMATION

Site Vegetation Description/Association:	Parkland cleared roadside vegetation formerly mapped as Bassendean 1001- Low forest, woodland or low woodland with scattered trees, <i>Jarrah</i> , <i>banksia</i> or <i>casuarina</i> <i>Eucalyptus marginata</i> , <i>Banksia</i> spp., <i>Allocasuarina</i> spp.
Site Vegetation Condition:	Degraded, parkland cleared.
Pre-European Extent Remaining (%):	57,410.23 ha (22.05 %) remaining at a statewide level. At the LGA level, 111.08 ha (7.54%) remain within the City of Kalamunda and 2,321.48 ha (26.18%) remain within the City of Swan.

8. ASSESSMENT OF PROPOSAL AGAINST CLEARING PRINCIPLES

Is vegetation to be cleared at variance with:	Justification or Evidence:
Principle (a) – Native vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises a high level of biological diversity.	<p>The project proposes to remove 2 isolated trees (native (<i>Allocasuarina</i> ?<i>fraseriana</i> and <i>Eucalyptus todtiana</i>) trees in a parkland cleared condition with understory present.</p> <p>The project is not located within a mapped boundary of a Priority or Threatened Ecological Community (TEC). MRWA flora and herbarium GIS searches identified no known threatened or priority flora species within 100m of the Development Envelope and MRWA fauna GIS layers identified no known threatened fauna occurrences or Black Cockatoo breeding, roosting or foraging areas within 100m of the Development Envelope.</p> <p>Given the lack of vegetation present, vegetation is not representative of any Priority or Threatened Ecological Communities.</p>

	Based on the above, the proposal area has limited biodiversity value and the proposed clearing is not at variance to this Principle.
Principle (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 indigenous to Western Australia.	<p>The two trees are not of suitable DBH for Black Cockatoos and do not contain hollows and provide no habitat value due to the absence of understory. The removal of the two trees do not comprise of habitat necessary for the maintenance of, a significant habitat for fauna.</p> <p>Proposed clearing is not at variance to this Principle.</p>
Principle (c) – Native vegetation should not be cleared if it includes, or is necessary for the continued existence of, rare flora.	<p>MRWA flora and herbarium GIS layers database searches identified no known Threatened or priority flora species within 100m of the proposal development envelope. No understory or vegetation present below the individual trees.</p> <p>Proposed clearing is not at variance to this Principle.</p>
Principle (d) – 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>The two trees and absence of understory are not representative of any Threatened Ecological Communities. The trees are not located in any DBCA mapped TEC areas (DBCA-038).</p> <p>Proposed clearing is not at variance to this Principle.</p>
Principle (e) – 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>Vegetation proposed for clearing comprises isolated trees in a parkland cleared landscape. These are in degraded condition and not associated with significant remnant or bushland.</p> <p>Proposed clearing is not at variance to this Principle.</p>
Principle (f) – Native vegetation should not be cleared if it is growing in, or in association with, an environment associated with a watercourse or wetland.	<p>Vegetation proposed for clearing is not associated with a wetland or watercourse. See wetland mapping at D22#771304.</p> <p>Proposed clearing is not at variance to this Principle.</p>
Principle (g) – Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause appreciable land degradation.	<p>Given that landscape is extensively cleared, the targeted clearing of 2 parkland cleared trees is unlikely to result in appreciable land degradation. Removal of these trees will not result in significant changes to erosion, groundwater levels, or flooding risk.</p> <p>Proposed clearing is not at variance to this Principle.</p>
Principle (h) – 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>The vegetation proposed for clearing is not associated with a conservation area. The nearest reserve is Hawkesvale Reserve located approximately 1 km east of the clearing area. There is adequate separations distance to prevent any impacts to the nearest conservation area.</p> <p>Proposed clearing is not at variance to this Principle.</p>
Principle (i) – 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 proposed clearing area is not lot within 100m of any Public Drinking Water Source Area, or any conservation value wetland or watercourse. The proposed clearing is within a surface water area proclaimed under the RIWI act (Swan River System). This surface water area is proclaimed to control the take of water from the catchment. The proposed clearing is not inconsistent with activities approved within the Surface Water Area. Given the</p>

	<p>nature and scale of clearing proposed, and the absence of surface water, impacts to surface water quality are unlikely.</p> <p>Proposed clearing is not at variance to this Principle.</p>
<p>Principle (j) – Native vegetation should not be cleared if clearing the vegetation is likely to cause, or exacerbate, the incidence or intensity of flooding.</p>	<p>There are no water courses or wetlands within the proposed clearing area. The nearest watercourse is about 2.5km north of the proposed clearing area. Given the nature and scale of clearing proposed, the clearing is unlikely to introduce or exacerbate the risk of flooding.</p> <p>Proposed clearing is not at variance to this Principle.</p>
<p>Methodology Used and References:</p>	<p>Shapefile of clearing area/trees - D22#770986 Figure showing trees to be cleared – D22#771294 Figure showing project design – D22#771289 Figure showing wetland mapping – D22#771304</p>
<p>Completed By:</p>	
<p>Job Title</p>	<p>Environment Contractor</p>
<p>Date</p>	<p>28/7/2022</p>

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

DECISION ON CLEARING ASSESSMENT		
Clearing Assessment	ENDORSED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	REFUSED <input type="checkbox"/>
Comments	The 2 native trees are located in a highly urbanised area and in a parkland clear condition with no understory present. Sufficient justification has ben provided to demonstrate the removal of these trees is low impact and not at variance with the clearing principals	
Job Title	Senior Environment Officer	
Date	29/07/2022	