GOVERNMENT OF
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

PERMIT DETAILS

Area Permit Number: CPS 11449/1

File Number: DWERVT20781

Duration of Permit: From 01/08/2026 to 01/08/2028

PERMIT HOLDER

Shire of Plantagenet

LAND ON WHICH CLEARING IS TO BE DONE

Muir highway road reserve (PIN 11424130), Rocky Gully

AUTHORISED ACTIVITY

The permit holder must not clear more than 0.19 hectares of *native vegetation* within the area cross-hatched yellow in Figure 1 of Schedule 1.

CONDITIONS

1. Avoid, minimise, and reduce impacts and extent of clearing

In determining the *native vegetation* authorised to be cleared under this permit, the permit holder must apply the following principles, set out in descending order of preference:

(a) avoid the clearing of native vegetation;

(b) minimise the amount of native vegetation to be cleared; and

(c) reduce the impact of clearing on any environmental value.

2. Weed and dieback management

When undertaking any clearing authorised under this permit, the permit holder must take the following measures to minimise the risk of 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.

3. Directional clearing

The permit holder must:

(a) conduct all clearing authorised under this permit in a slow, progressive manner, in one direction from south to north; and

(b) allow a reasonable time for fauna present within the area being cleared to move into that adjacent native vegetation ahead of the clearing activity.

4. Records that must be kept

The permit holder must maintain records relating to the listed relevant matters in accordance with the specifications detailed in Table 1.

Table 1: Records that must be kept

No.	Relevant matter	Specifications
1.	In relation to the authorised clearing activities generally	(a) the species composition, structure, and density of the cleared area; (b) the location where the clearing occurred, recorded using a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit set to Geocentric Datum Australia 2020 (GDA2020), expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings; (c) the date that the area was cleared; (d) the size of the area cleared (in hectares); and (e) actions taken to avoid, minimise, and reduce the impacts and extent of clearing in accordance with condition 1; (f) actions taken to minimise the risk of the introduction and spread of *weeds* and *dieback* in accordance with condition 2; and (g) actions taken in accordance with condition 3.

5. Reporting

The permit holder must provide to the *CEO* the records required under condition 4 of this permit when requested by the *CEO*.

DEFINITIONS

In this permit, the terms in Table have the meanings defined.

Table 2: Definitions

Term	Definition
CEO	Chief Executive Officer of the department responsible for the administration of the clearing provisions under the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*.
clearing	has the meaning given under section 3(1) of the EP Act.
condition	a condition to which this clearing permit is subject under section 51H of the EP Act.
dieback	means the effect of *Phytophthora* species on native vegetation.
department	means the department established under section 35 of the *Public Sector Management Act 1994* (WA) and designated as responsible for the administration of the EP Act, which includes Part V Division 3.
EP Act	*Environmental Protection Act 1986* (WA)
fill	means material used to increase the ground level, or to fill a depression
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.
native vegetation	has the meaning given under section 3(1) and section 51A of the EP Act.
weeds	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 species-led ecological impact and invasiveness ranking summary, regardless of ranking; or (c) not indigenous to the area concerned.

END OF CONDITIONS

Digitally signed by Caitlin Conway
Date: 2026.07.09 13:57:53 +08'00'

Caitlin Conway
MANAGER
NATIVE VEGETATION REGULATION

Officer delegated under Section 20 of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

9 July 2026

SCHEDULE 1

The boundary of the area authorised to be cleared is shown in the map below (



Figure 1 1.).



Figure 1: Map of the boundary of the area within which clearing may occur

Government of Western Australia
Department of Water and Environmental Regulation

Clearing Permit Decision Report

1 Application details and outcome

1.1. Permit application details

Permit number:	CPS 11449/1
Permit type:	Area permit
Applicant name:	Shire of Plantagenet
Application received:	4 February 2026
Application area:	0.19
Purpose of clearing:	Expansion of existing layby/parking bay to Rocky Gully Townsite
Method of clearing:	Mechanical removal
Property:	Muir Highway Road reserve (PIN 11424130)
Location (LGA area/s):	Shire of Plantagenet
Localities (suburb/s):	Rocky Gully

1.2. Description of clearing activities

The vegetation proposed to be cleared is contained within a single contiguous 1.9 hectare area (see Figure 1, Section 1.5). The application is to clear native vegetation to expand existing layby/parking bay to Rocky Gully Townsite to accommodate increasing use by providing an additional lane of traffic.

1.3. Decision on application

Decision:	Granted
Decision date:	9 July 2026
Decision area:	0.19 hectares of native vegetation, as depicted in Section 1.5, below.

1.4. Reasons for decision

This clearing permit application was submitted, accepted, assessed and determined in accordance with sections 51E and 51O of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (EP Act). The Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) advertised the application for 14 days and no submissions were received.

In making this decision, the Delegated Officer had regard for the site characteristics (see Appendix A), relevant datasets (see Appendix E.1), the findings of a site inspection (see Appendix D), the clearing principles set out in Schedule 5 of the EP Act (see Appendix B), relevant planning instruments and any other matters considered relevant to the assessment (see Section 3). The Delegated Officer also took into consideration that the expansion of existing layby/parking bay is to accommodate increasing use in a safe manner by providing another lane of traffic and a safer area for heavy vehicles to park.

The assessment identified that the proposed clearing will result in:

- the loss of 0.046 hectares of native vegetation that may provide foraging habitat for Carnaby's cockatoo, forest red-tailed black cockatoo, and Baudin's cockatoo and habitat for western brush wallaby, however impacts to these habitats are not likely to be significant; and
- the potential introduction and spread of weeds into adjacent vegetation, which could impact on the quality of the adjacent vegetation and its habitat values.

After consideration of the available information, as well as the applicant's minimisation and mitigation measures (see Section 3.1), the Delegated Officer determined the impacts of the proposed clearing identified above can be minimised and managed through conditions on the permit, such that it is unlikely lead to an unacceptable risk to environmental values, and that the applicant has suitably demonstrated sufficient avoidance and minimisation measures.

The Delegated Officer decided to grant a clearing permit subject to conditions to:

- avoid, minimise to reduce the impacts and extent of clearing;
- take hygiene steps to minimise the risk of the introduction and spread of weeds; and
- undertake slow, progressive directional clearing from south to north and allowing reasonable time for fauna to move into adjacent vegetation ahead of the clearing activity will minimise impact to individuals should they occur on site at the time of clearing.

1.5. Site map



Figure 1. Map of the application area. The area crosshatched yellow indicates the area authorised to be cleared under the granted clearing permit.

2 Legislative context

The clearing of native vegetation in Western Australia is regulated under the 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 1.4), the Delegated Officer has also had regard to the objects and principles under section 4A of the EP Act, particularly:

- the precautionary principle
- the principle of intergenerational equity
- the principle of the conservation of biological diversity and ecological integrity.

Other legislation of relevance for this assessment include:

- *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016* (WA) (BC Act)
- *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (Cth) (EPBC Act)

The key guidance documents which inform this assessment are:

- *A guide to the assessment of applications to clear native vegetation* (DER, December 2013)
- *Procedure: Native vegetation clearing permits* (DWER, October 2019)

3 Detailed assessment of application

3.1. Avoidance and mitigation measures

The applicant provided the following information to demonstrate consideration of avoidance and mitigation measures:

- The proposed clearing will involve removal of trees measuring between 100 and 150 millimetres across and approximately 40 trees that were planted.
- The original proposal involved extending the lay-by at the eastern end; however, the design has since been amended to minimise environmental impact. The revised layout avoids broader native vegetation and limits clearing strictly to the minimum number of trees required to deliver the works.
- To mitigate the impact, the applicant proposes to plant native trees in suitable locations within the Rocky Gully townsite over time, contributing to the enhancement of public open space. The community group are in support of the project and will be liaised with as part of this process.
- The removal of these trees will be undertaken in a manner to reduce risk of weed spread. The trees will be removed and any residual litter taken from the site.

The Delegated Officer was satisfied that the applicant has made a reasonable effort to avoid and minimise potential impacts of the proposed clearing on environmental values.

3.2. Assessment of impacts on environmental values

In assessing the application, the Delegated Officer has had regard for the site characteristics (see Appendix A) and the extent to which the impacts of the proposed clearing present a risk to biological, conservation, or land and water resource values.

The assessment against the clearing principles (see Appendix B) identified that proposed clearing presents a risk to biological values (fauna and flora). The consideration of these impacts, and the extent to which they can be managed through conditions applied in line with sections 51H and 51I of the EP Act, is set out below.

3.2.1. Biological values (fauna) - Clearing Principles (a and b)

Assessment

The following conservation significant fauna species may utilise vegetation within the application area as habitat:

- *Zanda baudinii (*Baudin's cockatoo) (EN),
- *Zanda latirostris* (Carnaby's cockatoo) (EN),
- *Calyptorhynchus banksii naso* (forest red-tailed black cockatoo) (VU),
- *Dasyurus geoffroii* (chuditch, western quoll) (VU),
- *Cacatua pastinator pastinator* (Muir's Corella) (CD)
- *Phascogale tapoatafa wambenger* (south-western brush-tailed phascogale, wambenger) (CD), and

- *Notamacropus* Irma (western brush wallaby) (P4)

Black cockatoos
According to available databases, the application area is mapped within the known distribution of Carnaby's cockatoo, forest red-tailed black cockatoo, and Baudin's cockatoo. While habitat requirements for the three species of black cockatoos differ, the requirements in general can be categorised as foraging habitat, breeding habitat and night roosting habitat.

Foraging
Critical foraging habitat for black cockatoo species includes foraging resources that is up to 12 kilometres from an active breeding site and within six kilometres of a night roosting site. Black cockatoos forage on a range of plant species, with the primary foraging resources varying between species (DAWE, 2022). Seeds of marri and jarrah comprise of 90 percent of the diet of forest red-tailed black cockatoos while Baudin's Cockatoo's is known to feed primarily on seeds of marri in the forested regions of south-west Western Australia, and rarely jarrah (DEC, 2008). Carnaby's cockatoos have a more varied diet, including seeds, flowers, and nectar of jarrah, marri, *Banksia* spp., *Hakea* spp., and *Pinus* spp. (Lee et al., 2013).

Jarrah trees within the application area are suitable foraging habitat for all three black cockatoo species. Based on department's desktop assessment and site visit (DWER, 2026), 0.12 hectares of vegetation in the application area is planted and 0.029 hectares overlaps the cleared road verge and the track traversing the application area and therefore there is 0.046 hectares of suitable foraging habitat for black cockatoos within the application area. It is recognized that while the desktop assessment identified a Baudin's cockatoo record 4 metres from the application area, the site inspection (DWER, 2026) did not identify foraging evidence within the application area.

According to available databases, there is one known breeding site located approximately 15 kilometres from the application area (i.e. too far for the application area to be expected to be used as foraging by individuals breeding here) and no known roosting sites in the local area. In addition, noting that foraging evidence was not observed during site inspection (DWER, 2026), the extent of foraging habitat present in the application area in the context of the local area (which retains approximately 53.20 percent of remnant vegetation) and given trees in the application area are fairly immature, the application area is considered unlikely to represent significant foraging habitat or result in impacts to the conservation status of black cockatoos.

Breeding and roosting habitat
Suitable breeding habitat for black cockatoos includes trees, which either have a suitable nest hollow or are of a suitable diameter at breast height (DBH) to develop a nest hollow (DAWE, 2022). Habitat trees considered potentially suitable for black cockatoo breeding generally have a DBH greater than 500 millimetres (DAWE, 2022). The regrowth trees to be removed are between 100-150 millimetres (Shire of Plantagenet, 2026) and the site inspection (2026) also confirmed that jarrah trees in the application area were predominantly non-mature and the highest DBH recorded was 300 millimetres and no hollows were observed. Therefore, the application area is considered unlikely to contain significant breeding habitat for black cockatoos.

Black cockatoo night roosts are generally the tallest trees in an area, which are close to foraging habitat and surface water (DAWE, 2022). It is recognised that habitat trees that provide potential breeding habitat may also represent suitable roosting habitat for black cockatoo species. As the application area does not contain suitable mature habitat trees for roosting, the proposed clearing is not considered likely to result in the loss of significant roosting habitat for Carnaby's cockatoo, Baudin's cockatoo, and the forest red-tailed black cockatoo.

Western brush wallaby is distributed across southwest of Western Australia from north of Kalbarri to Cape Arid Their preferred habitat is open forest or woodland, particularly those with seasonally wet flats with low grasses and open scrubby thickets. The species is highly mobile and does not rely on specialist niche habitats (DBCA, n.d.). It is likely that habitat for this species may occur in areas of native vegetation in the application area. However, it is unlikely to be significant given the extent of native vegetation present in the application area and presence of native vegetation adjacent to application area, which is likely in better condition and would provide suitable habitat for the species. Whilst not considered significant habitat, impacts to individuals of wallaby using the application area may occur at the time of clearing. To minimise these potential impacts, the applicant will be required to undertake slow, progressive one directional clearing to allow terrestrial fauna to disperse ahead of the clearing activity should they occur on site at the time of clearing.

Chuditch use a range of habitats including forest, mallee shrublands, woodland and desert with the densest populations found in riparian jarrah forest. Chuditch requires adequate numbers of suitable den and refuge sites (horizontal hollow logs or earth burrows) and sufficient prey biomass (large invertebrates, reptiles and small mammals) to survive (DEC, 2012a). While the vegetation type in the application area is suitable habitat for this

species, the site inspection (DWER, 2026) did not record suitable den or refuge sites in the application area, and given its proximity to the existing layby the native understorey is patchy and impacted by edge effects. Given this, it is considered that suitable habitat for chuditch is unlikely to be present in the application area.

Muir's corella has a limited distribution confined to southwest of Western Australia near Lake Muir, where it is locally common on farmland, but patchily distributed (Chapman & Cale, 2008). Known breeding locations occurs on private properties near Rocky Gully, Lake Muir, and Tonebridge/Mordalup. The species feeds on a wide variety of corns, tubers and seeds from both introduced and native plant species, and insect larvae, predominantly eating the corns of introduced 'Guildford grass' (*Romulea rosea*). Native species that form the diet for the species include *Drosera* spp. and the seeds of marri (DPAW, 2015), which are not present in the application area. Muir's corella is known to nest in hollows in large live or dead eucalypts, particularly marri and jarrah (Chapman & Cale, 2008), however, the site inspection (DWER, 2026) did not record mature jarrah with hollows in the application area. Given this species is common on farmlands and the application area does not contain suitable foraging or breeding habitat, it is unlikely that the proposed clearing would significantly impact the conservation status of this species.

South-western brush-tailed phascogale, wambenger is an arboreal dasyurid associated with dry sclerophyll forests and open woodlands that contain hollow bearing trees, characterised by high canopy cover connectivity (DEC, 2012b). In Western Australia, brush-tailed phascogale is known to occur in the southwest between Perth and Albany with the highest densities occurring in the Perup/Kingston area, Collie River valley, and near Margaret River and Busselton (DEC, 2012b). From a review of the database records and habitat preferences, it was determined that the vegetation type within the application area may provide suitable habitat for south-western brush-tailed phascogale. However, the site inspection (DWER, 2026) did not identify high canopy cover connectivity or trees containing hollows in the application area. In addition, noting that the native vegetation in application area is fragmented by planted trees, it is considered unlikely that the habitat for brush tailed phascogale would be present in the application area.

Conclusion

Based on the above assessment, the proposed clearing area may provide potential foraging habitat for black cockatoos, but it is not considered to be significant in the local context and is unlikely to support roosting or breeding populations. The application area may also contain habitat for western brush wallaby but is unlikely to support significant populations of the species. Other conservation significant fauna species are considered unlikely to occur in the application area.

For the reasons set out above, the foraging habitat present in the application area for black cockatoos is unlikely to be critical for their survival and the proposed clearing is unlikely to reduce habitat availability for these species. Impacts to individuals of western brush wallaby that may be present at site can be managed by conditioning slow, progressive directional clearing to allow individuals that may be using the application area to move into adjacent remnant vegetation ahead of clearing activities.

Conditions

To address the above impacts, the following management measures will be required as conditions on the clearing permit:

- slow, progressive, directional clearing from south to north and allowing reasonable time for fauna to move into adjacent vegetation ahead of the clearing activity will minimise impact to individuals should they occur on site at the time of clearing.

3.2.2. Biological values (flora) Clearing Principles (a and c)

Assessment

Of the 35 conservation significant flora records identified in the local area, only four flora species were found in the same soil and vegetation type as the application area and therefore considered possible to occur. Eight species of threatened flora have been recorded within the local area, however, only *Diuris drummondii* occur in the same soil system and subsystem. The remaining flora records occur in different soil and vegetation type and considered unlikely to occur in the application area.

Diuris drummondii is a tuberous, perennial herb, 0.5 to 1.05 metres high with yellow flowers between November to January occurring in low-lying depressions and swamps (WAH, 1998-). Although the flora species is found to occur in the same soil and vegetation as the application area, it is known from the margins of lakes and swamps, usually low forest of marri, flooded gum, melaleuca, over mixed scrub and sedges. The site visit (DWER, 2026) indicates that there are no wetlands, swamps, seasonally inundated depressions, drainage lines or riparian vegetation within or in proximity to the application area. It is therefore considered unlikely for this species to occur in the application area.

Hibbertia sejuncta is a shrub up to 20 cm associated with jarrah and marri woodlands, banksia shrublands, and kwongan vegetation. This species is known from drainage lines, sedgeland and winter-damp areas (WAH, 1998-). The application area occurs within the known range, and records were identified from jarrah forest with similar soil subsystem. However, given this species is associated with water and winter damp areas, which is not present in the application area, the risk of this species occurring in the application area is low.

Xanthosia eichleri is an erect, procumbent or decumbent shrub, 0.05-0.25 metres high with white-cream flowers in October to November, occurring on granite outcrops and in jarrah or marri woodland (WAH, 1998-). As the site inspection (DWER, 2026) did not observe granite outcrops in the application area, this flora species is considered unlikely to occur.

Ornduffia submersa is an aquatic annual species with white flowers associated with *Melaleuca rhaphiophylla* and *Eucalyptus rudis* woodlands and shrublands, sedgelands, and aquatic herb communities (WAH, 1998-). Given the application area is not associated with watercourse or wetland and is not riparian vegetation as confirmed by site inspection (DWER, 2026), this flora is unlikely to occur in the application area.

Conclusion
Based on the above assessment, the risk of conservation significant flora species occurring within the application area is low and therefore management measures are not recommended to manage this risk.

3.3. Relevant planning instruments and other matters

Several Aboriginal sites of significance have been mapped within the local area. It is the permit holder's responsibility to comply with the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972* (WA) and ensure that no Aboriginal Sites of Significance are damaged through the clearing process.

End

Appendix A. Site characteristics

A.1. Site characteristics

Characteristic	Details
Local context	The area proposed to be cleared is part of an expansive tract of native vegetation in the intensive land use zone of Western Australia. It is located adjacent to an existing layby connected to Muir Highway, with Rocky Gully town situated to the south of the application area and native vegetation tract extending to the east, west, and north. Spatial data indicates the local area (20-kilometre radius from the centre of the area proposed to be cleared) retains approximately 53.20 per cent of the original native vegetation cover.
Ecological linkage	The application area is mapped within Gondwana Link, which provides link between the Walpole wilderness area and the Stirling Ranges.
Conservation areas	The application area is adjacent to a class C reserve (for parklands purpose) north of the application area and a conservation covenant is located 0.78 kilometres from the application area.
Vegetation description	DWER site inspection (2026) noted the vegetation within the proposed clearing area consists of planted trees (comprising approximately 0.12 hectares) and native vegetation comprising of jarrah low woodland with patchy understorey (0.046 hectares). The remainder of the application area intersects already cleared areas. Representative photos are available in Appendix D. It is noted that the applicant initially indicated that the application is to clear trees and that understorey was not present within the clearing area. However, DWER (2026) confirmed that the proposed clearing would include clearing of understorey within the areas with native vegetation. This is consistent with the mapped vegetation type(s), excluding the planted area: • Open forest of Eucalyptus marginata subsp. marginata-Corymbia calophylla-Banksia grandis on undulating uplands in humid and subhumid zones. The mapped vegetation type retains approximately 31.90 per cent of the original extent (Government of Western Australia, 2019).
Vegetation condition	DWER site inspection (2026) indicate the vegetation within the proposed clearing area is in completely degraded to very good (Keighery, 1994) condition, described as: • Very good: Vegetation structure altered, with obvious signs of disturbance. For example, disturbance to vegetation structure caused by repeated fires, the presence of some more aggressive weeds, dieback, logging and/or grazing. • Completely degraded: The structure of the vegetation is no longer intact and the area is completely or almost completely without native species. These areas are often described as 'parkland cleared' with the flora comprising weed or crop species with isolated native trees or shrubs. The full Keighery (1994) condition rating scale is provided in Appendix C. Representative photos are available in Appendix D.
Climate and landform	The mean annual rainfall in Rocky Gully town station is 707.6 millimetres. The highest mean rainfall is July with 112.5 millimetres, and lowest mean rainfall is in January with 18.7 millimetres (BoM, n.d.). The site inspection (DWER, 2026) and spatial data indicate that surrounding contours are widely spaced ranging between 200 metres to 250 metres indicating gentle gradient and no steep slopes are present in the application area.
Soil description	The soil is mapped as, Bevan Subsystem (Perup), described as by broad, gently sloping (gradients 3-15%) divides formed on laterite with gravels dominant.

Characteristic	Details
Land degradation risk	Soils within the application area have a high risk of wind erosion and subsurface acidification, a moderate risk of phosphorus export and water repellence, and a low risk of other land degradation impacts.
Waterbodies	The desktop assessment and aerial imagery indicates that the nearest waterbody is a manmade wetland approximately 0.2 kilometres from the application area. A minor non-perennial watercourse was recorded approximately 0.24 kilometres from the application area. The application area intersects terrestrial groundwater dependent ecosystem with moderate potential.
Hydrogeography	Groundwater salinity within application area is 3000-7000 mg/L TDS
Flora	There are records of 35 conservation significant flora within the local area with the closest to applicant area being Threatened species *Diuris drummondii* 0.23 kilometres from the application area. Of these records, four are found on the same soil and vegetation type as the application area.
Ecological communities	The only ecological community present within the local area is state-listed priority three Eucalypt woodlands of the Western Australian Wheatbelt, located 19.76 kilometres from the application area
Fauna	There are records of 19 conservation significant fauna within the local area. The nearest fauna record is *Zanda baudinii* (Baudin's cockatoo), identified 40 metres from application area. With consideration for the site characteristics set out above, relevant datasets (see Appendix E.1), the habitat preferences of the fauna species, and site inspection undertaken by DWER (DWER, 2026), it is considered that seven fauna species may use the application area as habitat.

A.2. Flora analysis table

With consideration for the site characteristics set out above, relevant datasets (see Appendix E.1), impacts to the following conservation significant flora required further consideration.

Species name	Conservation status	Suitable habitat features ? [Y/N]	Suitable vegetation type? [Y/N]	Suitable soil type? [Y/N]	Distance of closest record to application area (km)	Number of known records (total)	Are surveys adequate to identify? [Y, N, N/A]
Diuris drummondii	T	N	Y	Y	0.23	31	N/A
Hibbertia sejuncta	P2	N	Y	Y	6.96	3	N/A
Xanthosia eichleri	P4	N	Y	Y	7.64	5	N/A
Ornduffia submersa	P4	N	Y	Y	8.61	3	N/A

T: threatened, CR: critically endangered, EN: endangered, VU: vulnerable, P: priority

A.3. Fauna analysis table

Species name	Conservation status	Suitable habitat features? [Y/N]	Suitable vegetation type? [Y/N]	Distance of closest record to application area (km)	Number of known records (total)	Are surveys adequate to identify? [Y, N, N/A]
Zanda baudinii (Baudin's cockatoo) - *Zanda sp.* 'white-tailed black cockatoo'	EN	Y	Y	0.04	28	N/A
Zanda latirostris (Carnaby's cockatoo)	EN	Y	Y	6.33	13	N/A
Calyptorhynchus banksii naso (forest red-tailed black cockatoo)	VU	Y	Y	0.54	29	N/A
Dasyurus geoffroii (Chuditch)	VU	N	Y	0.82	67	N/A
Cacatua pastinator pastinator (Muir's corella)	CD	N	Y	0.23	61	N/A

Species name	Conservation status	Suitable habitat features? [Y/N]	Suitable vegetation type? [Y/N]	Distance of closest record to application area (km)	Number of known records (total)	Are surveys adequate to identify? [Y, N, N/A]
Phascogale tapoatafa wambenger (south-western brush-tailed phascogale)	CD	N	Y	0.15	13	N/A
Notamacropus Irma (western brush wallaby)	P4	Y	Y	1.41	128	N/A

T: threatened, CR: critically endangered, EN: endangered, VU: vulnerable, P: priority

A.4. Land degradation risk table

Appendix B. Assessment against the clearing principles

Assessment against the clearing principles	Variance level	Is further consideration required?
Environmental value: biological values		
Principle (a): *"Native vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises a high level of biodiversity."* Assessment: The area proposed to be cleared contains suitable foraging habitat for black cockatoos and western brush wallaby, however, the habitat is unlikely to be significant. The application area is considered unlikely to contain habitat that is likely to represent any priority or threatened ecological communities or habitat for conservation significant flora.	Not likely to be at variance	Yes *Refer to Section 3.2.1 and 3.2.2, above.*
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."* Assessment: The area proposed to be cleared contains foraging habitat for black cockatoos and may provide habitat for other conservation significant fauna. However, in the context of the local area and extent of clearing, impacts to habitat values for these species are unlikely to be significant.	Not likely to be at variance	Yes *Refer to Section 3.2.1, above.*
Principle (c): *"Native vegetation should not be cleared if it includes, or is necessary for the continued existence of, threatened flora."* Assessment: The area proposed to be cleared is unlikely to contain habitat for flora species listed under the BC Act.	Not likely to be at variance	Yes *Refer to Section 3.2.2, above.*
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."* Assessment: The area proposed to be cleared does not contain species that can indicate a threatened ecological community.	Not likely to be at variance	No
Environmental value: significant remnant vegetation and conservation areas		
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."* Assessment:	Not likely to be at variance	No

Assessment against the clearing principles	Variance level	Is further consideration required?
The extent of the mapped vegetation type and native vegetation in the local area is consistent with the national objectives and targets for biodiversity conservation in Australia. The vegetation proposed to be cleared is not considered to be part of a significant ecological linkage in the local area. Although the application area is mapped within Gondwana Link, given the extent of the application area and presence of remnant vegetation in the local area, the proposed clearing is unlikely to fragment or sever a significant ecological linkage.		
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."* Assessment: Given the distance to the nearest conservation areas, the clearing is unlikely to impact on the environmental values of any adjacent or nearby conservation area.	Not likely to be at variance	No
Environmental value: land and water resources		
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."* Assessment: The application area is not growing in or in association with a watercourse or wetland and the proposed clearing is unlikely to impact on- or off-site hydrology and water quality. While the application area contains moderate potential to support terrestrial groundwater dependent ecosystem, given it is not associated with water and the extent of clearing, the proposed clearing is unlikely to significantly impact these values.	Not likely to be at variance	No
Principle (g): *"Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause appreciable land degradation."* Assessment: The mapped soils are highly susceptible to wind and subsurface acidification and moderately susceptible to phosphorus export and water repellence. Noting that the cleared area will be bituminised, the risk for wind erosion is low. Given the extent of the application area, the proposed clearing is not likely to have an appreciable impact on land degradation.	Not likely to be at variance	No
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."* Assessment: Given the extent of the clearing, distance to nearest surface water bodies and that no sensitive groundwater resources, including Public Drinking Water Sources Areas are present within the application area, the proposed clearing is unlikely to impact surface or ground water quality.	Not likely to be at variance	No
Principle (j): *"Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause, or exacerbate, the incidence or intensity of flooding."* Assessment: The mapped soils and topographic contours in the surrounding area do not indicate the proposed clearing is likely to contribute to increased incidence or intensity of flooding.	Not likely to be at variance	No

Assessment against the clearing principles	Variance level	Is further consideration required?
Given no water courses or wetlands were recorded within close proximity to the application area, the proposed clearing is unlikely to contribute to waterlogging.		

Appendix C. Vegetation condition rating scale

Vegetation condition is a rating given to a defined area of vegetation to categorise and rank disturbance related to human activities. The rating refers to the degree of change in the vegetation structure, density and species present in relation to undisturbed vegetation of the same type. The degree of disturbance impacts upon the vegetation's ability to regenerate. Disturbance at a site can be a cumulative effect from a number of interacting disturbance types.

Considering its location, the scale below was used to measure the condition of the vegetation proposed to be cleared. This scale has been extracted from Keighery (1994).

Measuring vegetation condition for the South West and Interzone Botanical Province (Keighery, 1994)

Condition	Description
Pristine	Pristine or nearly so, no obvious signs of disturbance.
Excellent	Vegetation structure intact, with disturbance affecting individual species; weeds are non-aggressive species.
Very good	Vegetation structure altered, with obvious signs of disturbance. For example, disturbance to vegetation structure caused by repeated fires, the presence of some more aggressive weeds, dieback, logging and/or grazing.
Good	Vegetation structure significantly altered by very obvious signs of multiple disturbances. Retains basic vegetation structure or ability to regenerate it. For example, disturbance to vegetation structure caused by very frequent fires, the presence of some very aggressive weeds at high density, partial clearing, dieback and/or grazing.
Degraded	Basic vegetation structure severely impacted by disturbance. Scope for regeneration but not to a state approaching good condition without intensive management. For example, disturbance to vegetation structure caused by very frequent fires, the presence of very aggressive weeds, partial clearing, dieback and/or grazing.
Completely degraded	The structure of the vegetation is no longer intact and the area is completely or almost completely without native species. These areas are often described as 'parkland cleared' with the flora comprising weed or crop species with isolated native trees or shrubs.

Appendix D. Photographs of the vegetation / DWER site inspection report



Fig 1. Looking east from the centre of the area to be cleared.
Plantation on left (regrowth/native vegetation on right)



Fig 2. Looking north from the eastern edge of the area to be cleared.
Regrowth with understorey



Fig 3. Looking north from the centre of the area to be cleared.
Different perspective of fig 3. Pink flag delineates clearing area



Fig 4. Looking north from eastern side of the area to be cleared.
Tree with highest DBH of 50 cm adjacent to clearing area

Figure D. 1. Photographs of the application area (DWER, 2026)



Fig 5. Looking north from the eastern side the area to be cleared.
Close up of biggest tree DBH adjacent to clearing area (fig 4)



Fig 6. Looking southeast from the eastern side of the area to be cleared.
Planted trees with weeds



Fig 7. Looking southeast from the centre of the area to be cleared.
Two lines of planted trees from centre of clearing area of varying maturity



Fig 8. Looking east from the track separating the clearing area

Figure D. 2 Photographs of the application area (DWER, 2026)



Fig 9. Looking north from the left side of track in the area to be cleared.

- *Regrowth with patchy understorey*
- *Front line not within frame was a line of planted trees*
- *Planted trees on west of track seemed younger than the east side*



Fig 10. West of figure 9. Looking north from the left side of track

- *Regrowth with understorey to be cleared*
- *Front line not within frame was a line of planted trees*

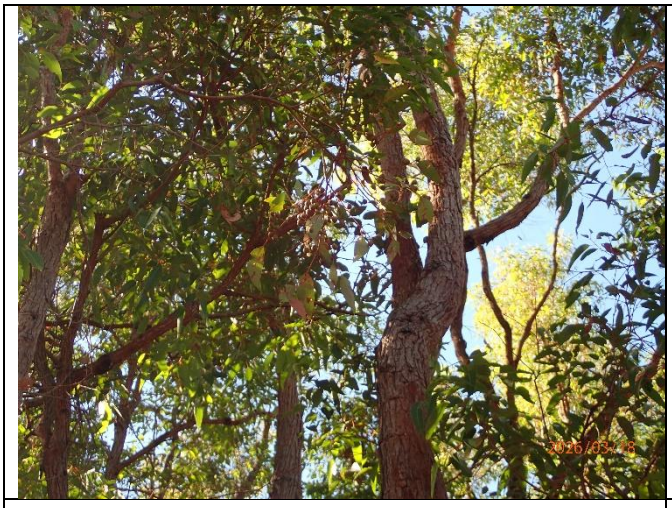


Fig 11. Close up of nuts present on a jarrah tree



Fig 12. Looking northeast from the western end of the clearing area

Figure D. 3. Photographs of the application area (DWER, 2026)

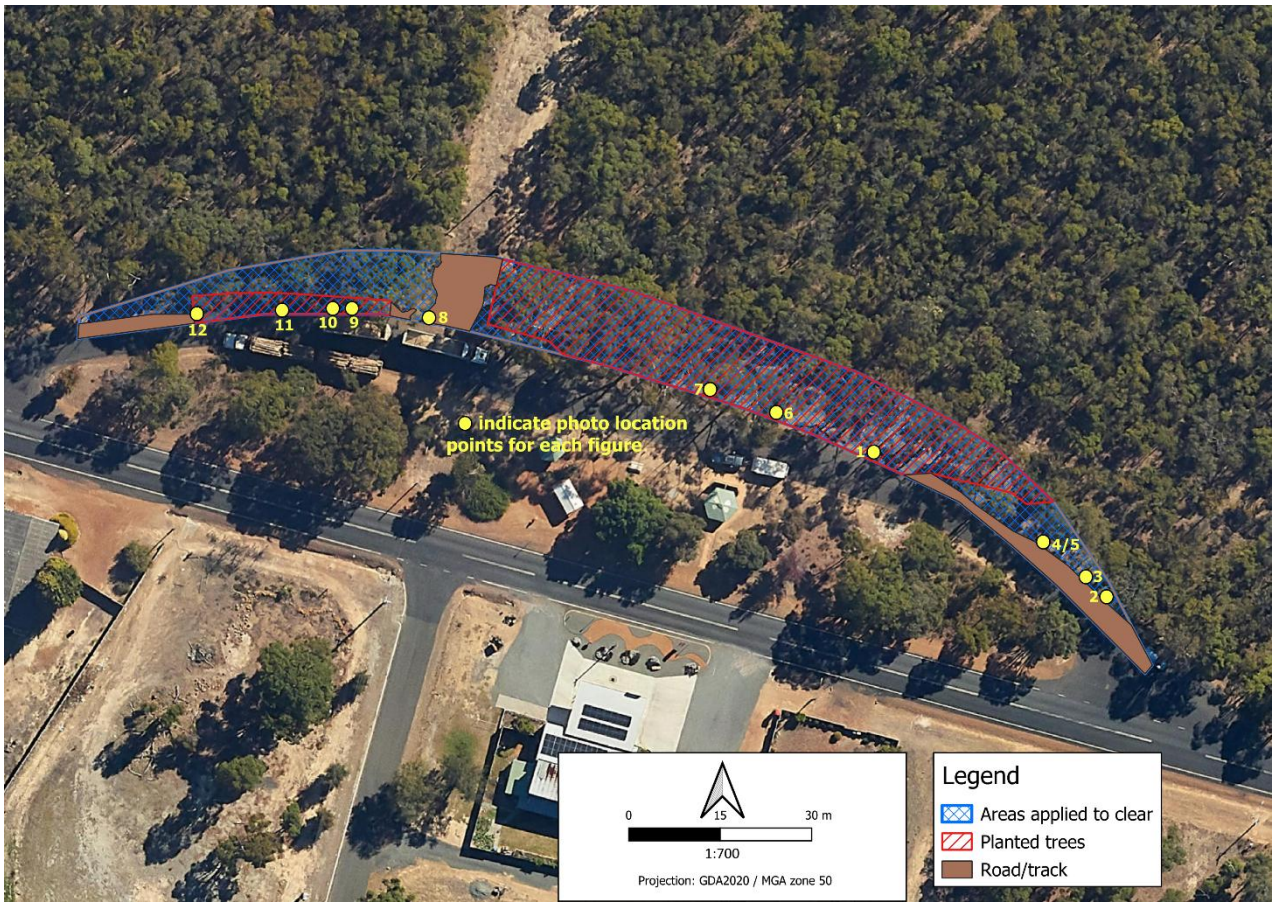
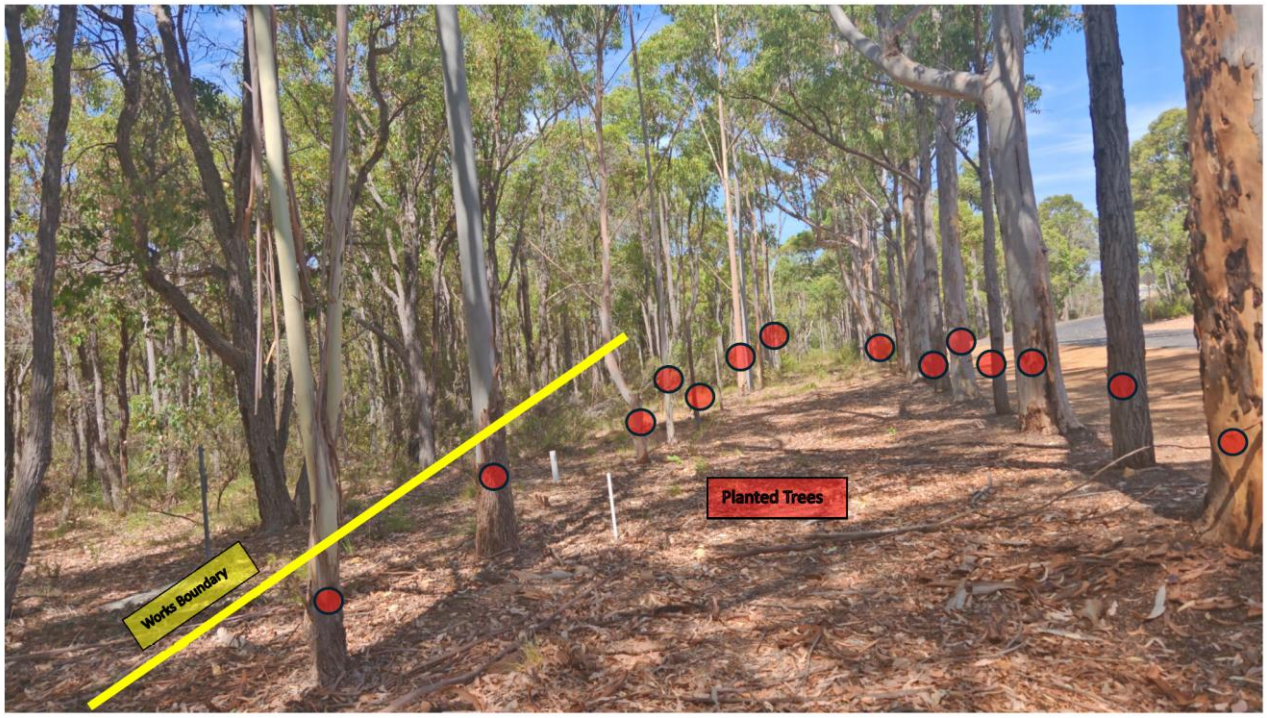


Figure D. 4. Application area with photo locations (DWER, 2026). Application area not intersecting planted trees and road/track is area with native vegetation



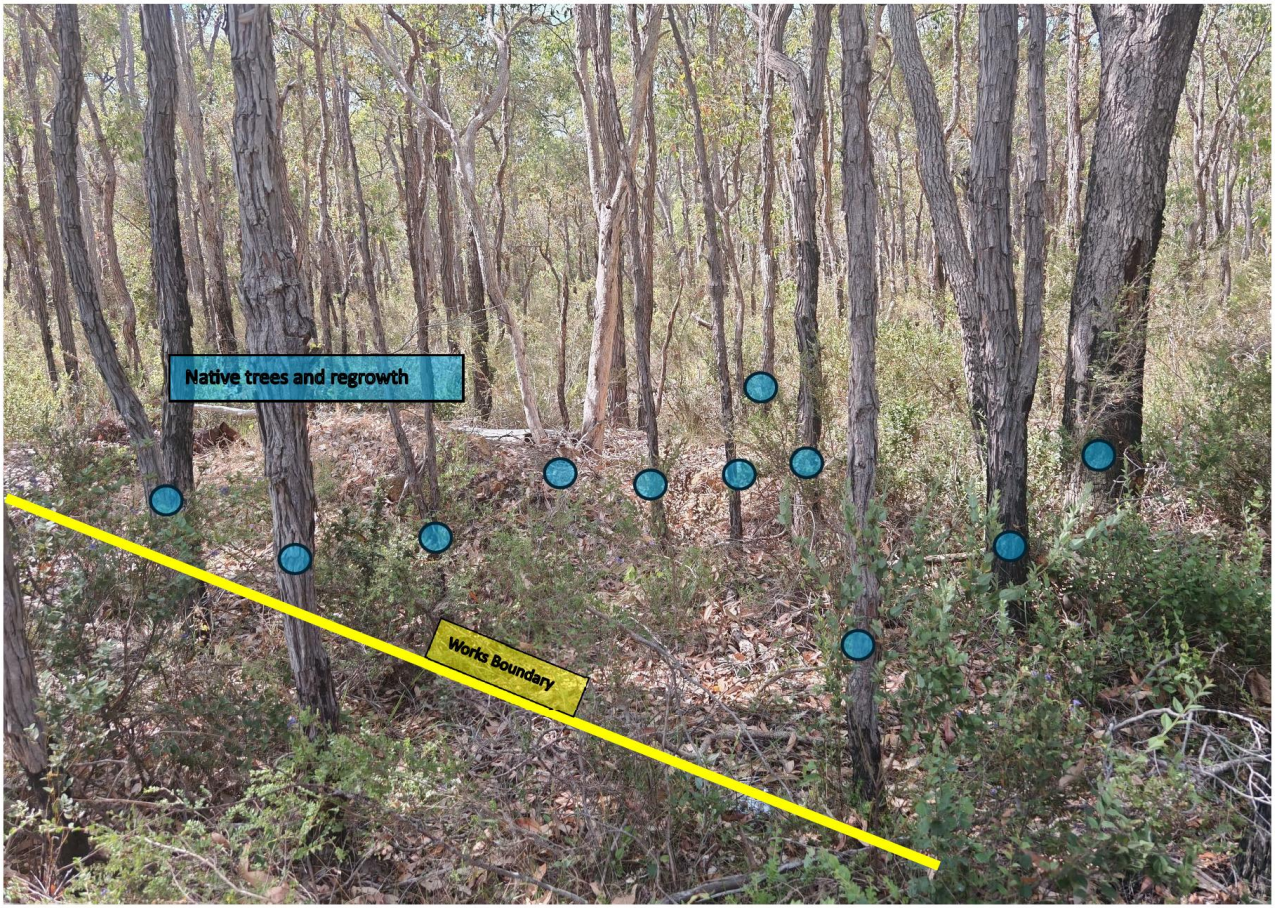


Figure D. 5. Photographs of application area (Shire of Plantagenet, 2026)

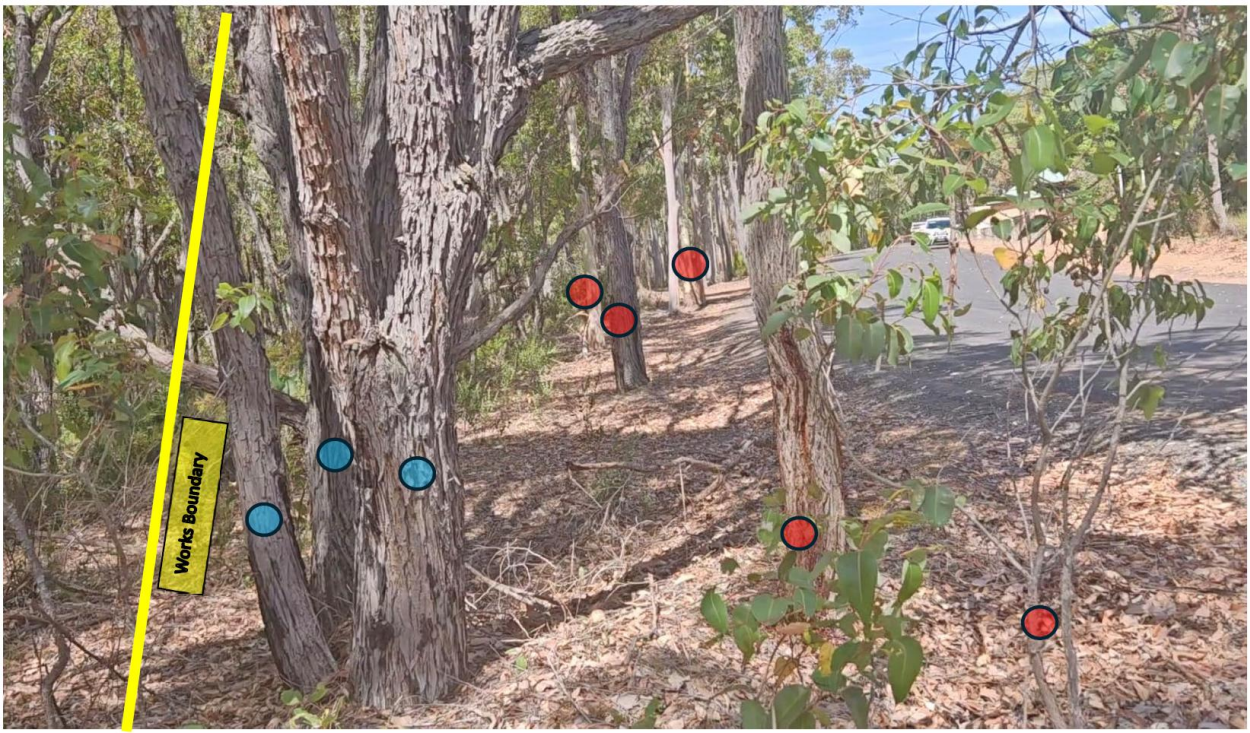




Figure D. 6. Photographs of application area (Shire of Plantagenet, 2026)



Figure D. 7. Photographs of application area (Shire of Plantagenet, 2026)

Appendix E. Sources of information

E.1. GIS databases

Publicly available GIS Databases used (sourced from www.data.wa.gov.au):

- 10 Metre Contours (DPIRD-073)
- Aboriginal Heritage Places (DPLH-001)
- Aboriginal Heritage Places (DPLH-001)
- Cadastre (LGATE-218)
- Cadastre Address (LGATE-002)
- Contours (DPIRD-073)
- DBCA – Lands of Interest (DBCA-012)
- DBCA Legislated Lands and Waters (DBCA-011)
- Directory of Important Wetlands in Australia – Western Australia (DBCA-045)
- Environmentally Sensitive Areas (DWER-046)
- Flood Risk (DPIRD-007)
- Groundwater Salinity Statewide (DWER-026)
- Hydrography – Inland Waters – Waterlines
- Hydrological Zones of Western Australia (DPIRD-069)
- IBRA Vegetation Statistics
- Imagery
- Local Planning Scheme – Zones and Reserves (DPLH-071)
- Native Title (ILUA) (LGATE-067)
- Offsets Register – Offsets (DWER-078)
- Pre-European Vegetation Statistics
- Public Drinking Water Source Areas (DWER-033)
- Ramsar Sites (DBCA-010)
- Regional Parks (DBCA-026)
- Remnant Vegetation, All Areas
- RIWI Act, Groundwater Areas (DWER-034)
- RIWI Act, Surface Water Areas and Irrigation Districts (DWER-037)
- Soil Landscape Land Quality – Flood Risk (DPIRD-007)
- Soil Landscape Land Quality – Phosphorus Export Risk (DPIRD-010)
- Soil Landscape Land Quality – Subsurface Acidification Risk (DPIRD-011)
- Soil Landscape Land Quality – Water Erosion Risk (DPIRD-013)
- Soil Landscape Land Quality – Water Repellence Risk (DPIRD-014)
- Soil Landscape Land Quality – Waterlogging Risk (DPIRD-015)
- Soil Landscape Land Quality – Wind Erosion Risk (DPIRD-016)
- Soil Landscape Mapping – Best Available
- Soil Landscape Mapping – Systems

Restricted GIS Databases used:

- ICMS (Incident Complaints Management System) – Points and Polygons
- Threatened Flora (TPFL)
- Threatened Flora (WAHerb)
- Threatened Fauna
- Threatened Ecological Communities and Priority Ecological Communities
- Threatened Ecological Communities and Priority Ecological Communities (Buffers)

E.2. References

Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) (n.d.) *Daily rainfall Rocky Gully town.* Australian Government. Available from: https://www.bom.gov.au/climate/data/index.shtml (Accessed 11 April 2026).

Chapman, T., and Cale, B. (2008) *Muir's Corella (Cacatua pastinator pastinator) Recovery Plan,* Department of Environment and Conservation. Available from: https://www.dcceew.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/cacatua-pastinator-pastinator.pdf.

Commonwealth of Australia (2001) *National Objectives and Targets for Biodiversity Conservation 2001-2005*, Canberra.

Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment (DAWE) (2022) *Referral guideline for 3 WA threatened black cockatoo species: Carnaby's Cockatoo, Baudin's Cockatoo and the Forest Red-tailed Black-cockatoo*, Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment, Canberra, February. Retrieved from https://www.dcceew.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/referral-guideline-3-wa-threatened-black-cockatoo-species-2022.pdf.

Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA) (n.d.). *Western Brush Wallaby Macropus irma (Jourdan, 1837*). Available from: https://library.dbca.wa.gov.au/static/FullTextFiles/071535.pdf.

Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC) (2008) *Forest black cockatoo (Baudin's cockatoo, Calyptorhynchus baudinii, and forest red-tailed black cockatoo, Calyptorhynchus banksii naso) Recovery Plan.* Department of Environment and Conservation, Canberra.

Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC) (2012a) *Chuditch (Dasyurus geoffroii) Recovery Plan*. Wildlife Management Program No. 54. Department of Environment and Conservation, Perth, Western Australia. Available from https://www.dcceew.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/dasyurus-geoffroii-2012.pdf

Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC) (2012b) *Fauna Profiles, Brush-Tailed Phascogale*. Department of Environment and Conservation, Perth Western Australia. Available from https://library.dbca.wa.gov.au/static/FullTextFiles/925273.pdf.

Department of Environment Regulation (DER) (2014). *A guide to the assessment of applications to clear native vegetation*. Perth. Available from: https://www.wa.gov.au/system/files/2023-05/A-guide-to-the-assessment-of-applications-to-clear-native-vegetation.pdf.

Department of Parks and Wildlife (DPaW) (2015) *Muir's Corella management.* Wildlife Management Program No 61. Department of Parks and Wildlife, Perth, Western Australia.

Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD) (2019). *NRInfo Digital Mapping. Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development.* Government of Western Australia. URL: https://maps.agric.wa.gov.au/nrm-info/ (accessed 10 April 2026).

Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) (2021). *Procedure: Native vegetation clearing permits*. Joondalup. Available from: https://www.wa.gov.au/system/files/2024-11/procedure-native-vegetation-clearing-permits.pdf.

Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) (2026) *Site Inspection Report for Clearing Permit Application CPS 11449/1,* 18 March 2026. Department of Water and Environmental Regulation, Western Australia (DWER Ref: DWERDT1340571).

Government of Western Australia (2019) *2018 South West Vegetation Complex Statistics. Current as of March 2019*. WA Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions, Perth, https://catalogue.data.wa.gov.au/dataset/dbca

Government of Western Australia. (2019) *2018 Statewide Vegetation Statistics incorporating the CAR Reserve Analysis (Full Report). Current as of March 2019.* WA Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions. https://catalogue.data.wa.gov.au/dataset/dbca-statewide-vegetation-statistics

Keighery, B.J. (1994) *Bushland Plant Survey: A Guide to Plant Community Survey for the Community*. Wildflower Society of WA (Inc). Nedlands, Western Australia.

Lee, J.G.H., Finn, H.C., and Calver, M.C. (2013) *Ecology of black cockatoos at a mine-site in the eastern jarrah-marri forest, western Australia*. Pacific Conservation Biology 19, 76–90. Available from: https://doi.org/10.1071/PC130076

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.

Molloy, S., Wood, J., Hall, S., Wallrodt, S. and Whisson, G. (2009) *South West Regional Ecological Linkages Technical Report*, Western Australian Local Government Association and Department of Environment and Conservation, Perth.

Northcote, K. H. with Beckmann G G, Bettenay E., Churchward H. M., van Dijk D. C., Dimmock G. M., Hubble G. D., Isbell R. F., McArthur W. M., Murtha G. G., Nicolls K. D., Paton T. R., Thompson C. H., Webb A. A. and Wright M. J. (1960-68) *Atlas of Australian Soils*, Sheets 1 to 10, with explanatory data. CSIRO and Melbourne University Press: Melbourne.

Schoknecht, N., Tille, P. and Purdie, B. (2004) *Soil-landscape mapping in South-Western Australia – Overview of Methodology and output*s Resource Management Technical Report No. 280. Department of Agriculture.

Shah, B. (2006) *Conservation of Carnaby's Black-Cockatoo on the Swan Coastal Plain, Western Australia*. December 2006. Carnaby's Black-Cockatoo Recovery Project. Birds Australia, Western Australia.

Shepherd, D.P., Beeston, G.R. and Hopkins, A.J.M. (2001) *Native Vegetation in Western Australia, Extent, Type and Status*. Resource Management Technical Report 249. Department of Agriculture, Western Australia.

Shire of Plantagenet (2026) *Clearing permit application CPS 11449/1*, received 04 February 2026 (DWER Ref: DWERDT1250932).

Valentine, L.E. and Stock, W. (2008) *Food Resources of Carnaby's Black Cockatoo (Calyptorhynchus latirostris) in the Gnangara Sustainability Strategy Study Area*. Edith Cowan University and Department of Environment and Conservation. December 2008.

Western Australian Herbarium (1998-). *FloraBase - the Western Australian Flora*. Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions, Western Australia. https://florabase.dpaw.wa.gov.au/ (Accessed 02 March 2026)