**APPLICATION TO CLEAR PASTORAL LAND**

**(s.38(1)(h) *Pastoral Land Act)***

**1. APPLICANT’S DETAILS**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Full Name |  |
| Position (eg. Lessee / Manager) |  |
| Telephone |  |
| Mobile |  |
| Email |  |
| Postal Address |  |

**2. DETAILS OF LEASE ON WHICH CLEARING IS PROPOSED**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Lease Name |  |
| Pastoral Lease Number |  |
| NT Portion Number |  |
| Location / Pastoral District |  |
| Total Area of Lease (km2) |  |
| Size of Proposed Clearing Area |  |
| Total areas previously cleared on the property (km2) |  |

**3. APPLICATION FEE**

An application fee is charged for clearing applications and payment is required at the time the application is lodged. Please contact the Pastoral Land Board Executive Officer on 8999 4667 or email [pastorallandboard@nt.gov.au](mailto:pastorallandboard@nt.gov.au) to confirm the current fee.

**4. CLEARING DETAILS**

**4.1** How much land are you proposing to clear and what is (are) the proposed uses(s)?

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Site ID** (paddock or nominated number ID) | **Proposed Use**  Specify crops or pasture species to be planted.  Will the area be grazed of used for hay production?  Provide details of non-pastoral use or other purpose. | **Area**  (ha or km2) |
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|  |  |  |
|  | **Total Area** |  |

**4.2** Have any of **these areas** been previously cleared?

Yes (complete table below)

No (go to part 4.3)

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Site ID**  (paddock or nominated number ID) | **Details of Previous Clearing**  Year cleared, purpose of original clearing, estimated age / height of regrowth, last known date of maintenance etc. | **Area Previously Cleared**  (ha or km2) |
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**4.3** Have any **other areas** on the property been previously cleared?

Yes (complete table below and show location on a copy of the Clearing Plan)

No (go to part 4.4)

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Site ID** (paddock or nominated number ID) | **Area  previously  cleared**  (ha or km2) | **Clearing  Purpose /  Land Use** | **Approval  Date and/or  Permit  Details** | **Year  Cleared** | **Is the  clearing  currently  maintained?** |
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**4.4** Attach a Clearing Plan

The Clearing Plan is a drawing made to scale showing the geo-referenced location of the proposed clearing sites(s) numbered or identified as shown in the above tables.

The clearing plan must contain:

* the map datum (eg. GDA94) used to locate the clearing areas;
* the map projection or zone;
* a north arrow;
* a suitable background (eg. cadastre showing property boundaries, satellite/aerial imagery or topographic map);
* corners of clearing areas must be labelled with coordinates, or numbered to identify coordinates contained in an attached table.

For assistance, contact the relevant regional officer, Rangelands Division, Department of Environment and Natural Resources.

**4.5** Attach any relevant information on proposed pasture or crop requirements: Preferred soils, fertiliser and/or insecticide requirements and management advice. Contact the Department of Primary Industry and Resources for more information on (08) 8999 5511.

**4.6** Outline an Establishment Plan in the table below.

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Activity** | **Timing** (month/year) | **Methods / Details**  (Prompts are included to assist but other  information can be included where relevant) |
| Felling of Vegetation |  | eg. Machinery and techniques |
| Removal of felled vegetation |  | eg. Machinery and techniques including burning, mulching, temporary location and removal of windrows |
| Site Preparation |  | eg. Machinery and techniques |
| Planting |  | Outline timing and method for each species proposed. |
| Weed and Sucker  Management |  | Indicate control methods |
| Grazing  Management |  | Outline when stock will be introduced and stocking regime to be used after establishment |
| Crop  Management  (if applicable) |  | Outline how crops will be tilled and/or rotated and whether any additional crops or pastures are likely to be added in the future |

**4.7** Will the clearing development be staged? ie will different sites be cleared in different years?

Yes (complete table below)

No (go to part 4.8)

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| --- | --- |
| **Year** | **Site ID**  (paddock or nominated area) |
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**5. WATER REQUIREMENTS**

**5.1** Does the proposal require irrigation?

Yes (complete table below)

No (go to part 6)

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| --- | --- |
| **5.1.1** | What will be the total annual water requirements for the property following establishment of the proposed development?  *Contact Water Resources on 8999 4613 for advice on water use requirements* |
|  | |
| **5.1.2** | Where will water be sourced and is there adequate supply?  For example, 860 ML/yr will be sourced from the Tindall Limestone Aquifer from bore RN32140 at 20L/sec. |
|  | |

*Note: Licensing provisions apply to Water Control Districts and Water Allocation Plan areas.*

*Contact Water Resources on 8999 4613 for advice on whether this applies to you.*

**5.2** Do you need a water license?

Yes (see 5.2.2)

No (go to part 6)

**5.2.2** Please advise the current status of the water license:

Approved (please attach copy of license)

Pending approval

Application to be lodged

**6. ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION**

Has the proposal been referred for assessment under the *Environmental Assessment Act*?

To determine whether your proposal will trigger referral, read the Environmental Assessment Guidelines “When a Notice of Intent is not required for development proposal submitted under the Pastoral Land Act”.

See [www.ntepa.nt.gov.au/environmental-assessments/factsheets-and-guidelines](http://www.ntepa.nt.gov.au/environmental-assessments/factsheets-and-guidelines).

Referred – assessment not required (attach advice from NT EPA)

Referred – assessment required (attach advice from NT EPA)

Not referred to NT EPA

**7. LAND RESOURCES**

**7.1** Describe the physical characteristics of the land:

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**7.2** Attach a copy of any land resource mapping that extends over the proposed clearing areas with a description of the mapping units and map scale.

For assistance, contact the relevant regional Rangeland Officer, Rangelands Division, Department of Environment and Natural Resources.

Note: Land Resource mapping can be used to guide your description of the land but by itself does not satisfy your obligation to describe the land because it is not at an appropriate scale. Mapping must be verified or refined by on-ground site survey.

**7.3** Verify and/or refine the land resource mapping. Describe the various land types using the pro-forma at Appendix A. Take a representative photo of the land type.

The number of descriptions required will depend on the variability of the land. You should complete a separate pro-forma when you notice that the land type differs significantly from your initial or subsequent descriptions. Make note of where each land type is within proposed clearing areas.

*Note: Government officers generally visit proposed developments to confirm that descriptions are accurate. If they are not accurate, additional descriptions may be requested, which may delay determination of your application.*

**Attach the descriptions (Appendix A pro-forma) and photos of each land type to your application. Delineate the location of each land type on a copy of the clearing plan.**

For further assistance, see: [www.lrm.nt.gov.au/soil](http://www.lrm.nt.gov.au/soil) and [www.lrm.nt.gov.au/natveg/vegmapping](http://www.lrm.nt.gov.au/natveg/vegmapping)

**8. WEEDS**

**8.1** Are there any weeds declared under the Weeds Management Act on the property?

For assistance see: <http://www.lrm.nt.gov.au/weeds2/legislation/declared>

Yes (complete table below)

No (go to part 8.2)

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Weed species and declared class** | **Weed Locations**  (eg. tracks, previously cleared  areas, proposed clearing areas) | **Describe how common  the weed is** |
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Class A: to be eradicated

Class B: growth and spread to be controlled

Class C: not to be introduced to the Northern Territory

**8.2** Do you have a weed management plan?

Yes (complete table below)

No (go to part 9)

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Target Weed** | **Aims** (contain spread, reduce extent, eliminate) | **Methods**  (ie. monitor and spray) |
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**9. POTENTIAL IMPACTS**

**9.1** Are there any coastal/marine areas on the property?

Yes (provide description below)

No

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**9.2** Are there any public facilities, utilities or infrastructure in the locality?

Yes (provide description below)

No

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**9.3** Are there any records of threatened flora and/or fauna species listed under the *Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation* (EPBC) *Act* or the *Territory Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act* within 5km of the proposed clearing sites?

Note: Further information and search tools on the EPBC Act are available from the Commonwealth Department of the Environment and Energy at: <http://www.environment.gov.au/epbc/protected-matters-search-tool>*.*

Access threatened species information at: [www.nt.gov.au/environment/animals/classification-of-wildlife](http://www.nt.gov.au/environment/animals/classification-of-wildlife)or <http://nrmaps.nt.gov.au/>. The Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Fauna and Flora Division can be contacted on 08 8995 5000 for advice.

Yes (complete table below)

No (go to part 9.4)

| **Common Name** | **Species Name** | **EPBC Act Listing** | **TPWC Act Listing** | **Location** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
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*Listing Codes: Critically Endangered (CR), Endangered (EN), Vulnerable (VU), Near Threatened (NT), Data Deficient (DD)*

**9.3.1** Assess the risks posed to each species from the proposed development and describe in the table below how any risk will be mitigated.

Identify any associations that the species may have with landforms, vegetation structure or dominant plant species proposed for clearing.

Download species information at: [www.lrm.nt.gov.au/plants-and-animals/home/specieslist](http://www.lrm.nt.gov.au/plants-and-animals/home/specieslist)  
or contact the Department of Environment and Natural Resources Fauna and Flora Division on 8995 5000.

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| --- | --- |
| **Risk Assessment** (the likelihood of impacts occurring and possible consequences) | **Risk Mitigation**  (how will the risks identified be minimised) |
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**9.4** Are there any “significant” vegetation communities such as rainforest; closed forest; riparian vegetation; communities containing large trees with hollows; sand-sheet heath; or mangroves within 200m of the proposed clearing area(s)?

Note: See the NT Planning Scheme Land Clearing Guidelines for definitions of significant vegetation communities.

Yes (complete table below)

No (go to part 9.5)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Description of significant vegetation community** | **Distance to proposed clearing** |
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**Attach copy of the clearing plan with location of significant vegetation communities.**

**9.4.1** Identify and assess the risks to significant vegetation communities associated with the proposed development and use of the land and describe how risk will be mitigated. Potential impacts include weed incursion, fertiliser/chemical inputs, erosion and/or sedimentation, and reduced wildlife movement to or from community. Consider any benefits from fire management.

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| **Risk Assessment** (the likelihood of impacts occurring and possible consequences) | **Risk Mitigation**  (how will the risks identified be minimised) |
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**9.5** Are native vegetation buffers and/or wildlife corridors proposed to be retained?

Yes (complete table below)

No (explain why)

If yes, describe the proposed width and length of corridors, reason for inclusion in that location and width chosen. See the NT Planning Scheme Land Clearing Guidelines for recommended buffers and wildlife corridors.

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| **Purpose of buffer / corridor** | **Width, length and reason chosen** |
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*Note: the location and size of all native vegetation buffers and wildlife corridors are to be shown on the Clearing Plan.*

**9.5.1** Identify and assess the risks to corridors and wildlife movement. Potential risks include reduced habitat availability and movement of wildlife between larger patches of vegetation and impact on edges of corridors (weeds, wind exposure, fertiliser or sediment).

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| **Risk Assessment** (the likelihood of impacts occurring and possible consequences) | **Risk Mitigation**  (how will the risks identified be minimised) |
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**9.6** Potential Impacts to Soils, Surface Water and Ground Water

**9.6.1** Are there any permanent or seasonal water features or sinkholes adjacent to proposed clearing sites?

*Note: See the NT Planning Scheme Land Clearing Guidelines for assistance.*

Yes (complete table below)

No (go to 9.6.2)

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Describe feature** (eg. drainage line, wetland, waterway / stream order, sinkhole (open or closed) | **Width of buffer to be retained** | **If buffer width is smaller than  recommended in Land Clearing  Guidelines, explain why** |
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**9.6.2** Assess the risk of chemical sprays or aerial application of fertiliser associated with the proposed land use drifting into and polluting surface water or sinkholes and describe how risk will be mitigated.

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| **Risk Assessment** (the likelihood of impacts occurring and possible consequences) | **Risk Mitigation**  (how will the risks identified be minimised) |
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**10. SITES OF CONSERVATION SIGNIFICANCE**

Are there any sites of conservation significance located within the proposed area for clearing?

Yes  No

If yes, please show the location of sites of conservation significance on a map and describe how risk will be mitigated in the table below.

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| --- |
| **Sites of Conservation Significance Search**  NT Sites of Conservation Significance: [www.lrm.nt.gov.au/plants-and-animals/conservation-for-land-managers/sites-of-conservation-significance/map](http://www.lrm.nt.gov.au/plants-and-animals/conservation-for-land-managers/sites-of-conservation-significance/map)  Register of the National Estate: [www.environment.gov.au/cgi-bin/ahdb/search.pl](http://www.environment.gov.au/cgi-bin/ahdb/search.pl)  NT Parks and Reserves: [www.ntlis.nt.gov.au/imfPublic/imf.jsp?site=nreta](http://www.ntlis.nt.gov.au/imfPublic/imf.jsp?site=nreta)  (check box for “Parks and Wildlife”, refresh map, click and drag over area of interest) |

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| --- | --- |
| **Risk Assessment** (the likelihood of impacts occurring and possible consequences) | **Risk Mitigation**  (how will the risks identified be minimised) |
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**11. EROSION & SEDIMENT CONTROL**

**11.1** Attach a copy of the Clearing Plan showing:

* delineated land types described in Part 7.1;
* the direction of overland flow;
* adjacent property boundaries (within 200m); and
* adjacent water features and sinkholes described in 9.6.1 above.

**11.2** Assess the potential for water and wind erosion during both the establishment and operational phases of the development.

Consider:

* the % and length of slope in the proposed clearing area;
* the vulnerability of the soil type to overland flow (vulnerable soils include: loose sands; poorly drained soils; sodic or dispersive soils; and shallow soils);
* the risk of receiving erosive floodwater from adjacent streams or run-off from the surrounding landscaped (eg. rises and hills);
* the proposed land use, including projected minimum groundcover (%), tillage practices, and potential loss of soil structure from trafficking; and
* the vulnerability of soil type to wind erosion (e.g. sandy soils).

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| **Risk Assessment** (the likelihood of impacts occurring and possible consequences) | **Risk Mitigation**  (how will the risks identified be minimised) |
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**11.3** Assess the risk of erosion or sedimentation of adjacent infrastructure, water features and sinkholes during both the establishment and operational phases of the development.

Consider:

* The adequacy of retained buffers (described above in 9.5 and 9.6.1) to filter run­off and promote infiltration before run-off reaches streams or infrastructure.
* Potential for chemical pollution of surface water or sinkholes from herbicides, insecticides or fertilisers attached to sediment (i.e. intensity of chemical use).

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| **Risk Assessment** (the likelihood of impacts occurring and possible consequences) | **Risk Mitigation**  (how will the risks identified be minimised) |
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Based on considerations above, outline temporary and/or permanent controls that you will put in place to minimise the risk of erosion and avoid the potential impacts of sedimentation and pollution. The amount of detail and controls provided should be proportionate to the degree of risk. Show the location of controls on a copy of the Clearing Plan.

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| **Temporary Controls** | **Permanent Controls** |
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**11.5** Are acid sulphate soils present in or within 200m of the proposed clearing areas? (usually found on tidal areas including mangroves and coastal floodplains)

Yes

No

If Yes ensure that these areas are shown on a copy of the Clearing Plan. Assess the risk of disturbance to acid sulphate soils and release of sulphuric acid, and describe how the potential impact will be avoided.

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| **Risk Assessment** (the likelihood of impacts occurring and possible consequences) | **Risk Mitigation**  (how will the risks identified be minimised) |
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**12. Potential Impacts Across Property Boundaries**

**12.1** Is there a public road or public area within 200m of the proposed clearing?

Yes (complete table below)

No (go to part 12.2)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Distance from public road or corridor** | **Width of retaining boundary buffer** |
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*Note: the location and size of all buffers are to be shown on the clearing plan.*

**12.2** Assess the risk of reduced visual amenity (any quality that makes the locality harmonious, pleasant or enjoyable), recreation or tourism value associated with the proposed development and describe how risk will be mitigated.

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| **Risk Assessment** (the likelihood of impacts occurring and possible consequences) | **Risk Mitigation**  (how will the risks identified be minimised) |
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**12.3** Assess the risk of chemical spray drift or dust pollution associated with the proposed development affecting neighbours/community and describe how risk will be mitigated.

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| **Risk Assessment** (the likelihood of impacts occurring and possible consequences) | **Risk Mitigation**  (how will the risks identified be minimised) |
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**12.4** Are introduced species proposed to be planted less than 100m from the property boundary?

Yes (complete table below)

No (go to part 12.5)

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| **Species to be planted** | **Distance from boundary** | **Width of buffer** |
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*Note: the location and size of all buffers are to be shown on the clearing plan.*

**12.4.1** Assess the risk of species spreading across the boundary and describe how potential spread will be mitigated.

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| **Risk Assessment** (the likelihood of impacts occurring and possible consequences) | **Risk Mitigation**  (how will the risks identified be minimised) |
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**13. HERITAGE & SACRED SITES**  
 **13.1** Are there any declared heritage places or archaeological sites within the meaning of the Heritage Conservation Act on the property?

Attach results of a Heritage search from the Heritage Branch, Department of Tourism and Culture (phone (08) 8999 5051) or an archaeological survey report if a survey has been conducted.

Yes

No (go to part 12.5)

If yes, attach the advice, show the sites on the clearing plan and complete the risk assessment table below.

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| --- | --- |
| **Risk Assessment** (the likelihood of impacts occurring and possible consequences) | **Risk Mitigation**  (how will the risks identified be minimised) |
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**13.2** Are there any sacred sites or significant sites protected under the *Aboriginal Sacred Sites Act* on the property?

Attach a report from the Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority outlining the results of a register inspection. <http://www.aapant.org.au> Phone (08) 8999 5511.

Yes  No

If yes, attach the advice, show the sites on the clearing plan and complete the risk assessment table below.

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| --- | --- |
| **Risk Assessment** (the likelihood of impacts occurring and possible consequences) | **Risk Mitigation**  (how will the risks identified be minimised) |
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**SIGNED:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ DATED:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

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| **Please forward your application to:**  The Executive Officer  Pastoral Land Board  PO Box 496  PALMERSTON NT 0831  Email: [pastorallandboard@nt.gov.au](mailto:pastorallandboard@nt.gov.au) |

**APPENDIX A: LAND TYPES IN THE PROPOSED CLEARING**

In your own words describe **EACH** land type on a separate sheet

**LAND TYPE:**

(Use A, B, C etc to distinguish each land types and identify on the clearing plan.)

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| --- |
| **Landform:** (describe the landform highlighting range of slope [i.e. <1%; 1-3%; >3%], direction the slope faces, and extent of surface rock) |

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| --- |
| **Soil:** (describe the dominant soil in this land type highlighting features such as soil texture, depth, colour, surface gravel, surface cracking, and drainage during the wet season) |

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| **Vegetation:** (describe the average height and cover of the upper-storey [e.g. individual canopies generally overlapping, partially separated, clearly separated or very sparse] and the dominant trees, shrubs, grasses and weeds.) |

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| **Soil Conservation:** (Is evidence of erosion present in this land type especially along existing tracks and fence lines? Do you believe there is a risk of erosion in this land type if cleared?) |

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| **Diagrams and Photographs (Optional):** (Please draw the landscape (e.g. cross section) noting natural and man-made features and the location of land type described above)  **PHOTO No’s**  (Attached) |

**Checklist of Attachments**

Note: You can show more than one feature on a plan to reduce the total number of plans required.

A Clearing Plan showing the geo-referenced location of each proposed clearing site and numbered to identify the proposed land use at each site.

Copies of the Clearing Plan showing one or more of the following:

* Location of any other areas on the property previously cleared
* Location of land types proposed for clearing
* Location of significant vegetation types or sites of conservation significance within 200m of proposed clearing sites
* Location and size of all native vegetation buffers and wildlife corridors
* Location of drainage lines or depressions, waterways (label stream order), wetlands, springs or sinkholes adjacent to proposed clearing sites
* Direction of potential overland flow
* Location of proposed erosion and sediment controls
* Location of acid sulphate soils within 200m of proposed clearing sites
* Location of heritage places, archaeological sites, sacred and significant sites and restricted works area
* Land resource mapping over the proposed clearing area with a description of mapping units. Representative photos of land types proposed for clearing
* Advice regarding threatened species
* Advice from DLPE Heritage Branch regarding the presence of declared heritage places or archaeological sites
* Results/advice from a Register of Sacred and Significant Sites search from the Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority (AAPA)
* Information on crops or pastures to be planted