

Clearing Permit Decision Report

1. Application details

Permit application details

Permit application No.: 1073/1 Permit type: Area Permit

Proponent details 1.2.

Proponent's name: Ross Dudley & Lynette Margaret Fraser

Property details

Property: LOT 1 ON DIAGRAM 15931 (Lot No. 1 SPENCER CHOWERUP 6244)

LOT 3 ON DIAGRAM 15931 (Lot No. 3 SPENCER CHOWERUP 6244)

Local Government Area:

Colloquial name:

Shire Of Boyup Brook

Application

Clearing Area (ha) No. Trees Method of Clearing For the purpose of:

20 Mechanical Removal Fence Line Maintenance

2. Site Information

Existing environment and information

2.1.1. Description of the native vegetation under application

Vegetation Description Clearing Description Vegetation Condition

Beard:

Unit 3 - Medium forest; iarrah-marri

parkland cleared area.

Completely Degraded:

No longer intact; completely/almost completely without native species

(Keighery 1994) Completely Degraded: No longer intact; completely/almost

completely without native species (Keighery 1994)

Twenty scattered trees in a

Comment

Vegetation condition established through aerial photography.

Mattiske:

Bevan 3 (BE3) - Woodland of Eucalyptus marginata subsp. marginata with some Eucalyptus wandoo on low rises in subhumid and semiarid zones.

Assessment of application against clearing principles

(a) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises a high level of biological diversity.

Comments Proposal is not at variance to this Principle

The area under application is parkland cleared and considered to be Completely Degraded (Keighery 1994). The area consists of 20 mature trees, with no native under storey or mid storey species present.

Therefore the area proposed to be cleared is not considered to hold a high level of biological diversity.

Methodology Keighery (1994)

GIS database:

- Pemberton 1.4m Orthomosaic - DOLA 99

(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.

Comments Proposal is not likely to be at variance to this Principle

The area proposed to be cleared is parkland cleared, consisting only of 20 mature trees. Due to the scattered nature of the trees and the lack of under storey and shrub species, the area proposed to be cleared is not considered to be significant as habitat for native fauna.

The Tone Perup Nature Reserve surrounds the property under application. It is approximately 600m from the proposed clearing. The Tone Perup Nature Reserve is considered to be significant habitat value for native fauna species. There area proposed to be cleared is not acting as a corridor between the Nature Reserve and other remnant stands and is therefore unlikely to impact on habitat values within the Reserve.

Methodology GIS database:

- Pemberton 1.4m Orthomosaic DOLA 99
- CALM Managed Lands and Waters CALM 1/06/04

(c) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it includes, or is necessary for the continued existence of, rare flora.

Comments Proposal is not at variance to this Principle

There are nine Declared Rare Flora (DRF) populations found within the local area (10km radius) of the proposed clearing. The closest, Caladenia dorrienii, 3km north of the area proposed to be cleared.

There are no Priority 1, Priority 2, Priority 3 or Priority 4 populations found within the local area of the proposed clearing.

The proposed clearing, of 20 mature trees within a paddock, will not impact of rare flora within the local area.

Methodology GIS databases:

- Declared Rare and Priority Flora List CALM 13/08/03
- Pemberton 1.4m Orthomosaic DOLA 99

(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.

Comments Proposal is not likely to be at variance to this Principle

No Threatened Ecological Communities or Threatened Plant Communities are found within the local area of the proposed clearing.

Therefore the area proposed to be cleared is not considered to be necessary for the maintenance of a Threatened Ecological Community.

Methodology GIS databases:

- Threatened Ecological Communities CALM 15/7/03
- Threatened Plant Communities DEP 06/95

(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.

Comments Proposal is not at variance to this Principle

The application is located in the Jarrah Forest Bioregion in the Shire of Boyup Brook. The extent of native vegetation in these areas is 58.3% and 45.2% respectively (Shepherd et al. 2001).

The vegetation of the area applied to clear is a component of Beard Unit 3 (Hopkins et al. 2001) of which there is 72.1% (Shepherd et al. 2001) of the pre-European extent remaining, and therefore of 'least concern' status for biodiversity conservation (Department of Natural Resources and Environment 2002).

The vegetation of the area applied to clear is a component of Mattiske Bevan 3 (BE3) (Havel 2002) of which there is 88.4% of the pre-European extent remaining and therefore of a 'least concern' status for biodiversity conservation (Department of Natural Resources and Environment 2002).

Due to the high percentage of vegetation remaining within the local area and bioregion, 20 mature trees are not considered to be a significant remnant of vegetation; therefore this clearing proposal is not at variance to this principle.

Methodology Department of Natural Resources and Environment (2002)

Havel (2002)

Hopkins et al. (2001)

Shepherd et al. (2001)

GIS databases:

- Mattiske Vegetation CALM 24/3/98
- Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation of Australia EM 18/10/00
- Local Government Authorities DLI 8/07/04
- Pre European Vegetation DA 01/01

(f) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it is growing in, or in association with, an environment associated with a watercourse or wetland.

Comments Proposal is not likely to be at variance to this Principle

There are no EPP Lakes or EPP Areas within the local area of the proposed clearing.

There are no RAMSAR, ANCA or Geomorphic Wetlands within the local area of the proposed clearing.

There are three minor non-perennial watercourses on the property under application. There are no vegetation links between the area proposed to be cleared and local watercourses. The area proposed to be cleared is not within 100m of any watercourses.

The area proposed to be cleared is not considered to be growing in or in association with a watercourse or wetland.

Methodology GIS databases:

- ANCA, Wetlands CALM 08/01
- EPP Areas DEP 06/95
- EPP Lakes DEP 28/07/03
- Geomorphic Wetlands (Mgt Categories) Swan Coastal Plain DoE 15/9/04
- Hydrography Linear DoE 1/2/04
- RAMSAR, Wetlands CALM 21/10/02
- Pemberton 1.4m Orthomosaic DOLA 99

(g) Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause appreciable land degradation.

Comments Proposal is not likely to be at variance to this Principle

The area proposed to be cleared is within low risk salinity and Acid Sulphate Soils areas and has a ground water salinity level of 3000-7000 mg/L.

Due to the scale of the proposed clearing, appreciable land degradation is unlikely to occur.

Methodology GIS databases:

- Acid Sulfate Soil Risk Map, SCP DoE 01/02/04
- Salinity Risk LM 25m DOLA 00.
- Groundwater Salinity, Statewide 22/02/00

(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.

Comments Proposal is not at variance to this Principle

A System 2 Area is located 1.7km south of the area proposed to be cleared.

The Tone Perup Nature Reserve is located on the western, eastern and northern boundaries of the property under application.

The Greater Kingston National Park is located 2.4km west, south west of the area proposed to be cleared.

The proposed clearing of 20 mature trees will not impact the environmental values of nearby conservation areas.

Methodology GIS database:

- CALM Managed Lands and Waters CALM 1/06/04
- Register of National Estate EA 28/01/03
- System 1-5 and 7-12 Areas DEP 06/95
- Pemberton 1.4m Orthomosaic DOLA 99

(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.

Comments Proposal is not likely to be at variance to this Principle

The area proposed to be cleared is within the Warren River Hydrographic Catchment Area, the Warren River Water Reserve Public Drinking Water Source Area and Zone A of the Warren River Water Reserve Country Areas Water Supply (CAWS) Catchment.

Zone A of the CAWS Catchment contains the highest risk of salinity occurrence. Clearing of paddock trees within this zone is only deemed acceptable if an area twice that of the proposed clearing is replanted, this is in accordance with current CAWS Policy and Guidelines. Negotiations undertaken with the applicant have resulted in a condition to replant twice the area cleared (40 trees).

Methodology GIS databases:

- CAWSA Part2A clearing control catchment DoE 17/11/05
- Hydrographic Catchments, Catchments DoE 3/4/03

- Public Drinking Water Source Areas (PDWSAs) DOE 29/11/04
- RIWI Act Surface Water Areas WRC 18/10/02

(j) Native vegetation should not be cleared if clearing the vegetation is likely to cause, or exacerbate, the incidence or intensity of flooding.

Comments Proposal is not likely to be at variance to this Principle

Due to the scale of the proposed clearing, flooding impacts are unlikely to occur.

Methodology GIS databases:

- Topographic Contours, Statewide - DOLA 12/09/02

Planning instrument, Native Title, Previous EPA decision or other matter.

Comments

The area under application is zoned Rural in the Town Planning Scheme.

The area proposed to be cleared has not been compensated under the CAWS Act 1978 (SWO29030).

No advice or submissions have been received.

Methodology Compensation advice TRIM ref SWO29030

GIS database:

- Town Planning Scheme Zones - MFP 8/98

4. Assessor's recommendations

Purpose	Method Applied	Decision	Comment / recommendation
	area (ha)/ tre	es	
Fence Line	Mechanical	20 Grant	Recommend grant with condition to replant 40 native trees and fence from stock.
Maintenance Removal			

References

Department of Natural Resources and Environment (2002) Biodiversity Action Planning. Action planning for native biodiversity at multiple scales; catchment bioregional, landscape, local. Department of Natural Resources and Environment, Victoria.

Havel, J.J. and Mattiske Consulting Pty Ltd (2002) Review of management options for poorly represented vegetation complexes, Conservation Commission.

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

Mattiske Consulting (1998) Mapping of vegetation complexes in the South West forest region of Western Australia, CALM. 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.

6. Glossary

Term Meaning

CALM Department of Conservation and Land Management

DAWA Department of Agriculture

DEP Department of Environmental Protection (now DoE)

DoE Department of Environment

DoIR Department of Industry and Resources

DRF Declared Rare Flora

EPP Environmental Protection Policy
GIS Geographical Information System
ha Hectare (10,000 square metres)
TEC Threatened Ecological Community
WRC Water and Rivers Commission (now DoE)

