



## 1. Application details

### 1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 1183/1

Permit type: Area Permit

### 1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: ABVIB Pty Ltd

### 1.3. Property details

Property: LOT 22 ON PLAN 22023 ( METRICUP 6280)

Local Government Area: Shire Of Busselton

Colloquial name:

### 1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
0.5	32	Mechanical Removal	Horticulture

## 2. Site Information

### 2.1. Existing environment and information

#### 2.1.1. Description of the native vegetation under application

Vegetation Description	Clearing Description	Vegetation Condition	Comment
Beard: Unit 3 - Medium forest; jarrah-marri.	Thirty scattered paddock trees within a parkland cleared area.	Completely Degraded: No longer intact; completely/almost completely without native species (Keighery 1994)	Vegetation condition established through aerial photography.
Mattiske: Cowaramup (C2) - Open forest of Eucalyptus marginata subsp. marginata-Corymbia calophylla-Banksia grandis on lateritic uplands in perhumid and humid zones.		Completely Degraded: No longer intact; completely/almost completely without native species (Keighery 1994)	

## 3. 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 likely to be at variance to this Principle**  
The area proposed to be cleared consists of approximately thirty scattered paddock trees within a parkland cleared area. The vegetation condition is considered to be Completely Degraded (Keighery 1994) and unlikely to hold a high level of biological diversity due to the lack of under storey and mid storey species.

**Methodology** Keighery (1994)  
GIS database:  
- Busselton 50cm Orthomosaic - DLI 03

### (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 vegetation proposed to be cleared is considered to be Completely Degraded (Keighery 1994), consisting of approximately thirty scattered paddock trees within a parkland cleared area with no under storey or mid storey species present.  
There is other vegetation on the property and within the local area (10km radius), in better condition, that would have higher significance as habitat for native fauna species.

The area proposed to be cleared is unlikely to hold significant habitat for fauna species due to the poor

condition and scarcity of the vegetation.

**Methodology** Keighery (1994)  
GIS database:  
- Busselton 50cm Orthomosaic - DLI 03

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

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

There are eight Declared Rare Flora populations within the local area(10km radius) of the proposed clearing. The closest, *Caladenia excelsa*, is located 6km south west of the area proposed to be cleared.

There are no Priority 1 populations within the local area of the proposed clearing.

Three Priority 2 populations are found within the local area of the proposed clearing. The closest, *Boronia capitata* subsp. *gracilis*, is located 6.1km north of the area proposed to be cleared.

There are ten Priority 3 populations within the local area of the proposed clearing. The closest, *Pultenaea pinifolia*, is found 2.3km north east of the area proposed to be cleared.

Four Priority 4 populations are found within the local area of the proposed clearing. The closest, *Thysanotus glaucus*, is located 4.8km north east of the area proposed to be cleared.

There are no vegetation links between the area under application and local Declared Rare and Priority Flora populations. The proposal is to clear isolated paddock trees and small stands of vegetation with no mid storey and under storey. The Department therefore, does not believe the identified DRF or Priority species are likely to exist within these areas. It is therefore unlikely the proposed clearing would impact on local rare flora.

**Methodology** GIS databases:  
- Declared Rare and Priority Flora List - CALM 13/08/03  
- Busselton 50cm Orthomosaic - DLI 03

**(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 at variance to this Principle**

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

The area proposed to be cleared is therefore 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 Busselton. The extent of native vegetation in these areas is 58.3% and 44.5% 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 Cowaramup (C2) (Havel 2002) of which there is 23.0% of the pre-European extent remaining and therefore of a 'vulnerable' status for biodiversity conservation (Department of Natural Resources and Environment 2002).

The proposed clearing is of thirty scattered trees within a parkland cleared area. The proposal is therefore not considered to be a significant remnant within an extensively cleared area.

**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
- Busselton 50cm Orthomosaic - DLI 03

**(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 at variance to this Principle**

There are no EPP Areas, Lakes, RAMSAR wetlands or ANCA wetlands found within the local area of the proposed clearing.

The Caribunup River is located 7.7km east of the area proposed to be cleared. There are no vegetation links between the area proposed to be cleared and local watercourses. Therefore, 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
- Busselton 50cm Orthomosaic - DLI 03

**(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 has no known Acid Sulphate Soils Risk, a low salinity risk and a groundwater salinity level of 1000-3000mg/L.

Given the scale of the proposed clearing, it is unlikely to cause appreciable land degradation.

**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 likely to be at variance to this Principle**

There are three conservation reserves within the local area of the proposed clearing. The closest is the Walburra Nature Reserve located 3.4km north east of the area proposed to be cleared.

There are no vegetation links between the area proposed to be cleared and local conservation reserves. It is therefore unlikely the proposed clearing would impact on 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
- Busselton 50cm Orthomosaic - DLI 03

**(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 Wilyabrup Brook Hydrographic Catchment area and the Busselton-Capel RIWI ground water area.

The proposed clearing of thirty trees is unlikely to significantly impact on local ground water quality due to its size.

Methodology GIS databases:  
 - Hydrographic Catchments, Catchments - DoE 3/4/03  
 - RIWI Act Groundwater Areas - WRC 13/06/00

**(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 proposed to be cleared is zoned general farming in the Town Planning Scheme.  
 'The Shire of Busselton is not opposed to the application.'  
 The Shire of Busselton has issued planning approval to the applicant for the proposed dam to be constructed (Ref: SWD47298).

No licence is needed from the Department of Environment for the proposed dam as the property is not on a proclaimed river or tributary.

Methodology Shire of Busselton submission TRIM ref SWO29364  
 GIS database:  
 - Town Planning Scheme Zones - MFP 8/98  
 - RIWI Act, Rivers - WRC 98

**4. Assessor's recommendations**

Purpose	Method Applied	area (ha)/ trees	Decision	Comment / recommendation
Horticulture	Mechanical Removal	0.5 32	Grant	Proposal is not at variance to any of the Principles. Recommendation to grant with no conditions.

**5. 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.

Hill, A.L., Semenuik, C. A, Semenuik, V. Del Marco, A. (1996) Wetlands of the Swan Coastal Plain. Volume 2b, Wetland mapping, classification and evaluation. Wetland Atlas. WRC and DEP. Perth WA.

Hopkins, A.J.M., Beeston, G.R. and Harvey J.M. (2001) A database on the vegetation of Western Australia. Stage 1. CALMScience after J. S. Beard, late 1960's to early 1980's Vegetation Survey of Western Australia, UWA Press.

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)