



1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 1199/1

Permit type: Area Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: City of Mandurah

1.3. Property details

Property: LOT 91 ON DIAGRAM 45668 (House No. 70 THOMSON MANDURAH 6210)

Local Government Area: City Of Mandurah

Colloquial name:

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
0.02	12	Mechanical Removal	Road construction or maintenance

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
Heddle vegetation complex - Yoongarillup complex - woodland to tall woodland and open forest	The proposal includes the clearing of 0.02 hectares (12 trees) for the widening of the road.	Completely Degraded: No longer intact; completely/almost completely without native species (Keighery 1994)	The vegetation description was obtained during a site visit on Friday 28th April 2006.
Beard vegetation association 1001 - Medium very sparse woodland; jarrah, with low woodland; banksia; casuarina	The vegetation comprises 12 <i>Eucalyptus gomphocephala</i> trees adjacent to a road. There is a complete absence of understorey.		

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 vegetation under application is in a completely degraded condition and comprises only 12 *E.gomphocephala* with no understorey. Given the limited size and vegetation condition of the area under application it is not considered likely to have a high level of biodiversity.

Methodology Site visit 28/4/06

(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 under application is considered to be completely degraded and comprises 12 *E.gomphocephala* with no understorey, therefore limiting the habitat value.

Although the *E.gomphocephala* have potential to provide some habitat for fauna, this is not considered likely to be significant due to the lack of understorey, the close proximity to the road and the isolation from other significant vegetation. In addition, no fauna or potential habitat hollows were observed during the site visit. The proposal is therefore not considered likely to comprise significant habitat for indigenous fauna.

Methodology Site visit 28/4/06

(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 no known occurrences of Declared Rare or Priority Flora within the local area (5km radius of the application) and no DRF were observed during the site visit.

Given that the vegetation under application comprises only *E.gomphocephala* with no understorey, it is not considered likely to include or be necessary for the continued existence of rare flora.

Methodology Site visit 28/4/06
GIS Database: Declared Rare and Priority Flora List - CALM 01/07/05

(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

There are no known occurrences of Threatened Ecological Communities (TEC) within the local area of the application and no TECs were observed during the site visit.

Given that the vegetation under application is in a completely degraded condition and comprises only 12 *E.gomphocephala* trees, it is not considered likely to be representative of any TEC.

Methodology Site visit 28/4/06
GIS Database: Threatened Ecological Communities - CALM 12/4/05

(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 likely to be at variance to this Principle

The vegetation under application is identified by Hedde et al. (1980) as Yoongarillup complex of which there is 45.0% of pre-European vegetation remaining, and which is considered to be depleted (Department of Natural Resources and Environment 2002).

The vegetation under application is also part of Beard vegetation association 1001 of which there is 27.6% remaining (Shepherd et al. 2002), and which is considered to be vulnerable (Department of Natural Resources and Environment 2002).

While these representation figures classify the vegetation complexes as depleted and vulnerable, the vegetation under application only comprises 12 *E.gomphocephala*, and is therefore not considered likely to be representative of these communities.

Methodology Site visit 28/4/06
Department of Natural Resources and Environment (2002)
EPA (2000)
Shepherd et al. (2001)
GIS Databases:
Hedde Vegetation Complexes - DEP 21/06/95
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

The area under application is not located within a wetland, however a number of Conservation Category Wetlands have been identified within the local area, the closest of which is located approximately 2.1km to the west. The nearest waterbody is the coastal waterline, which is located approximately 1.9km to the north west of the application.

No wetland dependent vegetation was observed during the site visit and the area under application only contains 12 *E.gomphocephala*. Given this, and the distance to the nearest waterbody, the vegetation under application is not considered likely to be growing in, or in association with, a wetland environment.

Methodology Site visit 28/4/06
GIS Databases:
Geomorphic Wetlands (Mgt Categories), Swan Coastal Plain - DOE
Hydrography, linear (hierarchy) - DOE 13/4/05

(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

Soils within the area under application are defined as shallow to deep siliceous yellow-brown sands and have a low risk of waterlogging, water erosion and wind erosion (Agmaps 2003). There is also a low risk of salinity and acid sulphate soils within the applied area.

Due to the limited amount and the completely degraded condition of the vegetation under application, the proposal is not considered likely to cause appreciable land degradation.

Methodology Agmaps 2003
GIS Databases:
Acid Sulfate Soil Risk Map, SCP - DOE 04/11/04
Salinity Risk LM 25m - DOLA 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

The Heddle vegetation complex 'Yoongarillup Complex' and Beard vegetation association 1001 identified within the applied area currently have 13.9% (Heddle et al 1980) and 4.2% (Shepherd et al. 2001) respectively in secure tenure, with JANIS (1997) recommending that 15% of the pre-1750 distribution of each vegetation ecosystem should be protected in a comprehensive, adequate and representative reserve system. However, due to the degraded condition of the vegetation under application it is not considered to be representative of these complexes and therefore has limited conservation value.

The nearest conservation reserve to the applied area is Goegrup Lake Nature Reserve, which is located approximately 2.9km to the northeast. Given that the area under application is 0.02ha of completely degraded vegetation located within an urban area, the proposal is not considered likely to have an impact on the environmental values of any nearby conservation area.

Methodology GIS Databases:
Bushforever - MFP 07/01
CALM Managed Lands and Waters - CALM 1/07/05

(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 under application is not located within a Public Drinking Water Source Area (PDWSA) and there is a low risk of salinity and acid sulphate soils. The nearest waterbody is the coastal waterline, which is located approximately 1.9km to the northwest.

Given the distance to the nearest waterbody, and the small size of the area under application, the proposal is not considered likely to cause deterioration in the quality of surface or underground water.

Methodology Site visit 28/4/06
GIS Databases:
Acid Sulfate Soil Risk Map, SCP - DOE 04/11/04
Geomorphic Wetlands (Mgt Categories), Swan Coastal Plain - DOE
Hydrography, linear (hierarchy) - DOE 13/4/05
Public Drinking Water Source Areas (PDWSAs) - DOE 07/02/06
Salinity Risk LM 25m - DOLA 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

The area under application is located in an urban area adjacent to a road and vegetation is in a completely degraded condition, comprising only 12 *E.gomphocephala*. In addition, the applied area has a general relief toward the west. The proposal is therefore not considered likely to cause, or exacerbate, the incidence of flooding.

Methodology Site visit 28/4/06
GIS Databases:
Swan Coastal Plain South 40cm Orthomosaic - DLI 05
Topographic Contours, Statewide - DOLA 12/09/02

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

Comments

The lot under application is part of a Native Title Claim however, since it is owned by the City of Mandurah the Native Title has been extinguished under the Native Title Act. Therefore the clearing as proposed should not fall under the future acts process of the Native Title Act 1993.

No submissions received.

No other approvals required by the Department of Environment or the Department of Water.

Methodology GIS Database: Native Title Claims - DLI 7/11/05

4. Assessor's recommendations

Purpose	Method Applied	area (ha)/ trees	Decision	Comment / recommendation
Road construction or maintenance	Mechanical Removal	0.02 12	Grant	Assessable criteria have been addressed and no objections were raised. The assessing officer therefore recommends that the permit should be granted.

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.

EPA (2000) Environmental protection of native vegetation in Western Australia. Clearing of native vegetation, with particular reference to the agricultural area. Position Statement No. 2. December 2000. Environmental Protection Authority.

Heddle, E. M., Loneragan, O. W., and Havel, J. J. (1980) Vegetation Complexes of the Darling System, Western Australia. In Department of Conservation and Environment, Atlas of Natural Resources, Darling System, Western Australia.

JANIS Forests Criteria (1997) Nationally agreed criteria for the establishment of a comprehensive, Adequate and Representative reserve System for Forests in Australia. A report by the Joint ANZECC/MCFFA National Forest Policy Statement Implementation Sub-committee. Regional Forests Agreement process. Commonwealth of Australia, Canberra.

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

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)