



1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 1271/1
 Permit type: Area Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Peter D & Elizabeth A Allichurch & Anderson

1.3. Property details

Property: LOT 2250 ON PLAN 252018
 Local Government Area: Shire Of Dardanup
 Colloquial name:

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
0.25		Mechanical Removal	Dam 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
Beard Unit 999: Medium woodland; marri	The vegetation consists of large mature trees and degraded understorey due to a history of grazing	Degraded: Structure severely disturbed; regeneration to good condition requires intensive management (Keighery 1994)	Condition determined using aerial photography and applicants advice

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 at variance to this Principle**
 The area under application is Completely Degraded (Keighery 1994) consisting of mature trees with little native under storey as a result of a history of grazing within the area.

 Due to its degraded condition and lack of species diversity, the area proposed to be cleared is not considered to hold a high level of biological diversity.

Methodology Keighery (1994)
 GIS Layer:
 - Bunbury 1m 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 area under application is 0.25 hectares of Completely Degraded (Keighery 1994) vegetation consisting of mature trees with no understorey due to a history of grazing on the property.

 Due to the size and structure of the vegetation under application it is not likely the proposed clearing will have a significant impact on fauna populations in the local area.

Methodology Keighery 1994
 GIS Layer:
 - Bunbury 1m 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 two Declared Rare Flora (DRF) and six Priority Flora recorded within the local area (10km radius) of the proposed clearing.

Due to the Completely Degraded (Keighery 1994) condition of the vegetation and the distance between the area proposed to be cleared and the recorded flora in the local area it is unlikely the proposed clearing will have a significant impact on the existence of DRF in the local area.

Methodology Keighery (1994)
GIS databases:
- Declared Rare and Priority Flora List - CALM 13/08/03

(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 likely to be at variance to this Principle

There are no Threatened Plant Communities (TPC) or Threatened Ecological Communities (TEC) recorded within the local area (10km radius) of the proposed clearing. It is therefore unlikely that the proposed clearing will have a significant impact on ecological communities within the landscape.

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 likely to be at variance to this Principle

The proposed clearing is located in the Jarrah Forest and in the Shire of Dardanup. The extent of native vegetation in these areas is 58.3% and 52.5% respectively.

The vegetation proposed to be cleared is a component of Mattiske Complex Darling Scarp (DS) of which there is 43.3% of the pre-European extent remaining and therefore of a 'Depleted' status of biodiversity conservation.

The applicant has agreed to revegetate an area of 0.075ha (150m by 5m wide) along the eastern boundary fence. The revegetation will be of better quality vegetation than the area to be cleared and will improve vegetation links between other remnants.

With 52.5% of native vegetation remaining within the Shire boundaries, the proposal is not considered to be within an extensively cleared area. The proposed clearing consisting of mature trees with little understorey as a result of a history of grazing. It is therefore unlikely the proposed clearing will impact on the extent of Native Vegetation Complexes represented within the local area (10km radius).

Methodology Department of Natural Resources and Environment (2002)
Hopkins et al. (2001)
Shepherd et al. (2001)
Heddle et al. (1980)
Havel (2002)
GIS databases:
- Mattiske Vegetation - CALM 24/3/98
- Heddle Vegetation Complexes - DEP 21/06/95
- 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 areas, EPP lakes, RAMSAR wetlands or ANCA wetlands within the local area (10km radius) of the proposed clearing.

There are several multiple use and conservation category wetlands within the local area of the proposed clearing. Multiple use wetlands are defined as wetlands with few important ecological attributes and functions remaining. The closest conservation category wetland is 1.8km north west of the proposed clearing.

The purpose of the proposed clearing is for a small stock and house hold dam therefore the area under application is within an environment associated with a watercourse.

The applicant has agreed to revegetate an area of 0.075ha (150m by 5m wide) along the eastern boundary fence. The revegetation will be of better quality vegetation than the area to be cleared and will improve

vegetation links between other remnants.

Due to the scale degraded condition of the vegetation under application, it is unlikely the proposed clearing will cause degradation of local watercourses or wetlands.

Methodology Water and Rivers Commission Position Statement: Wetlands (06/06/01)
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 15/9/0
- Hydrography Linear - DoE 1/2/04
- RAMSAR, Wetlands - CALM 21/10/02

(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 a low acid sulphate risk, a low salinity risk and a ground water salinity of 500-1000mg/L.

As the area under application is a small area within a high rainfall zone it is unlikely the proposed clearing will cause land degradation issues such as secondary salinity, nutrient loading or water logging.

Methodology GIS databases:
- Groundwater Salinity, Statewide - 22/02/00
- Acid Sulfate Soil Risk Map, SCP - DoE 01/02/04
- Salinity Risk LM 25m - DOLA 00
- Rainfall, Mean Annual - BOM 30/09/01

(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 two State Forests and one National Park within the local area (10km radius) of the proposed clearing. The closest being the Boyanup State Forrest approximately 1km West of the area under application.

There are no vegetation links to the State Forests and National Park identified. Therefore, due to the size of the clearing and the lack of vegetation links, it is unlikely that the proposed clearing will impact on the environmental values of local conservation areas.

Methodology GIS database:
- CALM Managed Lands and Waters - CALM 1/06/04
- Bunbury 1m Orthomosaic - DLI03

(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 lies within the Leschenault Estuary-Preston River Hydrographic Catchment.

To mitigate the impacts of the proposed clearing, the applicant has agreed to revegetate around the dam and along the water line. The area will also be fenced from stock access to allow suitable regeneration.

Due to the size of the proposed clearing and the revegetation of the water line, it is unlikely the clearing will degrade local surface or underground water quality.

Methodology GIS databases:
- Hydrographic Catchments, Catchments - DoE 3/4/03

(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 and nature of the proposed clearing it is unlikely to exacerbate the incidence or intensity of flooding in the local area.

Methodology GIS databases:
- Topographic Contours, Statewide - DOLA 12/09/02

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

Comments

Development approval from the Shire of Dardanup has been received.

The dam site is not within a Gazetted Surface Water Area or on a Gazetted River or Tributary and therefore does not require a permit to construct under the Rights in Water and Irrigation Act.

Methodology

Shire of Dardanup dam approval TRIM ref DOC2656
Pers comm. Senior Natural Resource Management Officer, Department of Environment.

4. Assessor's recommendations

Purpose	Method Applied	area (ha)/ trees	Decision	Comment / recommendation
Dam construction or removal maintenance	Mechanical	0.25	Grant	Recommendation to grant with condition to revegetate around the dam and the area along the creekline and fence the area from stock.

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.
- Heddie, 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.
- 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.
- Water and Rivers Commission Position Statement: Wetlands, 06/06/2001, Water and Rivers Commission.

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)