



1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 1281/1

Permit type: Purpose Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Shire of Nannup

1.3. Property details

Property: STATE FOREST 33 (JALBARRAGUP 6275)

Local Government Area: Shire Of Nannup

Colloquial name:

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
12.7		Mechanical Removal	Extractive Industry

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
Mattiske vegetation complexes:	The area was visited by a DEC officer on 26 June 2006 and reported in DEC TRIM ID DOC3609. The vegetation condition was considered to be Very Good (after Keighery BJ, 1994). The area under application has evidence of heavy logging, as the remaining jarrah trunks are small, dense and of a similar age and there are many large stumps remaining. The vegetation has also been subject to fire, approximately 5 years ago. Due to this disturbance, the under storey is dense. The vegetation may be dieback affected, as the canopy is sparse.	Very Good: Vegetation structure altered; obvious signs of disturbance (Keighery 1994)	Aerial photography shows the two closely located sites are part of an extensive area of intact vegetation. A track connecting to Six Mile Road runs through the proposed sites and there is evidence of disturbance along its length. A cleared pocket in each of the proposed sites is evident in the aerial photo. The DEC Site Report included photographs of degraded areas, including thin uniform trunks, burnt stumps and possible dieback affected vegetation in the northern site.
Kingia (KI) Open forest of Eucalyptus marginata subsp. marginata-Corymbia calophylla-Allocasuarina fraseriana-Banksia grandis-Xylomelum occidentale on lateritic uplands in perhumid and humid zones.			
Bidella (BD) Low woodland of Melaleuca preissiana-Banksia littoralis-Hakea lasianthoides on valley floors and open forest to woodland of Eucalyptus marginata subsp. marginata-Corymbia calophylla-Eucalyptus patens on slopes in perhumid and humid zones.			

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 proposal is for clearing 12.7 ha of native vegetation within two areas in the Six Mile Road area. The area is remnant vegetation in its natural state and condition is considered to be Very Good (DEC Site Visit 2006 after Keighery BJ, 1994). The area under application has evidence of logging and fire impact (the latter within the last 5 years) with remaining jarrah small, dense and of similar age. Of the two native vegetation types present within the proposed areas to be cleared, mostly Kingia but also a small pocket of Bidella, there is over 96% of these types remaining (Mattiske Consulting 1998). Aerial photography and site photographs of the areas show the vegetation under application does not appear to have a higher diversity than the surrounding area. Therefore the proposal is not likely to be at variance with this Principle.

Methodology Application for a Purpose Permit (Trim Ref CRN 219006)
GIS datasets: Donnelly 1.4m Orthomosaic- DLI00; IBRA - EA 18/10/98; Pre-European Vegetation DA 01/01; Mattiske Vegetation - CALM 24/3/98; CALM Managed Lands and Waters - CALM 1/07/05.
Site visits: 1. DEC 20/8/06 (TRIM ID DOC3609). 2. DAFWA 12/7/06 (TRIM ID DOC1784)

(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 to be cleared is within a larger area of intact native vegetation. It is unlikely that the proposed clearing would have a significant impact on native fauna species as this habitat type is well represented in the local area. Therefore, the proposal is not likely to be at variance to this Principle.

Methodology GIS dataset: Donnelly 1.4m Orthomosaic DLI00

(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 records of Declared Rare Flora (DRF) within close proximity to the areas under application. Therefore the clearing is unlikely to be at variance with this principle.

Methodology GIS Dataset: Declared Rare and Priority Flora list - CALM 1/7/05; Threatened Plant Communities- DEP 06/95; Mattiske Vegetation - CALM 24/3/98.

(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 a 10 km radius of the proposed clearing areas. It is unlikely that the proposed clearing is at variance with this Principle.

Methodology GIS Datasets: 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 occurs within the IBRA Jarrah Forest Region, where 58.7% of native vegetation remains (Shepherd et al 2001). The vegetation is a component of Beard Vegetation Association No. 3 of which there is 72.1% of the pre-European extent remaining and therefore of 'least concern' status (<50%) for biodiversity conservation (Department of Natural Resources and Environment 2002). Of the two vegetation types identified for the site, Kingia and Bidella, there is 97.6% and 96.4% respectively (Mattiske Consulting 1998). On the basis that the extent remaining of the Mattiske vegetation types, the Beard vegetation association and more generally the IBRA Jarrah Forest Region meets the National Objectives Target for Biodiversity Conservation of 30%, this proposal is not likely to be at variance to this Principle.

Methodology Shepherd et al. (2001), Department of Natural Resources and Environment, 2000.
GIS datasets: -IBRA - EA 18/10/00; Pre-European Vegetation - DA 01/01; Mattiske Vegetation - CALM 24/3/98.

(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 sites of proposed clearing does not contain a wetland or watercourse. Within the vicinity, the closest water course is a minor perennial watercourse 120 m to the west of the area. The proposal is not likely to be at variance to this Principle.

Methodology GIS Datasets: Hydrography, Linear - DOE 01/02/04; ANCA Wetlands - CALM 08/01; Geomorphic Wetlands, Augusta to Walpole - DOE 18/6/03.

(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 DAFWA Land Degradation Assessment Report indicates there is no evidence of salinity and the potential risk of salinity on the site is low. The risk of the proposed clearing causing eutrophication, wind erosion, water logging and flooding is low. The more northern area of proposed clearing has a steeper downslope gradient to the watercourse and removal of native vegetation may contribute to water erosion if vegetation cover is not

progressively restored. There is some risk of water erosion and sediment transfer off-site when the entire area has been cleared and the gravel extracted. If surface water is controlled the risk of water erosion is low. The overall risk of land degradation is low, therefore the proposal is unlikely to be at variance with this Principle.

Methodology DAFWA Land Degradation Assessment report (DEC TRIM ID DOC1784).
GIS Datasets: Salinity Mapping Mapping LM 25m - DOLA 00; Salinity Monitoring LM 50m - DOLA 00; Salinity Risk LM 25m - DOLA 001; Topographic Contours, Statewide - DOLA 12/09/02;

(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 proposed clearing is within Millbrook State Forest. It is less than 2 km east of the proposed Blackwood River National Park. [A condition has been imposed to ensure revegetation of gravel extraction sites is undertaken.

Methodology GIS Dataset: CALM Managed Lands and Waters - CALM 1/07/05; proposed National Parks, FMP - CALM 19/03/03; Register of National Estate - EA 28/01/03.

(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**
A groundwater monitoring well situated 4.7 kilometres north of the application area showed a groundwater depth of approximately 42 metres, the topography of the monitoring well is 73 m AHD. The proposed clearing area lies between 118 and 138 metres AHD, therefore it is unlikely that groundwater quality is at risk. The mean annual rainfall is 1000 millimetres per year. The proposed clearing of 12.7 hectares is located in two separate areas 190 metres apart, and with good depth to groundwater and high rainfall in the area, the proposal is not likely to be at variance with this Principle.

Methodology GIS datasets: Topographic Contours, Statewide - DOLA 12/9/02; Rainfall, Mean Annual - BOM 30/9/01; WIN Groundwater Sites, Monitoring - Other DEWCP (current); Groundwater Salinity, Statewide - 22/2/00.

(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 DAFWA Land Degradation Assessment Report indicates that while the clearing of further vegetation from the application area could increase surface runoff and contribute to increased stream flows, this is unlikely to cause extensive flooding due to the size of the catchment. The risk of flooding causing land degradation is considered to be low. Therefore, the proposal is considered to be not likely to be at variance with this Principle.

Methodology DAFWA Land Degradation Assessment report (DEC TRIM ID DOC1784)
GIS Datasets: Hydrography, Linear - DEO 1/2/04; Topographic Contours, Statewide - DOLA 12/9/02

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

Comments
No submissions from the public have been received.

There is a Native Title Claim over the area under application. The Department of Environment and Conservation's advertising of the application in the West Australian newspaper constitutes legal notification of the native title representative body for the purpose of the future act procedures under the Native title Act 1993. No response was received from the representative body.

There are no Aboriginal Sites of significance listed within the area of application.

There is no RIWI Act Licence or Works approval required for the proposed works.

Methodology GIS datasets: Native Title Claims - DLI 07/11/05; Aboriginal Sites of Significance - DIA 28/02/03; RIWI Act Surface Water Areas - WRC 18/10/02; RIWI Act, Groundwater Areas - WRC 13/06/00; Environmental Impact Assessments - DOE 24/02/06.

4. Assessor's recommendations

Purpose	Method Applied	area (ha)/ trees	Decision	Comment / recommendation
Extractive Industry	Mechanical Removal	12.7	Grant	The proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to all principles. It is recommended that the application to clear is granted with conditions relating to progressive revegetation.

5. References

- DAFWA Land degradation assessment report. Office of the Commissioner of Soil and Land Conservation, Department of Agriculture and Food Western Australia. DEC TRIM ID DOC1784.
- 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.
- 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.
- Site Visit Report (2006). Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC), western Australia. TRIM ID DOC3609.

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)