



1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 1282/1
Permit type: Area Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Shire of Bridgetown - Greenbushes

1.3. Property details

Property: [Redacted]
Local Government Area: Shire Of Bridgetown-Greenbushes
Colloquial name: Road reserve adjacent to Lot 12028 Maranup Ford Road

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
	65	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
Beard Unit 3 - Medium forest; jarrah-marri Mattiske Complex (BT) Bridgetown - Mixture of open forest of Eucalyptus marginata subsp. marginata-Corymbia calophylla with some Eucalyptus patens on slopes to low open forest of Eucalyptus rudis-Melaleuca raphiophylla on the valley floors in the humid zone.	The vegetation under application consists of large mature trees with very little middle or lower storey species. Due to the intensive use of surrounding land for cropping, pasture and livestock the vegetation is also highly disturbed with intrusion of pasture and weed species.	Degraded: Structure severely disturbed; regeneration to good condition requires intensive management (Keighery 1994)	GIS Database: - Bridgetown 1m Orthomosaic - DOLA 01

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 road reserves under application is considered to be in Degraded condition due to the intensive use of surrounding land for cropping, pasture and livestock. The vegetation consists of scattered trees and shrubs with high disturbance of pasture and weed species. Therefore the proposed clearing is not considered to contain a high level of biological diversity within the Shire.

Methodology Keighery 1994
GIS Database:
- Bridgetown 1m Orthomosaic - DOLA 01

(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 application consists of a maximum of 65 large trees within the road reserves. The Shire has advised that in the event that the removal of a potential habitat tree can not be avoided, the local Conservation and Land Management (CALM) office will be contacted for advice. Therefore clearing of the trees under application is not likely to have a significant impact on fauna populations in the local area.

Methodology GIS Database:
- Bridgetown 1m Orthomosaic - DOLA 01

(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

Disturbance to understorey and middle storey species present will be minimal due to the condition of the vegetation. There are no DRF or priority species within a 15km radius of the area under application. It is therefore unlikely the proposed clearing will have a significant impact on the existence of DRF in the local area.

Methodology 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 known Threatened Plant Communities (TPC) or Threatened Ecological Communities (TEC) within a 15km radius of the area under application it is therefore unlikely that the proposed clearing will have a significant affect 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 at variance to this Principle

The proposed clearing is located in the Jarrah Forest in the Shire of Bridgetown Greenbushes. The extent of native vegetation in these areas is 58.3% and 67.9% respectively. The vegetation proposed to be cleared is a component of: Beard Vegetation Association 3 of which there is 72.1% of the pre-European extent remaining and therefore of a 'Least Concern' status of biodiversity conservation. Mattiske complex Bridgetown of which there is 66.9% of the pre-European extent remaining and therefore of a 'Least Concern' status of biodiversity conservation. Clearing of the proposed 65 mature trees will not impact on the extent of Native Vegetation Complexes represented within the local area.

Methodology Department of Natural Resources and Environment (2002)
Hopkins et al. (2001)
Shepherd et al. (2001)
Mattiske Consulting (1998)
GIS databases:
- Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation of Australia - EM 18/10/00
- Local Government Authorities - DLI 8/07/04
- 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 at variance to this Principle

There are no known watercourses, wetlands or lakes in association with the proposed clearing it is therefore not likely the area under application will have any impact on watercourses or wetlands.

Methodology GIS databases:
- Hydrography Linear - DoE 1/2/04
- 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

Clearing mature trees within road reserve will not alter the soil structure of the area and is unlikely to cause land degradation issues such as nutrient loading or water logging.

Methodology GIS databases:
- Salinity Risk LM 25m - DOLA 00
- Groundwater Salinity, Statewide - 22/02/00

- Hydrographic Catchments, Catchments - DoE 3/4/03
 - Groundwater Salinity, Statewide - 22/02/00
 Officer Belinda Walker

(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 flooding in the local area.

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

Planning instrument, Native Title, RIWI Act Licence, EP Act Licence, Works Approval, Previous EPA decision or other matter.

Comments
 No submission from the public have been received.
 A representative from the LCDDC was contacted by phone and did not have any issues to raise in regards to the proposed clearing.
 Native Title - All roads including those subject to this application are listed on the State of Construction maps as issued by Main Roads Western Australia as roads being under the total care, control and management of the Shire of Broomehill. Therefore, as all areas proposed to be cleared are vested in the Shire, the granting of a clearing permit is not a future act under the Native Title Act.

Methodology
Officer Belinda Walker

5. Assessor's recommendations

Purpose	Method	Applied area (ha)/ trees	Decision	Comment / recommendation
Road construction or maintenance	Mechanical Removal	65	Grant	Recommendation to grant permit with no conditions.

6. 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.

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.

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Methodology GIS databases:

- Salinity Risk LM 25m - DOLA 00

- Groundwater Salinity, Statewide - 22/02/00

Officer

Belinda Walker

(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 no CALM managed land reserves within a 15km of the area under application it is therefore unlikely that the proposed clearing will impact on conservation areas within the Shire.

Methodology GIS database:

- CALM Managed Lands and Waters - CALM 1/06/04

Officer

Belinda Walker

(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 within the Hardy Estuary Blackwood River hydrographic catchments. Groundwater salinity within the proposed area is between 500 to 1000 mg/L. Due to the small scale of clearing proposed it is unlikely to impact on groundwater quality.

Methodology GIS databases: