



## 1. Application details

### 1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 134/1

Permit type: Area Permit

### 1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Mr Laurence and Alan Sanderson

### 1.3. Property details

Property: Lot 147 On Plan 202372 (House No. 393 North River North Plantations 6701)

Colloquial name:

### 1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
13		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 308: Mosaic: Shrublands; Acacia sclerosperma sparse scrub / Succulent steppe; saltbush and bluebush.	Acacia sclerosperma sparse scrub interspersed with A. victoriae and Alecyron oleiphilus and an understory of Rhagodia eremeae, Enchylaena tomentosa, Scaevola spinescens and Atriplex bunburyana.	Good: Structure significantly altered by multiple disturbance; retains basic structure/ability to regenerate (Keighery 1994)	The area under application lies on alluvial soil adjacent to the Gascoyne River. The banks of the River and associated floodways are vegetated with Eucalyptus camaldulensis, E. vitrix and riparian species. The area under application is heavily infested with introduced Buffel Grass (Cenchrus ciliaris) and other (Brassicaceae) weeds (site visit).

## 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 may be at variance to this Principle

Not assessed.

Methodology Not assessed.

### (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 may be at variance to this Principle

Not assessed.

Methodology Not assessed.

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

Comments Proposal may be at variance to this Principle

There are no known Declared Rare Flora in the area under application.

Methodology GIS Database: Declared Rare Flora List - CALM 18/08/04. The comprehensiveness of the database is dependant on the amount of survey carried out in the area and does not necessarily represent a comprehensive listing. The determination of the presence of rare or priority flora can only be made through appropriate flora survey (CALM 2004).

**(d) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises the whole or a part of, or is necessary for the maintenance of a significant ecological community.**

**Comments Proposal may be at variance to this Principle**

There are no known Threatened Ecological Communities at the site.

**Methodology** GIS Database: Threatened Ecological Communities - CALM 15/7/03

**(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 Bioregion (Carnarvon) is predominantly uncleared, though degraded through the effects of overgrazing. Approximately 99% of the pre-European extent of this vegetation type remains, of which 0.3% is in conservation reserves and 0.1% of the vegetation type is in pastoral leases managed by CALM.

	Pre-European area (ha)	Current extent (ha)	Remaining %*	Conservation status**	% in reserves/CALM-managed land
IBRA Bioregion - Carnarvon Shire - Carnarvon	8,523,963	8,523,963	~100%	Least concern	No information available
Beard veg type - 308	491,901	486,990	~99%	Least concern	0.4%

\* (Shepherd et al. 2001)

\*\* (Department of Natural Resources and Environment 2002)

**Methodology** Hopkins et al. 2001  
Shepherd et al. 2001

**(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 lies between the Gascoyne River to the south, and a vegetated floodway to the north. Both of these areas are vegetated with *Eucalyptus camaldulensis*, *E. vitrix* and riparian species. The Delta land system on the Northern and Southern sides of the Gascoyne river is predominantly cleared for horticultural activities. This proposal is unlikely to further affect the environmental values of these watercourses.

**Methodology** Site Visit

**(g) Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause appreciable land degradation.**

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

The soil type in the area under application is described as River Land System Unit 1 according to Wells et al. 1992. This soil type is suitable for horticulture and the area under application is little affected by erosion (Department of Agriculture WA 2004).

**Methodology** Wells, Keating & Bessell-Browne (1992).  
Department of Agriculture WA(2004).

**(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**

No conservation areas have been identified within five kilometres of the proposed area.

**Methodology** GIS Database: CALM Managed Lands & water - CALM 01/08/04

**(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 at variance to this Principle**

Soil condition in the area under application is generally good and the soils are little affected by erosion

(Department of Agriculture WA 2004).

**Methodology** Department of Agriculture 2004.

**(j) Native vegetation should not be cleared if clearing the vegetation is likely to cause, or exacerbate, the incidence of flooding.**

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

The proposal is in an area that is prone to flooding during Gascoyne River flood events. It is estimated that 20% of the proposal area will be inundated during a 1 in 20 year event (Sinclair Knight Mertz, 2002). No flooding exacerbation issues were raised with the proposal providing it does not increase the potential for erosion during river flooding (R. Bretnall pers comm.)

The Department of Agriculture has recommended that perennial crops be planted in areas subject to flooding.

**Methodology** Richard Bretnall, Senior Engineer, Department of Environment.  
Department of Agriculture (2004).  
Sinclair Knight Mertz (2002)

**(k) Planning instrument or other matter.**

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

The proposal is in an area zoned for Intensive Horticultural Use under the Carnarvon Town Planning Scheme (T. Rowley pers. comm).

The Shire of Carnarvon has raised no objections to the proposal.

**Methodology** Terry Rowley, Director Works & Services, Shire of Carnarvon.

**4. Assessor's recommendations**

Purpose	Method	Applied area (ha)/ trees	Decision	Comment / recommendation
Horticulture	Mechanical Removal	13	<b>Grant</b>	The assessable criteria have been addressed and no objections were raised. (Advice was not received from the Department of Conservation and Land Management for biodiversity conservation matters. ) It is therefore recommended that the permit be granted.

**5. References**

- DAWA (2004) Land degradation assessment report. Office of the Commissioner of Soil and Land Conservation, Department of Agriculture Western Australia. DoE TRIM ref CEO1469/04.
- Department of Conservation and Land Management (2004) Application for Clearing Permit CPS 80/1 (Previously Notice of Intention to Clear Land Registered No 150/03) Gascoyne Location 37, Edaggee Pastoral Station. Unpublished Report. Department of Environment Reference: TRIM HD17945.
- 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, BJ (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.
- Sinclair Knight Mertz (2002) Lower Gascoyne River - Carnarvon Floodplain Management Study. Report to the Water and Rivers Commission, October 2002.
- Wells M.R., Keating C.D.M. and Bessell-Browne J.A. (1992). Land resources of the Carnarvon Land Conservation District and part of Boolathana station, Western Australia. Western Australian Department of Agriculture. Land Resources Series No. 9.