



1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 1377/1

Permit type: Area Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Mindarie Regional Council

1.3. Property details

Property: LOT 118 ON PLAN 28300 (TAMALA PARK 6030)

Local Government Area: City Of Wanneroo

Colloquial name:

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
3		Mechanical Removal	Stockpile

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 Vegetation Complex: 1026: Mosaic: Shrubland;Acacia rostellifera, A. cyclops (S) and Melaleuca cardiophylla (N) thicket (Hopkins et al. 2001, Shepherd et al 2001).	The area applied to be cleared totals 3ha, the reason for the clearing of vegetation is for a limestone stockpile. The site is divided into two sections by an access road. The vegetation east of the access road consists of Banksia menziesii over Xanthorrhoea preissii and Hibberitua hypercoides. The understorey consists of Lepidosperma Sp and Conostylis aculeate. Weeds dominating the area include Wild oat (Avena fatua), Veldgrass (Ehrhata calycina), Geraldton Carnation (Euphorbia terraccina) and Pig face (Carpobrotus edulis). Towards the east of the block Eucalyptus gomphocephala becomes the dominate over storey species.	Good: Structure significantly altered by multiple disturbance; retains basic structure/ability to regenerate (Keighery 1994)	The condition of the vegetation was assessed during a site visit (27.09.06). The majority of vegetation east of the access road is in good condition and a majority of bush west of the access road is in very degraded condition. Given that there is more vegetation east of the access road in good condition the overall condition of the bush was classified as good.
Heddle Vegetation Complex: Cottosloe Complex Central and South : Mosaic of woodland of E. gomphocephala and open forest of E. gomphocephala - E. marginata - E. calophylla; closed heath on the Limestone outcrops (Hedde et al. 1980).	The only native vegetation occurring in the western area is a few Xanthorrhoea preissii and Acacia saligna. The weed species in the area include Geraldton Carnation (Euphorbia terraccina),Cape Weed (Arctotheca calendula), Pig face (Carpobrotus edulis), Two leafed Cape Tulip (Moraea miniata), Wild oat (Avena fatua), Veldgrass (Ehrhata calycina), Ursinia anthemoides, Palargonium capitatum and Lupin sp and Trifolium Sp.		

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 native vegetation applied to be cleared comprises of a low level of biological diversity. A majority of vegetation east of the access road is in good condition; however there is little species diversity due to extensive weed invasion. A majority of bush west of the access road is in completely degraded condition. The native vegetation is sparse with a few scattered *Xanthorrhoea preissii* and weeds dominate the majority of the understorey. A small patch of bush in degraded condition exists at the end of this section of bush. The native vegetation is dominated by *Xanthorrhoea preissii* and *Hibbertia hypercooides*, the understorey comprises mainly of weed species and a low diversity of native species.

Therefore the proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to this principle

Methodology Site visit 27/9/2006 TRIM Ref. No. DOC6363

(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 applied to be cleared is located within the Tamala Park Refuse Site. Disturbance associated with this location include extensive weed invasion and rubbish from the nearby landfill site. Therefore clearing is considered not likely to represent significant habitat for fauna indigenous to Western Australia.

Additionally, no evidence of burrows, scats, hollows or nests were noticed during the site visit.

Methodology Site visit 27/9/2006 TRIM Ref. No. DOC6363

(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 is no Declared Rare and Priority Flora recorded in the areas under application. There is one Declared Rare Flora Species (*Eucalyptus argutifolia*) recorded 1.5m from the area proposed to be cleared and Two Priority 3 species were identified within 5km from the site (*Sarcozona bicarinata* and *Hibbertia spicata* sub sp). These species were not identified during the site inspection and given the degraded nature of the area applied to be cleared, it is not likely that would occur. Given the distance to the known populations of DRF and priority species, the clearing is considered not likely to impact on these species.

Methodology GIS DataBbase,
- Declared Rare and Priority Flora List - CALM 01/04/05

(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 Threatened Ecological Communities recorded in the areas under application or within 5km of the proposed clearing. Given this, and the degraded condition of the vegetation, the proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to this principle.

Methodology GIS Database:
- Threatened Ecological Communities, CALM 12/04/05

(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 at variance to this Principle**

The vegetation under application is a component of Beard Vegetation Association 1026 (Hopkins et al. 2001) and Heddlie: Cottessioe Complex Central and South (Heddlie et al. 1980) of which 46% and 41% of Pre European extent remain respectively.

The State Government is committed to the National Objectives and Targets for Biodiversity Conservation which includes a target that prevents a clearance of ecological communities with an extent below 30% of that present pre-

European settlement (Department of Natural Resources and Environment 2002, EPA 2000).

Given the degraded condition of the vegetation, and its small area, the area applied to be cleared is not considered significant as a remnant of native vegetation in an area that has been extensively cleared.

reserves/CALM	Pre-European (ha)*	Current extent (ha)*	Remaining (%)*	Conservation**% status	In managed land
IBRA Bioregions					
Swan Coastal Plain	1,529,235	657,450	43%	Depleted	
City of Wanneroo	78,809	45,361	57.6	Least concern	
Vegetation type:					
Beard: Unit 1026	124,905	85,076	46.30%	Depleted	46.70%
Heddlie: Cottosloe Central and South	44,995	18,474	41%	Depleted	8.80%

* (Shepherd et al. 2001)

** (Department of Natural Resources and Environment 2002)

*** Within the Intensive Landuse Zone

- Methodology** GIS Databases:
- Pre-European Vegetation - DA 01/01.
 - Heddlie Vegetation Complexes - DEP 21/06/95.
 - Mattiske Vegetation - CALM 24/03/98
 - Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation of Australia - EA 18/10/00.
 - Shepherd et al. 2001)
 - Hopkins et al (2001)
 - (Department of Natural Resources and Environment 2002)

(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 water courses or Conservation Category Wetlands within the area under application. Three environment associated wetlands are situated 5km from the area under application. Neerabup Lake a resource enhancement wetland is located 3.5 km from the site and two conservation wetlands Pauls Swamp and Lake Joondalup are located 4km and 4.5km respectively from the proposed clearing. Given the distance to the nearest watercourse it is considered unlikely the proposed clearing would impact on any watercourses or wetlands.

- Methodology** GIS Database:
- Geomorphic Wetlands (Mgt Catagories) Swan Coastal Plain DEC

(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 soils within the area under application are associated with the dunes and estuarine deposits with siliceous sands that are prominent along the coast. These soils can be prone to wind erosion, however, it is considered that the removal of 3ha of scattered native vegetation is unlikely to lead to appreciable land degradation on or off site. The area under application also has no known risk of Acid Sulphate Soils. Therefore proposed clearing is not considered likely to be at variance to this principle.

Additionally the purpose of the clearing is for limestone stockpiling, therefore the intended land use is considered unlikely to cause erosion.

- Methodology** Site visit (27.09.06) TRIM: DOC6363
- GIS Databases: - Soils, Statewide - DA 11/99
 - Acid Sulphate Soil risk map, SCP - DOE 01/02/04

(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 Neerabup National Park is located 700m from the area under application. Due to the small (3ha) and

fragmented nature of the area under application, the clearing as proposed is unlikely to significantly impact upon the conservation or ecological linkage values of the conservation reserve. Bush Forever Site 323 adjoins the area under application. A condition requiring the erection of a fence to protect the adjoining native vegetation from potential damage from limestone contamination has been imposed.

Therefore proposed clearing is not considered likely to be at variance to this principle.

Methodology GIS Databases:
 - EPP, Areas - DEP 06/95
 - 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 groundwater table is located 35m below the surface. Given the existing degraded nature of the area under application the clearing is considered not likely to cause deterioration in the quality of surface or underground water. Therefore proposed clearing is not considered likely to be at variance to this principle.

Methodology Department of Environment(2004) Perth Groundwater Atlas 2nd Edition

(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**
 Given that the vegetation under application comprises of a small area (3ha), it is not considered likely that the proposed clearing would have an impact on peak flood height or duration. Therefore proposed clearing is not considered likely to be at variance to this principle.

Methodology Site visit (27.09.06) DOC6363

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

Comments
 Bush Forever Site 323 adjoins the area under application. Advice from the Bush Forever office at the Department of Planning and Infrastructure recommends that a fence be erected to protect the adjoining native vegetation as potential damage from limestone contamination is high, due to the close proximity of the future limestone stock pile. Therefore it has been recommended that a fence be erected to protect the adjoining native vegetation (TRIM DOC2815). This has been included as a condition of the permit.

The area to be cleared is located within Mindarie Waugal, an Aboriginal Site of Significance (Permanently Registered). It is the responsibility of the proponent to ensure that no Aboriginal Sites of Significance are damaged through the clearing process.

There is no other RIWI Act Licence, Works Approval or EP Act Licence that will affect the area that has been applied to clear.

Methodology GHS Database:
 - Aboriginal Sites of Significance - DIA
 Bush Forever Advice TRIM Ref: DOC2815

4. Assessor's recommendations

Purpose	Method	Applied area (ha)/ trees	Decision	Comment / recommendation
Stockpile	Mechanical Removal	3	Grant	The proposal has been addressed and the clearing as proposed is not or not likely to be at variance with any of the Principles. Given the small 3ha and degraded nature of the vegetation under application, the assessing officer recommends that this permit be granted. A condition has been imposed in accordance with advice to erect a fence to protect the adjoining native vegetation within a Bush Forever site.

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.

Field Inspection (2006), Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC), Western Australia. TRIM ref DOC6363

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)

