



## 1. Application details

### 1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 1502/1

Permit type: Area Permit

### 1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Shire of Donnybrook / Balingup

### 1.3. Property details

Property: STATE FOREST 27 ( PAYNEDALE 6239)

Local Government Area: Shire Of Donnybrook-Balingup

Colloquial name: Lot No. 3 Goodwood RdForrest Lease 911/40

### 1.4. Application

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

## 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 complex is 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' (Mattiske 1998)	The vegetation under application 'is in average to good condition' (DAFWA report Mar 2007)	Good: Structure significantly altered by multiple disturbance; retains basic structure/ability to regenerate (Keighery 1994)	A DAFWA Report was undertaken in March 2007.

## 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

The proposed area is located within the Boyanup State Forest, is in 'average to good condition' (DAFWA Mar 2007) and there are several known populations of priority flora within the local area (10km radius)

Two populations occur within the same vegetation type as the area under application and therefore the clearing may be at variance with this principle.

**Methodology** DAFWA (Mar 2007)  
GIS database:  
- CALM Managed Lands and Waters - CALM 1/06/04  
- System 6 Conservation Reserves - DEP 06/95

### (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

2 threatened and 3 priority fauna are known to occur within the local area (10km radius). The proposed clearing is within the Boyanup State Forest and 'The current condition of the vegetation is average to good condition' (DAFWA Mar 2007)

Given the area under application is surrounded by state forest in equivalent or better condition it is unlikely the proposed clearing will contain significant fauna habitat within the local area.

**Methodology** DAFWA Report (Mar 2007)  
GIS Database:  
- CALM Managed Lands and Waters - CALM 1/06/04  
- Sacbiodata sets

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

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

There are 3 priority one populations and 6 priority three populations within the local area (10km radius). 1 of the priority one (*Boronia humifusa*) and 1 of the priority three (*Acacia semitrullata*) populations occur in the same vegetation complex, *Kingia* (Mattiske 1998), as the area under application. The vegetation is 'average to good condition' (DAFWA Mar 2007) and may provide a significant habitat for Declared Rare Flora and Priority species. Therefore the proposed clearing may be at variance.

**Methodology** Mattiske 1998  
DAFWA Report (Mar 2007)  
GIS Database:  
- Sacbiodata sets

**(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 is no known record of Threatened Ecological Communities within the local area (10km radius). Therefore the clearing of the area under application it is considered unlikely to be at variance with this principle.

**Methodology** GIS Databases:  
- Threatened Ecological Communities - CALM 12/04/05  
- Sacbiodata sets

**(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 lies within the Donnybrook-Balingup shire and the Jarrah Forest IBRA bioregion. There are 72.0% and 77.8% of pre-european vegetation remaining respectively.

The vegetation is a component of Mattiske Vegetation complex *Kingia* of which 97.3% of pre-european vegetation is remaining. In addition it is a combination of Beard Vegetation Associations 1017 and 999, of which 64.7% and 13.2% remain respectively.

The local area (10km radius) is approximately 50% cleared, however 40% of the uncleared vegetation is within state forests. Given this and the small area under application it is considered unlikely to be a significant remnant of native vegetation.

**Methodology** DAFWA Report (Mar 2007)  
Sheperd et al. (2001)  
Department of Natural Resources and Environment (2002)  
GIS Databases:  
- Pre-European Vegetation - DA 01/01  
- Mattiske Vegetation - CALM 24/03/98  
- Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation of Australia - EA 18/10/00

**(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 is one geomorphic wetland (5.8km West) mapped within the local area (10km radius) and the nearest watercourse is 900m to the East of the area under application (Noneycup Creek). Due to the distances from the proposed area it is not considered to be at variance to this principle.

**Methodology** GIS Databases:  
- Hydrography, linear - DOE 01/02/04  
- EPP, Areas - DEP 06/95  
- EPP, Lakes - DEP 28/07/03  
- EPP, Wetlands - DEP 21/07/04  
- Anca Wetlands - CALM 08/01



**(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 has a low salinity risk and a ground water salinity of 500-1000 mg/L. The soil type consists of sedimentary rocks (sands and sandstone), with an undulating topography and medium relief. Additionally DAFWA Report Mar 2007 states that clearing 'is unlikely to cause appreciable land degradation. Therefore this clearing is unlikely to be at variance with principle (g)'

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

**Methodology DAFWA Report (Mar 2007)**

**GIS Databases:**

- Acid Sulfate Soil Risk Map, Swan Coastal Plain - DEC
- Groundwater Salinity, Statewide - DOW
- Hydrogeology, Statewide - DOW
- Soils, Statewide - DA 11/99

**(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 area under application is located within the Boyanup State Forest, 2.3km West is a System 6 Conservation area and 4.5km East is an unnamed Nature Reserve.

There is no linkage between the System 6 Conservation and the Nature Reserve. Given that the area under application is small (under 4ha), is 'average to good condition' (DAFWA Mar 2007) and surrounded by State Forest with vegetation in equivalent or better condition the proposed clearing is considered unlikely to have a significant impact on the environmental value of the conservation areas nearby.

**Methodology DAFWA Report (Mar 2007)**

**GIS Database:**

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

**(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 likely to be at variance to this Principle**

The proposed area lies within the Preston River catchment and the drainage flows 'generally to the east towards the Noneycup Creek, which flows into Preston River.' (DAFWA Mar 2007). Given that there is 900m between Noneycup Creek and the proposed area and that there are two roads and 400m of dense vegetation separating them it is considered unlikely to be at variance with this principle.

**Methodology DAFWA Report (Mar 2007)**

**GIS Databases:**

- Public Drinking Water Source Areas (PDWSAs) - DOW
- Hydrographic Catchments - Subcatchments - DOW
- RIWI Act, Surface Water Areas - DOW
- RIWI Act, Rivers - DOW
- RIWI Act, Irrigation Districts - DOW
- RIWI Act, Groundwater Areas - DOW
- RIWI Act, Areas - DOW

**(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 soil in the area under application consists of sedimentary rock with high permeability, rainfall of 900mm and an evaporation rate of 1200-1400mm. In addition 'The risk of waterlogging causing land degradation is low' (DAFWA Mar 2007)

Therefore it is considered unlikely to be at variance with this principle.

**Methodology DAFWA Report (Mar 2007)**

**GIS Databases:**

- Topography Contours, Statewide - DOLA 12/09/02
- Evaporation Isopleths - BOM 09/98

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

### Comments

There is one Native Title claim (Gnaala Karla Booja) over the area under application, as the property is privately owned the granting of the clearing permit is a secondary approval and does not constitute a future act under the Native Title Act 1993.

The area under application is 200m east of the Donnybrook aboriginal site of significance, It is the responsibility of the proponent to ensure that no Aboriginal Sites of Significance are damaged through the clearing process.

The area under application has been reported as a contaminated site, All landfill stations are automatically listed within contaminated sites register and no further action is required.

The proposed area is within the RIWI Groundwater area of Busselton/Capel, however a RIWI license is not required.

A submission was received from Donnybrook LCDC advising that it does not oppose the clearing, They have requested to know what remediation plans the Shire has for the existing landfill site, this is not assessable under the clearing principles, if there is a plan to harvest the usable timber from clearing, this is not assessable under the clearing principles, if a flora/fauna survey is to be conducted, this is addressed under principles (b) and (c) and if the remaining material is to be burnt or mulched, this is not assessable under the clearing principles.

### Methodology

GIS Databases:

- Native Title Claims - DLI 7/11/05
- Aboriginal Sites of Significance - DIA
- Contaminated - Reported Sites
- ICMS Polygons - DEC Current
- Town Planning Scheme Zones - MFP 8/98

## 4. Assessor's comments

Purpose	Method	Applied area (ha)/ trees	Comment
Miscellaneous	Mechanical Removal	3.7	Completed assessment has found principle (f) is not at variance, principles (a) and (c) may be at variance and all other principles are not likely to be at variance.

## 5. References

- DAFWA Land degradation assessment report. Office of the Commissioner of Soil and Land Conservation, Department of Agriculture and Food Western Australia. DoE TRIM ref DOC17294.
- 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.

## 6. Glossary

Term	Meaning
BCS	Biodiversity Coordination Section of DEC
CALM	Department of Conservation and Land Management (now BCS)
DAFWA	Department of Agriculture and Food
DEC	Department of Environment and Conservation
DEP	Department of Environmental Protection (now DEC)
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 DEC)

