



1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 1569/1

Permit type: Area Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Christopher C Morgan

1.3. Property details

Property: LOT 41 ON DIAGRAM 82067 (House No. 137 POAD CROOKED BROOK 6236)

Local Government Area: Shire Of Dardanup

Colloquial name:

1.4. Application

| Clearing Area (ha) | No. Trees | Method of Clearing | For the purpose of: |
|--------------------|-----------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| | 5 | Mechanical Removal | Building or Structure |

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 association 1000: Mosaic: Medium forest; jarrah-marri/ Low woodland; banksia/ Low forest; tea tree (Melaleuca spp.) (Hopkins et al. 2001; Shepherd et al. 2001). Hedde Vegetation Complex - Southern River Complex (Hedde et al. 1980). | The vegetation under application consists of 5 trees, approximately 15 years old, in a parkland cleared forest of jarrah-marri. No midstorey exists and the understorey is dominated by weeds. | Completely Degraded: No longer intact; completely/almost completely without native species (Keighery 1994) | Desktop assessment: a small area consisting of 5 single trees, approximately 15 years old. The area has been extensively cleared for agriculture and the property has been grazed in the past. |

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**

Aerial photography of the area under application illustrates the vegetation is in Degraded condition (Keighery 1994) with the majority of the property being parkland cleared. The applicant is proposing to clear five trees approximately 15 years old.

Given the scale of the proposed clearing and considering the amount of vegetation remaining on property, the five trees under application do not contain a high level of biological diversity.

It is concluded the clearing proposal is not at variance to this principle.

- Methodology** GIS databases:
- Declared Rare and Priority Flora List - CALM 13/08/03
 - Hedde Vegetation Complexes - DEP 21/06/95
 - Pre European Vegetation - DA 01/01
 - Mattiske Vegetation - CALM 24/3/98
 - Bunbury 1m ORTHOMOSAIC - DLI03

(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 proposed to be cleared consists of 5 scattered paddock trees with no native under storey species. The area was cleared approximately 15 years ago and the trees have grown since this time.

Given the young age of the trees, and considering at least one third of the property is still vegetated, it is concluded the vegetation under application is not likely providing significant habitat for native fauna,

Methodology GIS database:
- Bunbury 1m ORTHOMOSAIC - DLI03

(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

Eucalyptus mundijongensis (Declared Rare Flora) occurs 1.9km northeast of the area under application. There are two other specimens in the local area (10km radius) and all occur within similar Beard and Heddle vegetation types as the area under application. All three species are not vegetatively linked.

There is one Priority 1 species in the local area: Caustis sp. Boyanup occurs 4.6km southeast of the area under application and occurs within the same Beard and Heddle vegetation types as the area under application. This specimen is not vegetatively linked to the area under application.

There are four Priority 3 species in the local area, two of which occur within the same Beard and Heddle vegetation types as the area under application. All four are Acacia semitrullata; the closest being 1.6km west of the area under application. These specimens are not linked by vegetation to the area under application.

There are twenty-two Priority 4 species (six specimens) in the local area, three of which occur on the same Beard and Heddle vegetation types as the area under application. The closest is Pultenaea skinneri, 1.6km west of the area under application. None are linked to the area under application by vegetation.

Given the area under application is to remove five trees within a parkland cleared landscape, it is concluded the clearing proposal is not likely to impact on rare species within the local area.

Methodology GIS databases:
- Declared Rare and Priority Flora List - CALM 13/08/03
- Bunbury 1m ORTHOMOSAIC - DLI03
- VEG TYPE (beard, mattiske, heddle)

(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 three Threatened Ecological Communities (closest site ID R116703 & R768401) and one Threatened Plant Community in the local area (10km radius). The two closest TEC's are located 3.0km west of the proposed clearing (the buffer radius required for this community is 1000m). The closest TPC is located 10km northwest of the proposed clearing. All TEC's and TPC's are not vegetatively linked to the area under application.

Given the degraded condition of the area under application is it considered unlikely the clearing proposal would be at variance to this principle.

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 area proposed to be cleared is in Degraded condition (Keighery 1994) consisting of 5 paddock trees in a parkland cleared landscape. Five trees, approximately 15 years in age, are not considered a significant remnant.

The local area is approximately 40% vegetated. It is therefore concluded the clearing proposal is not at variance to this principle.

Methodology GIS databases:
- Mattiske Vegetation - CALM 24/3/98
- Heddle Vegetation Complexes - DEP 21/06/95
- Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation of Australia - EM 18/10/00
- Local Government Authorities y DLI 8/07/04
- Pre European Vegetation - DA 01/01
- Bunbury 1m ORTHOMOSAIC - DLI03

(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

The area under application is surrounded by a watercourse, forking 800m northwest of the property. A Multiple Use wetland is located approximately 50m north of the proposed clearing.

Given the scale of the proposed clearing, and considering the vegetation is not growing within or in association with a watercourse or wetland, it is concluded the clearing proposal is not at variance to this principle.

Methodology GIS databases:

- ANCA, Wetlands - CALM 08/01
- EPP Areas - DEP 06/95
- EPP Lakes - DEP 28/07/03
- Geomorphic Wetlands (Mgt Categories) Swan Coastal Plain - DoE 15/9/04
- Geomorphic Wetlands, Augusta to Walpole - DoE 18/6/03
- Hydrography Linear - DoE 1/2/04
- RAMSAR, Wetlands - CALM 21/10/02

(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 proposed to be cleared has no known Acid Sulphate Soils risk, a low salinity risk and a groundwater salinity of 1000-3000 mg/L.

Due to the scale of the proposed clearing, appreciable land degradation is unlikely to occur.

Methodology GIS databases:

- Acid Sulphate Soil Risk Map, SCP - DoE 01/02/04
- Salinity Risk LM 25m - DOLA 00
- Groundwater Salinity, Statewide - 22/02/00

(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 is one CALM Managed Land located within the local area. The Boyanup State Forest is found 4.5 km east of the area, and is not vegetatively linked to the area under application.

It is therefore concluded the clearing proposal is not likely to be at variance to this principle.

Methodology GIS database:

- CALM Managed Lands and Waters - CALM 1/06/04
- Register of National Estate - EA 28/01/03
- System 6 Conservation Reserves - DEP 06/95
- System 1-5 and 7-12 Areas y DEP 06/95
- Bunbury 1m ORTHOMOSAIC - DLI03

(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 proposed to be cleared is within the Leschenault-Estuary Hydrographic Catchment Area. A low salinity risk has been mapped for the area under application, and it is not within a proclaimed surface water area under the Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914.

Given the small size of the proposed clearing, degradation of local water quality is unlikely to occur.

Methodology GIS databases:

- CAWSA Part2A clearing control catchment - DoE 17/11/05
- Evaporation Isopleth - BOM 09/98
- Hydrogeology, statewide - WRC 05/02/02
- Hydrographic Catchments, Catchments - DoE 3/4/03
- PDWSA, Gazetted - WRC 01/11/02
- Public Drinking Water Source Areas (PDWSAs) - DOE 29/11/04
- Rainfall, Mean Annual - BOM 30/09/01

- RIWI Act, Groundwater Areas - WRC 13/06/00
- RIWI Act, Surface Water Areas - WRC 18/10/02
- Soils, statewide - DA 11/99

(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**
 Flooding impacts are unlikely to occur as a result of the proposed clearing due to its size.

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

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

Comments
 The property is zoned General Farming in the Town Planning Scheme.
 No submissions or advice have been received.

Methodology GIS database:
 - Town Planning Scheme Zones - MFP 8/98
 - WRL, Properties, Surface Water Licences - WRC (Current)
 - WRL, Properties, Ground Water Licences - WRC (Current)

4. Assessor's recommendations

| Purpose | Method | Applied area (ha)/ trees | Decision | Comment / recommendation |
|-----------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|----------|---|
| Building or Structure | Mechanical Removal | 5 | Grant | <p>The assessable criteria have been addressed and found the clearing proposal is not at variance to any of the clearing principles.</p> <p>No objections were received for the proposal.</p> <p>The applicant has committed to replanting five trees elsewhere on the property to compensate for the trees cleared.</p> <p>It is recommended the permit be granted with no conditions.</p> |

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.

Heddl, E. M., Loneragan, O. W., and Havel, J. J. (1980) Vegetation Complexes of the Darling System, Western Australia. In Department of Conservation and Environment, Atlas of Natural Resources, Darling System, Western Australia.

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) |

