



## 1. Application details

### 1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 1571/1  
Permit type: Area Permit

### 1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Rodney Musulin

### 1.3. Property details

Property: LOT 10911 ON PLAN 203844 ( SMITH BROOK 6258)  
Local Government Area: Shire Of Manjimup  
Colloquial name:

### 1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
1.9		Draining	Drainage
		Draining	Drainage
		Draining	Drainage

## 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
The vegetation is a mixture of Mattiske vegetation complex YN1 'Mixture of tall open forest of Eucalyptus diversicolor and tall open forest of Corymbia calophylla-Eucalyptus patens-Eucalyptus marginata subsp. marginata over Agonis flexuosa and Agonis juniperinaon valleys in perhumid and humid zones.' and WH1 'Tall open forest of Eucalyptus diversicolor-Corymbia calophylla on slopes and tall open forest of Eucalyptus patens on valley floor in perhumid and humid zones.' (Mattiske 1998)	The northern area under application appears to have lower growing species, indicative of a wetter area.  The southern area under application has a full cover of upper storey trees, however aerial imagery is unable to display what under or mid level storey remains.	Very Good: Vegetation structure altered; obvious signs of disturbance (Keighery 1994)	Vegetation condition determined using orthomosaic mapping (Manjimup 50cm 2004)

## 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 proposed clearing consists of riparian vegetation and is for the purpose of drainage and weed control.

Aerial photography suggests that there are two different areas of vegetation. There is a dry area with upper storey mature tree species and an area of lower vegetation likely to be wet tolerant. These two different areas of vegetation contribute to increased diversity, however given that the application area is small in size (1.9ha) and surrounded by large areas of conservation land it is unlikely to be considered high in biological diversity.

**Methodology** GIS database:  
- CALM Managed Lands and Waters - CALM 1/06/04  
- Manjimup 50cm Orthomosaic - DLI04

**(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 Western Ringtail Possum (*Pseudocheirus occidentalis*) has been recorded within the local area (10 km radius), and the area under application lies within a vegetation type known to contain *Agonis flexuosa* (Peppermint Tree) which is the primary feeding habitat of this threatened species.

The Forest Red Tail Black Cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus banksii naso*) and Baudins Black Cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus baudinii*) have also been recorded within the local area and are likely to utilise vegetation within the area under application.

Despite the possible utilization of fauna on the application area, the area is small in size (1.9ha) and is located within close proximity to larger intact vegetation, so is unlikely to be significant habitat.

**Methodology** GIS database:  
- CALM Managed Lands and Waters - CALM 1/06/04  
- SAC biodatasets (re-accessed 28 April 2008)

**(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 are no known records of Declared Rare Flora (DRF) or Priority Flora within the local area (10km radius of proposed area). The proposed clearing is not likely to impact on the continued existence of rare flora in the area.

**Methodology** GIS Database:  
- Declared Rare and Priority Flora - CALM 01/07/05  
- 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 are no records of Threatened Ecological Communities within the local area (10km radius). It is therefore unlikely that the proposed clearing will be at variance with this principle.

**Methodology** GIS Databases:  
- Threatened Ecological Communities - CALM 12/04/05  
- Threatened Plant Communities - DEP 06/95 (Swan Coastal Plain)  
- 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 is located across the shire of Manjimup and within the Warren Bioregion. The extent of native vegetation within these areas is 85.8% and 79.5% respectively.

The vegetation proposed to be cleared is a component of Beard Vegetation Associations 1144 of which there is 79.3% of Pre-European extent remaining. It is also a component of Mattiske Vegetation Complexes YN1 (Yanmah) and WH1 (Wheatley) of which 80.5% and 78.0% are remaining respectively. Therefore the area under application is of 'least concern' status for Biodiversity conservation.

Due to the small area under application, the extent of vegetation remaining in local and bioregional areas, and the extent of vegetation complexes remaining the area under application is not considered to be a significant remnant of native vegetation in an area that has been extensively cleared.

**Methodology** Shepherd et al. (2001)  
Hopkins et al. (2001)  
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 at variance to this Principle**  
There are no mapped wetlands present within the local area (10Km Radius).

The area under application is on a watercourse and maybe considered riparian vegetation therefore the proposed clearing is associated with a watercourse.

**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  
- Geomorphic Wetlands - 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 salinity risk is considered low for the area and the groundwater salinity is 500-1000 mg/L. The annual rainfall is 950mm with an evaporation rate of 1200-1400mm as such with the medium relief of the topography it is considered unlikely to increase soil erosion, water logging or land salinisation.

**Methodology**    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**  
There are numerous conservation areas within the local area (10 km radius), with the closest being a nature reserve which abuts the lot under application.

Removal of the vegetation under application is not likely to significantly impact on the vegetative buffer for the nature reserve, nor impede any ecological linkages between conservation areas.

**Methodology**    GIS database:  
- CALM Managed Lands and Waters - CALM 1/06/04  
- Manjimup 50cm Orthomosaic - DLI04

**(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 clearing is in the Public Drinking Water Source Area of Warren River Water Reserve and is in the Smith Brook - Warren River Catchment area. The average rainfall is 950mm per year and the hydrogeology of the area is granitoid (low permeability). Due to the size (1.9ha) of the proposed clearing it is unlikely that the quality of ground or surface water will be affected.

**Methodology**    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 area has a medium relief and high rainfall, however there is also a high evaporation rate for the area. Due to the medium relief, high evaporation rate and the small area of vegetation to be cleared the proposed clearing

is unlikely to cause or exacerbate the incidence of flooding.

**Methodology** GIS Databases:  
- Topography Contours, Statewide - DOLA 12/09/02  
- Evaporation Isopleths - BOM 09/98  
- Mean Annual Rainfall Isohyets (1975-2003) - DOW

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

##### **Comments**

The proposed area lies within the South West Boojarah Native Title Claim area. A submission from the Shire of Manjimup was received and requested that if a clearing permit is granted that the applicant confer with the Shire of Manjimup in regards to the Town Planning Scheme, local laws and legislation requirements.

**Methodology** Department of Water has advised that no RIWI Act permit is required.  
Shire of Manjimup Submission  
GIS Databases:  
- Native Title Claims - DLI 7/11/05  
- Aboriginal Sites of Significance - DIA

#### **4. Assessor's comments**

<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Method</b>	<b>Applied area (ha)/ trees</b>	<b>Comment</b>
----------------	---------------	---------------------------------	----------------

Drainage	Draining	1.9	Clearing is for the purpose of Blackberry control and expansion of current dam.
----------	----------	-----	---

The assessable criteria have been addressed and the proposal is at variance with Principle (f) and is not likely to be at variance with all other principles.

Drainage	Draining
Drainage	Draining

#### **5. References**

Hopkins, A.J.M., Beeston, G.R. and Harvey J.M. (2001) A database on the vegetation of Western Australia. Stage 1. CALM Science 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.

#### **6. Glossary**

<b>Term</b>	<b>Meaning</b>
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)