



## 1. Application details

### 1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 1703/1  
Permit type: Purpose Permit

### 1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Shire of Dandaragan

### 1.3. Property details

Property: ROAD RESERVE ( BADGINGARRA 6521)  
Local Government Area: Shire Of Dandaragan  
Colloquial name: Northwest - Mundegar Road

### 1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
0.7		Mechanical Removal	Road construction or maintenance

## 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 999: Medium woodland; marri. (Hopkins et al. 2001, Shepherd et al. 2001).	The proposal includes clearing of approximately 0.7ha of roadside vegetation. The vegetation consists mainly of weeds and grasses with few scattered trees.	Degraded: Structure severely disturbed; regeneration to good condition requires intensive management (Keighery 1994)	The vegetation under application occurs within a road reserve and is highly disturbed with numerous weeds. (Aerial photography, accessed 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 is not likely to be at variance to this Principle  
The vegetation under application is in a degraded and fragmented state within a road reserve. The vegetation consists mainly of weeds and grasses with few scattered trees. Given the small area under application (0.7ha) and the low level of species and ecosystem diversity it is therefore unlikely that the roadside vegetation is representative of an area of outstanding biodiversity in the Bioregion or local area.

**Methodology** GIS Databases:  
- Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation of Australia - EA 18/10/00.  
- Badgingarra 1.4m Orthomosaic - DLI 01

### (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 vegetation under application is in a degraded and fragmented state within a road reserve. The vegetation consists mainly of weeds and grasses with few scattered trees. Given the small area under application (0.7ha), level of disturbance and the limited diversity of native species it is therefore unlikely that the roadside vegetation is representative of a significant habitat for fauna. This proposal is therefore unlikely to be at variance with this Principle.

**Methodology** GIS Databases:  
- Badgingarra 1.4m Orthomosaic - DLI 01

**(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**  
 Two Declared Rare Flora (DRF) and six Priority Flora species are located within 10km of the area under application, with the closest occurring within 4.8km. The vegetation under application is in a degraded and fragmented state within a road reserve and consists mainly of weeds and grasses with few scattered trees. Given the level of disturbance it is unlikely that the roadside vegetation is necessary for the continued existence of rare flora. This proposal is therefore unlikely to be at variance with this Principle.

**Methodology** GIS Databases:  
 - Declared Rare and Priority Flora list - CALM 01/07/05  
 - Clearing Regulations - Environmentally Sensitive Areas - DoE 30/05/05

**(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 records of Threatened Ecological Communities (TEC) within 10km of the area under application. Therefore it is unlikely that the proposed clearing is at variance with this Principle.

**Methodology** GIS Databases:  
 - 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 likely to be at variance to this Principle**  
 The vegetation under application is a component of Beard Vegetation Association 999 (Hopkins et al. 2001) of which there is 13.1% of the pre-European extent remaining (Shepherd et al. 2001) and therefore a status of vulnerable for biodiversity conservation (Department of Natural Resources and Environment 2002). The vegetation under application is also within the Swan Coastal Plain IBRA Bioregion and the Shire of Dandaragan, both of which have greater than 30% of pre-European extent remaining.

Given the degraded and fragmented condition of the vegetation it is unlikely that the area under application represents the vegetation communities within the area.

	Pre-European Reserves/CALM-area (ha)	Current extent (ha)	Remaining %*	Conservation status**	managed land,
%					
IBRA Bioregion y Swan Coastal Plain ***	1,501,456	571,758	38.1	Depleted	24.2
Shire y Dandaragan ***	668,507	326,283	48.8	Depleted	Not available
Beard veg type - 999	115,712	15,161	13.1	Vulnerable	5.8

\* (Shepherd et al. 2001)

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

\*\*\* Area within the Intensive Landuse Zone

**Methodology** GIS Databases:  
 - Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation of Australia - EA 18/10/00  
 - Pre-European Vegetation - DA 01/01  
 - Local Government Authorities - DLI 08/07/04  
 - EPA Position Paper No 2 Agriculture Region - DEP 12/00  
 Shepherd 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**

No watercourses or wetlands are present within the area under application. The closest is a minor non-perennial watercourse occurring approximately 80m south of the area under application. Given the small area under application (0.7ha) and the distance to any watercourse this proposal is unlikely to be at variance with this Principle.

**Methodology** GIS Databases:  
- Hydrography, linear - DoE 01/02/04  
- Hydrographic Catchments - Catchments - DoE 23/03/05

**(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 under application is in a degraded and fragmented state within a road reserve. The vegetation consists mainly of weeds and grasses with few scattered trees. The soils consist of undulating valley slopes with red earthy soils. Due to the small area under application (0.7ha) it is unlikely that this proposal will cause appreciable land degradation.

**Methodology** GIS Databases:  
- Rainfall, Mean Annual - BOM 30/09/01  
- Salinity Risk LM 25m - DOLA 00  
- Soils, Statewide - DA 11/99  
- Badgingarra 1.4m Orthomosaic - DLI 01

**(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 at variance to this Principle**

No conservation areas or reserves have been identified within 10km from the area under application. Therefore this proposal is not at variance with this Principle.

**Methodology** GIS Databases:  
- CALM Managed Lands & Waters - CALM 01/07/05  
- Proposed National Parks FMP-CALM 19/03/03  
- Register of National Estate - EA 28/01/03

**(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 under application falls within the Nambung River catchment and has an annual rainfall of 600mm. In addition the area does not include any Public Drinking Water Source Areas (PDWSA). Due to the small size of the proposed clearing (0.7ha) and high rainfall within the area under application, this proposal is unlikely to be at variance with this Principle.

**Methodology** GIS Databases:  
- Public Drinking Water Sources (PDWSAs) - DOE 09/08/05  
- Hydrographic Catchments - Catchments - DOE 23/03/05  
- Hydrography, linear - DoE 01/02/04  
- Rainfall, Mean Annual - BOM 30/09/01

**(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 under application occurs high in the landscape, at an elevation of between 200 y 300 metres. In addition the soils consist of undulating valley slopes with red earthy soils. Due to the small size (0.7ha) of the proposed clearing and the location in the landscape, it is unlikely that this proposal will cause or increase the incidence of flooding.

**Methodology** GIS Databases:  
- Rainfall, Mean Annual - BOM 30/09/01  
- Topographic Contours, Statewide - DOLA 12/09/02  
- Soils, Statewide - DA 11/99

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

### Comments

The Shire of Dandaragan has confirmed that there are no planning approvals or requirements that affect the proposal.

There is no further requirement for a RIWI Act Licence, Works Approval or EP Act Licence for the area under application.

The EPA received the Shire of Dandaragan TPS 7 Scheme Amendment that included the area under application. The scheme amendment was not assessed (no appeals) but advice was given under section 48. The level of assessment was set on the 11 August 1999.

There is a Native Title claim over the area under application, however the proposal falls within a dedicated road reserve. The Shire of Dandaragan are exercising their powers under Section 3.52 of the Local Government Act 1995 to undertake these works, and therefore the granting of a clearing permit constitutes a secondary approval and is not a future act under the Native Title Act 1993.

Methodology Shire of Dandaragan submission

## 4. Assessor's comments

Purpose	Method	Applied area (ha)/ trees	Comment
Road construction or maintenance	Mechanical Removal	0.7	The assessable criteria have been addressed and no objections were raised. The assessing officer therefore recommends that the permit should be granted.

## 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.
- 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, 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
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)