



## 1. Application details

### 1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 1712/1  
 Permit type: Purpose Permit

### 1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Thompson McRobert Edgeloe on behalf of Dept of Edu

### 1.3. Property details

Property: LOT 664 ON PLAN 248971 (- DALYELLUP 6230)  
 Local Government Area: Shire Of Capel  
 Colloquial name:

### 1.4. Application

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

## 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
Karrakatta Complex - central and south (No. 49) (Heddlé et al. 1980). Spearwood System (S3a phase) (Hopkins et al., 2001)	Remnant Marri and Peppermint with isolated pockets of Melaleuca scrub (TRIM Ref DOC13615)	Degraded: Structure severely disturbed; regeneration to good condition requires intensive management (Keighery 1994)	Degraded: School site for the most part has already been cleared for grazing, no understorey remaining (TRIM Ref DOC13615) Refer to site photos (TRIM Ref DOC13615)

## 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 area under application is in degraded condition (Keighery 1994) and consists of remnant Marri and Peppermint trees with isolated pockets of Melaleuca scrub. Photographs taken by TME (2004) during their site visit indicate that the vegetation in the application is highly modified. The report states that 'for the most part the application has been cleared for grazing and no understorey remains' (TME, 2007).

Given the above it is unlikely the area under application comprises a high level of biological diversity.

**Methodology** TME (2007)

### (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 may be at variance to this Principle**  
 The area under application is in degraded condition (Keighery 1994) and consists of remnant Marri and Peppermint trees with isolated pockets of Melaleuca scrub. Photographs taken by TME (2007) during their site visit indicate that the vegetation in the application is highly modified. The report states that 'for the most part the application has been cleared for grazing and no understorey remains' (TME, 2007).

Photos taken by TME (2007) also indicate that some of the 45 trees proposed to be cleared may be of a suitable size to be utilised as nesting habitat by Baudin's Black-Cockatoo, *Calyptorhynchus baudinii* (listed as Vulnerable in the EPBC Act 1999 and WC Act 1950), Carnaby's Black-Cockatoo, *Calyptorhynchus latirostris* (listed as Endangered in the EPBC Act 1999 and WC Act 1950), Forest Red-tailed Black-Cockatoo, *Calyptorhynchus banksii naso* (listed as Vulnerable in the EPBC Act 1999 and WC Act 1950), Brush-tailed Phascogale, *Phascogale tapoatafa tapoatafa* (listed as Vulnerable in the EPBC Act 1999 and WC Act 1950) and the Western Ringtail Possum, *Pseudocheirus occidentalis* (listed as Vulnerable in the EPBC Act 1999 and the WC Act 1950). However Western Ringtail Possum's are less likely in the application area due to the lack of understorey.

Aerial photography shows that there are areas of remnant native vegetation remaining within the local area (10km radius) and appear to be in similar or better condition than the application area. Therefore, the fauna species listed above are likely to find habitat of equal or better condition within the nearby remnants.

Given the likely hood of nesting habitat the vegetation under application maybe at variance to this principle. Therefore if a permit is granted a condition will be imposed to manage fauna habitat and fauna translocation.

**Methodology** TME (2007)  
SAC Bio datasets 040407  
GIS Database:  
-Hedde Vegetation Complexes - DEP 21/06/95

**(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**

The area under application is in degraded condition (Keighery 1994) and consists of remnant Marri and Peppermint trees with isolated pockets of Melaleuca scrub. Photographs taken by TME (2007) during their site visit indicate that the vegetation in the application is highly modified. The report states that 'for the most part the application has been cleared for grazing and no understorey remains (TME, 2007)'.

There are 3 records of 2 Declared Rare taxa and 59 records of 17 Priority flora species occurring in the local area (10km radius) (SAC Bio Datasets, 040407). The closest of the records (*Caladenia huegelii*) is approximately 4.9km south, south-west of the application area (SAC Bio Datasets, 040407).

Given the modified and degraded condition of the area under application it is unlikely the proposed clearing will be at variance to this principle.

**Methodology** TME (2007)  
SAC Bio datasets 040407

**(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**

The area under application is in degraded condition (Keighery 1994) and consists of remnant Marri and Peppermint trees with isolated pockets of Melaleuca scrub. Photographs taken by TME (2007) during their site visit indicate that the vegetation in the application is highly modified. The report states that 'for the most part the application has been cleared for grazing and no understorey remains (TME, 2007)'.

There are 15 occurrences of 6 Threatened Ecological Communities within the 10km local area. The closest of the records, community type 18, is approximately 3.4km north, north-east of the application (SAC Bio Datasets, 040407). Both community type 7 and 9 have been recorded on the same soil and vegetation complex as the area under application.

Given the modified and degraded condition of the area under application it is unlikely the proposed clearing will be at variance to this principle.

**Methodology** Gibson et al (1994)  
SAC Bio Datasets 040407  
GIS Database:  
-Soils, Statewide - DA 11/99  
-Hedde Vegetation Complexes - DEP 21/06/95

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

The area under application is in degraded condition (Keighery 1994) and consists of remnant Marri and Peppermint trees with isolated pockets of Melaleuca scrub. Photographs taken by TME (2007) during their site visit indicate that the vegetation in the application is highly modified. The report states that 'for the most part the application has been cleared for grazing and no understorey remains (TME, 2007)'.

The vegetation at the site is a component of Beard Karakatta Complex - Central and South No. 49 of which there is 26.6% (Shepherd et al. 2001) of the pre-European extent remaining and therefore a 'vulnerable' status for biodiversity conservation (Department of Natural Resources and Environment 2002).

The vegetation under application is also within the Swan Coastal Plain Bioregion and Caple Shire of which there is 41.8% and 35.9% (Shepherd et al. 2001) of pre-European extent remaining respectively.

The National Objective and Targets for Biodiversity Conservation 2001-2005 (AGPS, 2001) recognises that the

retention of 30% or more of the pre-clearing extent of each ecological community is the target.

Given the application area is highly modified and in degraded condition it is unlikely that it represents a significant remnant of native vegetation, further the high percentage of remaining vegetation within the shire and bioregion suggest the area is not within an extensively cleared landscape. Therefore the proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to this principle.

**Methodology** AGPS (2001)  
Shepherd et al., (2001)  
SAC Bio datasets 040407  
GIS Database:  
-Hedde Vegetation Complexes - DEP 21/06/95

**(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 are 3 wetlands within the local area of the proposed clearing, the closest is approximately 380m north, east of the application (GIS Database). There are no rivers within 500m of the area under application.

Given the distance between wetlands and rivers to the area under application the proposed clearing is not at variance to this principle.

**Methodology** TME (2007)  
GIS Database:  
-ANCA, Wetlands - CALM 08/01  
-Geomorphic Wetlands, Augusta to Walpole - DOE 18/6/03  
-RAMSAR, Wetlands - CALM 14/02/03

**(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 degraded condition (Keighery 1994) and consists of remnant Marri and Peppermint trees with isolated pockets of Melaleuca scrub. Photographs taken by TME (2007) during their site visit indicate that the vegetation in the application is highly modified. The report states that 'for the most part the application has been cleared for grazing and no understorey remains (TME, 2007)'.

GIS Database mapping shows a moderate to high disturbance risk of Acid Sulfate Soils less than 3.0m from the surface.

Information provided by TME (2007) states that the application 'is very flat and close to 20m AHD it is not effected by inundation or erosion.'

Given the small area proposed to be cleared (45 trees) and modified and degraded condition under application it is unlikely the proposed clearing will be at variance to this principle.

**Methodology** TME (2007)  
GIS Database:  
-Acid Sulfate Soil Risk Map, Swan Coastal Plain - DEC

**(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 in degraded condition (Keighery 1994) and consists of remnant Marri and Peppermint trees with isolated pockets of Melaleuca scrub. Photographs taken by TME (2007) during their site visit indicate that the vegetation in the application is highly modified. The report states that 'for the most part the application has been cleared for grazing and no understorey remains (TME, 2007)'.

GIS Database records indicate that the closest DEC reserve to the application area is an Un-named Miscellaneous Reserve 6.8km north, east of the application.

Given the small area proposed to be cleared (45 trees) and modified and degraded condition under application it is unlikely the proposed clearing will be at variance to this principle.

**Methodology** GIS Database:

**(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 application is located within the Coastal Catchment and the Preston River Basin (GIS Database) further database mapping shows groundwater salinity to be between 500-1000mg/L.

Given the small area proposed to be cleared (45 trees) and modified and degraded condition under application it is unlikely the proposed clearing will be at variance to this principle.

**Methodology**    SAC Bio Datasets 040407  
GIS Database:  
-Hydrographic Catchments - Catchments - DOW  
-Hydrographic Catchments - Basins - DOW  
-ANCA, Wetlands - CALM 08/01  
-Geomorphic Wetlands, Augusta to Walpole - DOE 18/6/03  
-RAMSAR, Wetlands - CALM 14/02/03  
-Hydrography, linear - DOE 1/2/04

**(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**  
Information provided by the proponent states that the application 'is very flat and close to 20m AHD it is not effected by inundation or erosion (TME, 2007)'.  
  
Given the above, the small area proposed to be cleared (45 trees) and modified and degraded condition under application the proposed clearing is not at variance to this principle.

**Methodology**    TME (2007)

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

**Comments**  
There were no submissions received for this application.  
  
The proposed clearing is for a school oval.

**Methodology**    The area is zoned Dalyellup Development Zone in the Shire of Capel Town Planning Scheme No. 7.  
SAC Bio Datasets 160407  
GIS Database:  
-Public Drinking Water Source Areas (PDWSAs) - DOW  
-RIWI Act, Groundwater Areas - DOW  
-WRL Properties

**4. Assessor's comments**

Purpose	Method	Applied area (ha)/ trees	Comment
Recreation	Mechanical Removal	45	The principles have been assessed and the clearing as proposed may be at variance to Principle (b); is not at variance to principle (f); and is not likely to be at variance to all other principles. A condition to manage fauna habitat and translocation is recommended.

**5. References**

AGPS (2001) The national objective and targets for biodiversity conservation 2001-2005. Commonwealth of Australia, Canberra.  
Department of Environment and Conservation (2007) FloraBase 040407. Department of Environment and Conservation, Western Australia.  
Department of Environment and Conservation (2007) SAC Bio Datasets 040407. Department of Environment and Conservation, Western Australia.  
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.  
Hedde, 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.  
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.  
 Thompson, McRobert, Edgeloe (TME) (2007) Application For Vegetation Clearing For School Oval On Lot 662 Bussell Highway Dalyellup. TME. Bunbury, Western Australia (TRIM Ref: DOC13615).

## 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)