



1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 1813/1
Permit type: Area Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Katanning Country Club

1.3. Property details

Property: LOT 4 ON DIAGRAM 42548 (Lot No. 4 ROUND KATANNING 6317)
LOT 2 ON DIAGRAM 22161 (Lot No. 2 ROUND KATANNING 6317)
LOT 130 ON DIAGRAM 52651 (Lot No. 130 ROUND KATANNING 6317)
Local Government Area: Shire Of Katanning
Colloquial name:

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
1		Mechanical Removal	Hazard reduction or fire control

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 1085: Medium woodland; wandoo & blue mallet (E. gardneri) (Hopkins et al. 2001; Shepherd et al. 2001).	The proposal involves clearing approximately 1.0 ha of <i>Dryandra sessilis</i> (parrot bush) for the purpose of public safety. The vegetation under application is a prickly shrub and requires removal due to people scratching their eyes and body when entering thick areas off the golf course fairways (information supplied by applicant).	Degraded: Structure severely disturbed; regeneration to good condition requires intensive management (Keighery 1994)	The description of the clearing application area is based on information supplied by the applicant.

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**
The proposal is located within the broader agricultural area identified by the EPA (2000) as containing a high level of biodiversity; however the vegetation under application is a common native shrub species occurring within a highly modified habitat (golf course), and is therefore considered not to be representative of vegetation containing a high level of biological diversity within this region.

Therefore, the proposal is not at variance to this Principle.

Methodology EPA (2000)

(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**
Small, scattered patches of *Dryandra sessilis* throughout a highly modified landscape (golf course) is not considered to be providing or impact on any significant habitat value for local fauna.

Therefore, the proposal is unlikely to be at variance to this Principle.

Methodology GIS Database:
- Katanning 1.4m ORTHOMOSAIC - DLI01

(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**

Dryandra sessilis is a common (not threatened) native shrub species found throughout the south west on a range of soil types (Florabase, 2007).

There is one known population of threatened flora within a 10km radius: the P2 species Dryandra acanthopoda.

The condition of the vegetation and disturbance to the site limits the potential conservation value of the vegetation; it is therefore unlikely that the proposed clearing will impact on significant flora.

Methodology Florabase (DEC 2007);
GIS database:
- Threatened Flora Database (DEFL) - DEC 04/07

(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 at variance to this Principle**

There are no known occurrences of Threatened Ecological Communities (TECs) within 10km radius of the proposed clearing. Dryandra sessilis is not considered to constitute a TEC, nor its removal impacting on any known TEC.

Therefore, the proposal is not 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 original vegetation at the site is classified as Beard Vegetation Association 1085 (Hopkins et al. 2001), which has been mapped as comprising only 7.2% (Shepherd et al. 2001) pre-1750 extent remaining.

The area has been recognised by the EPA as containing significant biodiversity (EPA, 2000), and therefore does not support the further clearing of vegetation in this area; however given the proposal is for the removal of 1 ha of Dryandra sessilis within a highly modified landscape (golf course), the proposed clearing is considered to be not at variance to this Principle.

Methodology Hopkins et al. (2001)
Shepherd et al. (2001)
EPA (2000)
GIS databases:
- Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation of Australia - EM 18/10/00
- Pre European Vegetation - DA 01/01

(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**

Several anthropogenic waterbodies occur within the golf course grounds, however the vegetation under application is not associated with any watercourse or wetland.

Therefore, the proposal is not at variance to this Principle.

Methodology GIS databases:
- Hydrography Linear - DoE 1/2/04

(g) Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause appreciable land degradation.

Comments

There is no information for Acid Sulphate Soils on the property. Groundwater salinity is mapped at 14000 - 35000 mg/L. Salinity is mapped at a low risk area.

Given the scale of clearing proposed, land degradation is unlikely to result from the removal of several scattered clumps of *Dryandra sessilis*.

Therefore, the proposal is not at variance to this Principle.

Methodology

GIS databases:

- 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 at variance to this Principle

The area under application is located within the Katanning town site. The Moojebing Nature Reserve, 9km North, is the only DEC-managed land within a 10km radius; it is not likely the clearing proposed will impact on the values of this area.

Therefore, the proposal is not at variance to this Principle.

Methodology

GIS databases:

- CALM Managed Lands and Waters - CALM 1/06/04
- Register of National Estate - EA 28/01/03
- Katanning 1.4m ORTHOMOSAIC - DLI01

(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 not within a gazetted public drinking water supply area; given the scale of clearing proposed degradation of water quality is not likely.

Therefore, the proposal is not likely to be at variance to this Principle.

Methodology

GIS databases:

- Public Drinking Water Source Areas (PDWSAs) - DOE 29/11/04

(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

Given the scale of clearing proposed, it is unlikely to cause or contribute to the intensity or duration of peak flood height.

Therefore, the proposal is unlikely to be at variance to this Principle.

Methodology

GIS database:

- Topographic Contours, Statewide - DOLA 12/09/02

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

Comments

No planning issues have been raised by the Shire of Katanning.

The land is zoned as Special Use in the Shire of Katanning TPS.

No other approvals are required from DEC.

No public submissions have been received for this proposal.

Methodology

GIS Database:

- Town Planning Scheme Zones - MFP 8/98.

4. Assessor's comments

Purpose	Method	Applied area (ha)/ trees	Comment
Hazard reduction or fire control	Mechanical Removal	1	The assessing officer advises that assessable criteria have been addressed and the assessment of the vegetation under application revealed the proposal is either not likely or is not at variance to all ten clearing principles.

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.
- EPA (2000) Environmental protection of native vegetation in Western Australia. Clearing of native vegetation, with particular reference to the agricultural area. Position Statement No. 2. December 2000. Environmental Protection Authority.
- Florabase (2007). Department of Environment and Conservation. Site Accessed 3 July 2007.
- 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)