



1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 1936/1
Permit type: Purpose Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Phosphate Resources Ltd

1.3. Property details

Property: LOT 3022 ON PLAN 43297 (CHRISTMAS ISLAND 6798)
LOT 3018 ON PLAN 43321 (CHRISTMAS ISLAND 6798)
Local Government Area: Shire Of Christmas Island
Colloquial name:

1.4. Application

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

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
Christmas Island Vegetation	The clearing of 0.015ha of native vegetation is for the purpose of removal of a derelict asbestos precipitator plant within Mining Lease owned by the applicant. The area under application is also impacted by access roads and existing mining activities.	Degraded: Structure severely disturbed; regeneration to good condition requires intensive management (Keighery 1994)	Vegetation condition was determined using aerial mapping and photos from 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 clearing of 0.015ha of native vegetation is for the purpose of removal of a derelict asbestos precipitator plant within Mining Lease owned by the applicant. The area under application is also impacted by access roads and existing mining activities.

Given the size of the area under application and disturbance to the site the area is not considered to hold high biological diversity.

Methodology GIS Database: Christmas Island 60cm Orthomosaic - Landgate06

(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 clearing of 0.015ha of native vegetation is for the purpose of removal of a derelict asbestos precipitator plant within Mining Lease owned by the applicant. The area under application is also impacted by access roads and existing mining activities.

Given the size of the area under application and disturbance to the site the area is not likely to be necessary for the maintenance of significant fauna.

Methodology GIS Database: Christmas Island 60cm Orthomosaic - Landgate06

(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 clearing of 0.015ha of native vegetation is for the purpose of removal of a derelict asbestos precipitator plant within Mining Lease owned by the applicant. The area under application is also impacted by access roads and existing mining activities.

Given the size of the area under application and disturbance to the site the area is not likely to be necessary for the continued existence of rare flora.

Methodology GIS Database: Christmas Island 60cm Orthomosaic - Landgate06

(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 clearing of 0.015ha of native vegetation is for the purpose of removal of a derelict asbestos precipitator plant within Mining Lease owned by the applicant. The area under application is also impacted by access roads and existing mining activities.

Given the size of the area under application and disturbance to the site the area is not likely to be necessary for the maintenance of a threatened ecological community.

Methodology GIS Database: Christmas Island 60cm Orthomosaic - Landgate06

(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 clearing of 0.015ha of native vegetation is for the purpose of removal of a derelict asbestos precipitator plant within Mining Lease owned by the applicant. The area under application is also impacted by access roads and existing mining activities.

Given the size of the area under application and disturbance to the site the area is not likely to be significant vegetation in an extensively cleared area.

Methodology GIS Database: Christmas Island 60cm Orthomosaic - Landgate06

(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 vegetation under application is not growing in or in association with a watercourse or wetland and given the size and condition of the vegetation is not likely to impact on wetlands or watercourses on Christmas Island.

Methodology GIS Database: Christmas Island 60cm Orthomosaic - Landgate06

(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 clearing of 0.015ha of native vegetation is for the purpose of removal of a derelict asbestos precipitator plant within Mining Lease owned by the applicant. The area under application is also impacted by access roads and existing mining activities.

Given the size of the area under application it is not likely the proposed clearing will cause appreciable land degradation.

Methodology GIS Database: Christmas Island 60cm Orthomosaic - Landgate06

(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 clearing of 0.015ha of native vegetation is for the purpose of removal of a derelict asbestos precipitator plant within Mining Lease owned by the applicant. The area under application is also impacted by access roads and existing mining activities.

Given the size of the area under application it is not likely the proposed clearing will impact on the environmental values of conservation areas.

Methodology GIS Database: Christmas Island 60cm Orthomosaic - Landgate06

(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 clearing of 0.015ha of native vegetation is for the purpose of removal of a derelict asbestos precipitator plant within Mining Lease owned by the applicant. The area under application is also impacted by access roads and existing mining activities.

Given the size of the area under application it is not likely the proposed clearing will cause deterioration in the quality of surface or underground water.

Methodology GIS Database: Christmas Island 60cm Orthomosaic - Landgate06

(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 clearing of 0.015ha of native vegetation is for the purpose of removal of a derelict asbestos precipitator plant within Mining Lease owned by the applicant. The area under application is also impacted by access roads and existing mining activities.

Given the size of the area under application it is not likely the proposed clearing will cause or exacerbate the incidence of flooding.

Methodology GIS Database: Christmas Island 60cm Orthomosaic - Landgate06

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

Comments

Part of the clearing is within mining lease and within crown land. Native Title is not applicable on Christmas Island.

Methodology

4. Assessor's comments

Purpose	Method	Applied area (ha)/ trees	Comment
Miscellaneous	Mechanical Removal	0.015	Assessment has found the application to be not at variance to principles (a) and (f) and not likely to be at variance to the remaining principles. Access to demolition site and storage of equipment required.

5. References

Keighery, B.J. (1994) Bushland Plant Survey: A Guide to Plant Community Survey for the Community. Wildflower Society of WA (Inc). Nedlands, 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)