



1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 1996/1
 Permit type: Area Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: RJ & YK Ward

1.3. Property details

Property: LOT 4 ON DIAGRAM 70941 (Lot No. 4 GOMMES SUNNYSIDE 6256)
 Local Government Area: Shire Of Bridgetown-Greenbushes
 Colloquial name:

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
0.5		Mechanical Removal	Grazing & Pasture

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 27: Low woodland; paperbark (<i>Melaleuca</i> sp.) (Shepherd et al. 2001; Hopkins et al. 2001).	The proposal is for the clearing of up to 0.5 hectares for grazing & pasture. The vegetation appears in good condition (Keighery, 1994) with little to no understorey.	Good: Structure significantly altered by multiple disturbance; retains basic structure/ability to regenerate (Keighery 1994)	Vegetation condition was deemed to be good (Keighery, 1994) from aerial photography.

Mattiske Vegetation Complexes:
 - Yornup Complex (YR): Mosaic of open woodland of *Eucalyptus marginata* subsp. *marginata*-*Corymbia calophylla*, open woodland of *Melaleuca cuticularis*, open woodland of *Melaleuca preissiana*-*Banksia littoralis*-*Banksia seminuda*, tall shrubland of *Myrtaceae* spp. and sedgeland on broad depressions in humid and subhumid zones;

- Corbalup Complex (CL1): Open forest of *Eucalyptus marginata* subsp. *marginata* with some *Corymbia calophylla* on low rises and low woodland of *Melaleuca preissiana*-*Banksia littoralis* on depressions in humid and subhumid zones; (Mattiske Consulting, 1998).

Hedde Vegetation Complex:
 - Wilga Complex in Low to Medium Rainfall: open

forest of jarrah-marri
(Hedde et al. 1980).

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 proposal is for the clearing of 0.5 ha for the purpose of grazing & pasture.

The area under application is considered to be in good condition (Keighery 1994) with little or no understorey. The area also appears to have been grazed by stock.

Based on the unlikely significance of the area to contribute to the maintenance of rare flora and TECs and the low significance of the areas habitat values, it is unlikely that the proposed clearing comprises high biological diversity.

Methodology Keighery (1994);

GIS databases:
- 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 proposal is for the clearing of 0.5 ha for the purpose of grazing & pasture.

The vegetation has little or no understorey and is considered to be in good to degraded condition (Keighery, 1994). Within the local area (10km radius from the proposed area for clearing) there are several records of threatened and priority fauna; however given the nature of the clearing and the surrounding vegetated area, the area under application is not considered to be significant habitat for fauna indigenous to Western Australia.

Methodology GIS Databases:

- CALM Managed Lands and Waters - CALM 1/07/05;
- Threatened Fauna SAC Bio Dataset - 05/06/07;
- Manjimup 50cm ORTHOMOSAIC - DLI04

(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**

A desktop study found 9 known records of Declared Rare Flora (DRF), including Caladenia christineae, Caladenia harringtoniae and Diuris drummondii occurring in the local area (10km radius); however given the nature of the clearing and that it appears that the area has been heavily grazed it is unlikely that the area includes or is necessary for the continued existence of, rare flora.

Methodology GIS databases:

- DEFL SAC Bio Datasets 05/06/07;
- CALM Managed Lands and Waters - CALM 1/06/04

(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 known records of threatened ecological communities (TECs) within the local area (10 km radius); therefore the proposed clearing is not likely to be necessary for or impact on TECs.

Methodology GIS databases:

- TEC SAC Bio Datasets 05/06/07;
- Manjimup 50cm ORTHOMOSAIC - DLI04

(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**

Pre-European (ha)	Current extent (ha)	Remaining %Conservation status*****	% in reserves/DEC-	area managed land
IBRA Bioregions				

- Warren	851,529	724,014	86.6*	Least Concern	
Shire of Manjimup	705,670	591,748	83.9*	Least Concern	75
Vegetation type: Beard: Unit 27	70,231	54,151	77.1**	Least Concern	16.3
Mattiske: Yornup (YR)	192,520	129,834	67.4***	Least Concern	
Corbalup (CR1)	151,768	115,381	76.0***	Least Concern	
Hedde vegetation complex Wilga Complex In Low To Medium Rainfall	41,834	29,442	70.4****	Least Concern	

* (Shepherd et al. 2001)

** (Shepherd, 2006)

*** (Mattiske Consulting, 1998)

**** (Hedde et al. 1980)

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

The area under application is located within the Shire of Manjimup, in the Warren Bioregion. The extent of pre-European vegetation within these areas is 83.9% and 86.6%, respectively (Shepherd et al., 2001).

Based on the remaining vegetation in the area, the proposed clearing is not considered to be a significant remnant vegetation in an extensively cleared area.

Methodology Shepherd et al. (2001);
Shepherd et al. (2006);
Hopkins et al. (2001);
Department of Natural Resources and Environment (2002);
Mattiske Consulting (1998);
Hedde et al. (1980);

GIS Databases:

- Pre-European Vegetation - DA 10/01;
- Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation of Australia - EA 18/10/00;
- Mattiske Vegetation - CALM 24/3/98;
- Hedde Vegetation Complexes y 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 likely to be at variance to this Principle**

The Donnelly River runs along the southern boundary of the property and a tributary runs adjacent to the applied area. Both watercourses appear to have been heavily grazed and lack defined beds and banks in close proximity to the applied area.

Due to the nature of the clearing, 0.5 ha of shrub species that are not in association with the watercourse, the proposal is unlikely to impact on vegetation growing in association with a watercourse or wetland.

Methodology GIS Databases:
- Hydrography, Linear - DOE 1/2/04;
- Geomorphic Wetlands (Mgt Categories), Augusta to Walpole - DEC;
- EPP, Wetlands 2004 (DRAFT) - DOE 21/7/04

(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**

Due to the nature of the clearing, 0.5 ha of shrub species, there is likely to be no impact on the area leading to land degradation, as the area will remain vegetated.

Methodology GIS databases:
- Acid Sulphate Soil Risk Map, SCP - DoE 01/02/04;
- Salinity Risk LM 25m - DOLA 00;
- Topographic contours, Statewide - DOLA 12/09/02

(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 proposed to be cleared is surrounded by privately owned farmland that is heavily cleared. The nearest Conservation Commission vested land is the Palgarup State Forest approximately 1 km to the south, the Greater Kingston National Park one kilometre to the east, and several timber reserves within close proximity.

Given the nature of the clearing and the remaining surrounding vegetation in the local area, the proposal sites are highly unlikely to function as ecological linkages to nearby conservation areas.

Methodology Keighery (1994);

GIS databases:

- CALM Managed Lands and Waters - CALM 1/07/05;
- 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 property is within an unassigned Public Drinking Water Source Area (PDWSA) of the Donnelly River Water Reserve, managed by the Department of Water (DoW) under the Country Areas Water Supply Act (CAWS). Given this, the proposed clearing activity is compatible within

Due to the nature of the clearing, 0.5 ha of shrub species, the proposal is unlikely to impact on the quality of surface or underground water as the area will remain vegetated.

Methodology GIS databases:

- Hydrographic Catchments, Catchments DOW;
- Rainfall, Mean Annual BOM 30/09/01;
- Public Drinking Water Source Areas (PDWSA) 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

Due to the nature of the proposed clearing, 0.5 ha of shrub species, it is unlikely to cause or exacerbate flooding within the local area.

Methodology GIS databases:

- Hydrography, linear -DOE 01/02/04;
- Topographic Contours, Statewide - DOLA 12/09/02;
- Rainfall, Mean annual - BOM 30/09/01

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

Comments

The property is zoned Rural under the Shire of Manjimup TPS No.2. The shire was given an opportunity to comment on the proposal; however has not provided a response.

There are two Native Title claims over the area under application; as the property is privately owned the granting of the clearing permit is a secondary approval and does not constitute a future act under the Native Title Act 1993.

No public submissions have been received for this proposal.

Methodology GIS Databases:

- Town Planning Scheme Zones - MFP 08/98;
- Native Title Claims - DLI 07/11/05

4. Assessor's comments

Purpose	Method	Applied area (ha)/ trees	Comment
Grazing & Pasture	Mechanical Removal	0.5	The application has been assessed against the clearing principles, planning instruments and other matters in accordance with s51O of the Environmental Protection Act 1986, and the proposed clearing is not likely to be 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.
- 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.
- 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

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)